

December 12, 2017

The regular meeting of the Council of the Borough of Minersville was held December 12, 2017 in the Council Chambers, North Delaware Avenue and East Carbon Street. Mr. Angelo opened the meeting with The Pledge of Allegiance.

Attendance:

The following Council members attended the December 12, 2017 meeting: Mr. William Angelo, Council President; Mrs. Jenn Beach, Mr. Paul Vuksta, Mr. Jamie Kuehn, Mr. Ian Mahal, Mr. Walter Miscavage; Mayor Joseph Post; Solicitor Evans, Robert Mahalchick, Borough Manager; Police Chief Combs, Eric Eichenburg, Fire Chief and Kyle Crouse, Code Enforcement Officer. Six Council members were present which created a quorum.

Mr. Kuehn made a motion approving the November meeting Minutes. Mrs. Beach seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Mrs. Beach made a motion, second by Mr. Vuksta to approve the Officers Reports. The motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Kuehn made a motion to approve the bills as presented. Mr. Mahal seconded the motion. The motion passed as presented.

Mr. Kuehn thanked the outgoing Council Members and Mayor Post for their service. Certificates were presented to the individuals. Prior to the meeting a reception was held to honor the men.

Communications:

Mr. Kuehn made a motion, second by Mr. Mahal to give preliminary approval to the request of the Mission in the City to hold a bucket drive on Front Street on December 16, 2017 from 10am to 3pm with Police Chief Combs addressing safety concern. The motion passed as presented.

Mr. Miscavage submitted a letter stating, "In the keeping with the 'Spirit of Christmas' he was donating a new refrigerator to the overworked, under-appreciated and under-paid Borough office workers"

Mr. Miscavage submitted a letter (attachment 1) on the occasion of his leaving Borough Council.

Mayor Post remarked upon his years of service and advice to the new Mayor.

Old Business:

Following the Second Reading of the 2018 budget, Mr. Kuehn made a motion to approve the budget. On the question, Mr. Kuehn inquired if the new garbage rates were included in the budget. Mr. Mahalchick stated they were. Mr. Mahal seconded the motion. The motion passed as presented.

Following the Second Reading of the Tax Levy Ordinance, Mr. Kuehn made a motion, second by Mr. Mahal to approve the tax on real property in the Borough and establishing the mileage at twenty point zero zero (20.00) for 2018. The motion passed as presented.

New Business:

On the recommendation of Police Chief Combs, Mr. Mahal made a motion, second by Mr. Kuehn to approve the Handicap Application for 715 North Second Street. The motion passed as presented.

Mr. Vuksta made a motion, second by Mr. Kuehn to approve the meeting dates for 2018 as presented. The motion passed as presented.

Mr. Kuehn stated that it is a courtesy to the Borough, but not a requirement, for Authority members whose terms are expiring to send letters stating their continued interest in their positions to the Borough.

Mr. Mahal nominated Jen Laudeman to serve on the Tax Collection Committee as an alternate. Mr. Kuehn seconded the motion. The motion passed as presented.

Mr. Kuehn made a motion, second by Mr. Vuksta to approve the New Year's Ball Drop festivities from 10:30pm to 12:30am with the temporary closing of North Street from Fourth Street to Third Street. The motion passed as presented.

Mr. Kuehn made a motion, second by Mr. Mahal to solicit quotes for tree removal at the Welsh Baptist Cemetery and on the Pottsville-Minersville Highway. The motion passed as presented.

Mr. Mahal updated the Council on the sale of the first Land Bank property on Lewis Street and the purchase of 140-144 Sunbury Street, which will be taken down.

Unfinished Business:

Solicitor Evans stated the Lion Club pavilion lease extension is prepared except for the question of insurance. Mr. Kuehn stated that currently the Lions Club has insurance only when functions are being held. The Solicitor expressed his concern over damage that occurs when the pavilion is not occupied. Following discussion, Mr. Kuehn requested Mayor Post convey to the Lions the Council's concerns. Mayor Post stated that he would.

Mr. Kuehn stated the Little League request to take over the teener league field is on hold.

Mr. Kuehn stated that the Borough's DCNR grant application for the Fourth Street Complex was rejected. Mr. Kuehn stated our application was too condensed and suggested working co-operatively with the Little League on a larger plan.

Police Chief Combs reported that the Reading Famous Outdoor Company is purchasing an ATV and trailer for police and emergency use. Chief Combs requested that the department house the ATV, as Minersville is centrally located. There is no cost to the Borough and officers would be trained unless they are currently proficient. Mr. Vuksta made a motion, second by Mr. Kuehn to grant permission to house the ATV and trailer. The motion passed as presented.

Mr. Vuksta made a motion; second by Mr. Mahal to purchase a Ford SUV for the Police Department provided Council is informed of the purchase in advance. The motion passed as presented.

Community Updates

Plans are being made for a New Year's Ball Drop on December 31, 2017 from 10pm to 12:30am.

Mr. Vuksta made a motion to adjourn. Mr. Mahal seconded the motion.

Respectfully submitted,

Gloria Capik, Secretary

