

## **February 14, 2017**

The regular meeting of the Council of the Borough of Minersville was held February 14, 2017 in the Council Chambers, North Delaware Avenue and East Carbon Street. Mr. Angelo opened the meeting with The Pledge of Allegiance.

An Executive Session was held at 6:30pm and ended at 6:58 pm to discuss legal matters.

### **Attendance:**

The following Council members attended the February 2017 meeting: Mr. William Angelo, Council President; Mr. Jamie Kuehn, Council Vice-President; Ms. Katielyn Milbrandt, Mrs. Jennifer Beach, Mr. Paul Vuksta, Mr. Walter Miscavage; Mr. Ian Mahal; Mayor Joseph Post; Solicitor Albert Evans; Robert Mahalchick, Borough Manager; Police Chief Michael Combs; Kyle Crouse, Code Enforcement Officer and Eric Eichenberg, Fire Marshall. Seven Council members were present which created a quorum.

Mayor Joseph Post presided over the swearing in ceremony of new Patrolman Malis.

Mr. Miscavage made a motion approving the January meeting minutes. Mrs. Beach seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

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

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

### **Citizens' Comments:**

Mr. John Kozura of Schuylkill Haven, who owns a property on Sunbury Street, questioned the enforcement of the snow removal ordinance. Mr. Kozura received a citation from a recent snow incident. Mr. Crouse stated that citations were issued two days following the snowfall. Council members questioned where they should draw the line if homeowners did not remove snow. Mr. Mahalchick stated the ordinance was in force to protect the safety and welfare of residents.

A resident questioned the consequences of putting trash out before the stated time, as he works during those hours. The council thanked him for informing the Borough of his situation and advised him to put his garbage out as late as possible.

Monica Raczka, 622 Baker Street reported dirt bikes being used on the street. Police Chief Combs will take care of it.

**Communications:**

Scott Herring of the Hard coal Homecoming 250<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Anthracite addressed the council. The Committee would like to erect a sign, at their expense, at the entrance to Minersville. The sign will be taken down at the first signs of wear. Mr. Mahalchick will meet with Mr. Herring to discuss placement of the sign.

The Spirit Day Committee request was tabled.

A thank you was received from the McClosky Family on the Council's expression of sympathy.

Mr. Vuksta made a motion, second by Ms. Milbrandt, to approve the request of The Fire Rescue to hold their annual Block Party July 13 thru 15<sup>th</sup>. The motion passed as presented. Police Chief Combs will co-ordinate utilizing and blocking off streets for the event.

Mr. Vuksta made a motion, second by Ms. Milbrandt to approve the request of the Fire Rescue to hold a boot drive May 26<sup>th</sup> from 4pm thru 7pm in the area of the Dollar General store on Sunbury Street. The motion passed as presented.

Mr. Miscavage made a motion, second by Mrs. Beach to designate Holy Spirit EMS as the primary Advanced Life Support Service of Goodwill Fire Company No. 1. The motion passed as presented.

A thank you letter was received from the Minersville Area Skate park Association for everything the Borough has done to help make the skate park project a success.

Mr. Eichenberg has forwarded the requests of the Borough of Girardville and City of Pottsville requesting the services of our Fire Police,

The Solicitor will respond to the request of Minersville Fuel Up/BB Mart for a Borough Resolution for an inter municipal transfer of a liquor license. A Public Hearing will be held at the next work session. The applicant must pay costs associated with advertising the Public Hearing.

**Old Business:**

Mr. Vuksta made a motion, second by Ms. Milbrandt, to approve Ordinance #322, following its' second reading. The motion passed as presented.

Mr. Vuksta made a motion, second by Mr. Kuehn to approve awarding the bid for renovations to the Penn Street building to Carr Construction at a cost of \$17,875. Mr. Miscavage stated he has a relative working for the company and asked if he should abstain. The Solicitor advised he does not need to abstain. The motion passed as presented.

The matter of a heating unit for the Penn Street building was tabled.

The Personnel Committee will hire a temporary full time Street Department employee.

**New Business:**

Mr. Mahal made a motion, second by Mr. Vuksta, to approve the resolution to submit demolition request for 3 East Sunbury Street to the County. The motion passed as presented.

Mr. Kuehn made a motion, second by Mr. Miscavage for repairs to the recycling truck by Penn Power Group at a price of \$4,880.33. The motion passed as presented.

Mr. Miscavage made a motion, second by Mrs. Beach to advertise the Borough Towing Contract, which is done every three years. The motion passed as presented.

Mr. Kuehn made a motion, second by Mrs. Beach, to approve a handicap sign at 609 Lytle Street. The motion passed as presented.

Ms. Milbrandt made a motion, second by Mrs. Beach to approve the Driveway application for 461 North Street. The motion passed as presented.

Mr. Miscavage made a motion, second by Ms. Milbrandt to approve the County sale of 713 North Second Street for \$300.00. The motion passed as presented.

Mr. Miscavage made a motion, second by Mr. Kuehn to agree to Panchari Associates backing out of their IT agreement with the Borough and approve Nerdy IT for the services. The motion passed as presented.

Mr. Eichenberg informed the Council of A Tax Credit Law being considered to approve volunteer emergency responders to tax credits.

Mr. Vuksta made a motion, second by Mrs. Beach to advertise for Sanitation Hauling Services. The current contract expires in July. The motion passed as presented.

**Unfinished Business:**

Mr. Miscavage made a motion to authorize Solicitor Evans, Mr. Mahalchick and Engineer Don Cuff to pursue the acquisition of the former Sovereign Bank on Sunbury Street for the purpose of using it as a new location for the Borough Office. On the question, Mr. Mahal stated that there are currently several options available and there should not be a rush to judgment. Mr. Kuehn stated that he was under the impression that part of the recent tax increase was to address renovating the current building. Mr. Mahal seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken. Ms. Milbrandt, Mr. Vuksta, Mr. Angelo, Mr. Miscavage and Mr. Mahal voted yes, Mrs. Beach and Mr. Kuehn voted no. The motion passed with five yes votes, and two no votes.

Mr. Miscavage made a motion to contact Minersville School District Superintendent, Carl McBreen, and inform him the Borough will pay for a crossing guard for two years in front of the Elementary Center on Fifth Street in exchange for tax forgiveness on the former American Legion property. Mr. Vuksta seconded the motion. The motion passed with Mr. Kuehn voting no.

**Community Updates**

The Community Easter Egg Hunt will be held on April 15.

There being no further business to discuss, Mr. Miscavage made a motion to adjourn. Ms. Milbrandt seconded the motion.

Respectfully submitted,

Gloria Capik