

July 13, 2021

The regular meeting of the Council of the Borough of Minersville was held July 13, 2021. Chairman Katielynn Milbrandt opened the meeting with The Pledge of Allegiance.

Attendance:

The following Council members attended the July 13 2021 meeting: Ms. Katielynn Milbrandt, Ms. Sarah Newton, Mr. Mike Firestine, Mr. Ian Mahal, Mr. Jamie Kuehn, Mr. Steve Darosh, Mayor Sean Palmer, Solicitor BJ Evans, Police Officer Chief Combs, Don Cuff, Borough Engineer, Kyle Crouse and Bob Mahalchick, Borough Manager.

Mr. Firestine made a motion, second by Mr. Mahal, to approve the minutes from June 2021. The motion passed as presented.

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

Mr. Kuehn made a motion to approve the Officers' Reports. Mr. Firestine seconded the motion. The motion passed as presented.

Communications:

Police Chief Combs will relay St. Clair Borough's request for fire police on July 17 and Schuylkill Haven Borough's request for them on Saturday, September 25th for their Borough Days.

Mr. Kuehn made a motion, second by Ms. Newton to approve the Minersville Public Library's request for a doggie swim from noon to 5pm on a date to be determined following the closing of the pool. The borough will finance a lifeguard for the event. The motion passed as presented.

Old Business:

The Nuisance Tenant Ordinance was tabled until the Code Enforcement Officer, Police Chief Combs, Mr. Mahalchick and Mr. Mahal can meet to discuss the ordinance. Solicitor Evans will check to be sure the AirB&B's that are operating in the borough have a County zoning permit.

Solicitor Evans stated he has forwarded two versions of The Fireworks Ordinance to council members for their consideration.

Mr. Kuehn made a motion, second by Mr. Firestine to approve change order #1 for Heim Construction for the Multimodal Project in the amount of \$264,467.05. The motion passed as presented. With the passing of the motion, Heim Construction will begin construction within thirty days on curbing, sidewalks and ramps. Mr. Mahal made a motion, second by Mr. Kuehn to approve Entech prepare an additional grant application for the Multimodal Project to finance additional costs of the project for wire, lights and poles-which will be installed in the Spring of 2022-due to rising prices due to COVID. The motion passed as presented. Mr. Firestine made a motion, second by Mr. Mahal to approve the work order for Entech in the amount of \$18,700 for design purposes. The motion passed as presented. Mr. Mahalchick thanked Mr. Cuff, Solicitor Evans and Don Snyder of Gratz Bank for their work on the project.

New Business:

Mr. Kuehn made a motion, second by Mr. Mahal to approve the driveway application for 115 Sunbury Street contingent upon jersey barriers being installed, no exit onto Sunbury Street and limited to two vehicles. The motion passed as presented.

Renewal applications for handicap parking were tabled until the ordinance for handicapped parking can be studied.

Mr. Firestine made a motion, second by Mr. Firestine to advertise the changes suggested by Kyle Crouse on the Dumpster and Quality of Life Ordinances. The motion passed as presented.

Mr. Darosh made a motion, second by Mr. Firestine to purchase a refrigerator for the pool concession stand, checking with local dealers first. The motion passed as presented. Mrs. Sue Paul is donating \$500 for the purchase and Mr. Firestine is donating a chest freezer for the concession stand.

Police Chief Combs stressed the need for an increase in the hourly wage for part-time officers. Mr. Kuehn suggested a tiered rate or an incentive for officers. The mayor stated officers would not stay long enough to receive the incentive. Officer Brown who was present at the meeting as a visitor stated that officers would go where the pay rate and hours offered is the greatest. Mr. Kuehn made a motion, second by Mr. Darosh authorizing the head of the Finance and Law and Order Committees, Police Chief Combs and the Mayor to meet as soon as possible and increase the hourly rate to \$24 an hour and recommend other incentive. The motion passed as presented.

Mr. Mahal presented a list of properties the borough owns that can be advertised for sale thus freeing the borough from maintaining the properties. Copies were provided for council to study.

COUNCIL COMMITTEE REPORTS

Streets and Highways-Mr. Firestine stated the paving has begun. The skidster has been delivered.

Law and Order-Police Chief Combs reported nine juveniles have been banned from the recreation complex. Ms. Newton requested Mr. Crouse check on the dumpster at the housing project on Sunbury Street. Additionally, the trash receptacle at the Alibi Hotel is blocking the sidewalk. Police Chief Combs stated he would check it out tomorrow. The Alibi is renting spots in the parking lot for workers and the workers do not display stickers so the Alibi as been asked to post their spots. Mr. Firestine stated he believes there is a list of residents waiting for spots to rent in the lot.

COMMUNITY UPDATES

K&B Recycling event is this Friday and Saturday. The company will padlock the area following the event.

Mr. Firestine made a motion, second by Mr. Mahal, to adjourn.

Respectfully submitted,

Gloria Capik, Secretary

