

September 14, 2021

The regular meeting of the Council of the Borough of Minersville was held September 14, 2021. Chairman Katielynn Milbrandt opened the meeting with The Pledge of Allegiance.

Attendance:

The following Council members attended the September 14, 2021 meeting: Ms. Katielynn Milbrandt, Ms. Sarah Newton, Mr. Mike Firestine, Mr. Ian Mahal, Mr. Jamie Kuehn, Mr. Steve Darosh, Mayor Sean Palmer, Solicitor Evans, Police Chief Combs and Bob Mahalchick, Borough Manager.

Mr. Firestine made a motion, second by Mr. Mahal, to approve the minutes from August 2021 with the corrected version that was emailed to members. The motion passed as presented.

Mr. Darosh made a motion to approve the bills as presented. Mr. Firestine seconded the motion. The motion passed as presented.

Mr. Mahal made a motion to approve the Officers' Reports. Ms. Newton seconded the motion. The motion passed as presented.

Citizens' Comments:

Mr. Laughlin of the Fire Police thanked Mr. Darosh for his help with crowd control at the recent Fireman's Parade.

Alex Kurtek presented his Boy Scout eagle Project to the Council. Alex proposes to repair and update the kiosk at the recreation project and crate a second kiosk in the area of the Lions Pavilion. Mr. Mahal made a motion to approve the project, second by Mr. Firestine. The motion passed as presented,

Communications:

Mr. Firestine made a motion, second by Mr. Darosh to approve the request of Holy Family Parish to hold their annual Public Square Rosary Walk. The motion passed as presented.

A block sponsoring Dustin's Adventure land will be purchased with private funds.

Old Business:

Mr. Mahal made a motion, second by Mr. Darosh to approve the sponsoring of flags at Veteran's Park. The motion passed as presented.

Mr. Mahal made a motion, second by Mr. Kuehn to approve the quote from Berks Fire and Water Restoration for mold removal using funds from the Capital Improvement Fund in the amount of \$7,847.90. The motion passed as presented.

The second reading of the Quality of Life Ordinance was completed. Ms. Newton made a motion to adopt the ordinance, Mr. Firestine seconded the motion. The motion passed as presented.

The second reading of the Dumpster Ordinance was completed. Mr. Mahal made a motion to adopt the ordinance. Mr. Kuehn seconded the motion. The motion passed as presented.

Police Chief Combs is still working on handicap signs.

A discussion was held regarding the driveway application for 115 Sunbury Street and whether the owner had met the requirements passed by council previously. Mr. Mahal made a motion; second by Mr. Kuehn to approve the work if it meets the approval of Borough engineer Don Cuff. The motion passed as presented.

The Sunbury Street Streetscape timeline was discussed. Mr. Mahalchick was praised for his communication with Penn Dot on the project.

Mr. Kuehn made a motion to accept the bids for demolition of 236 Laurel Street. Mr. Kuehn seconded the motion. The motion passed as presented. Mr. Kuehn made a motion to award the bid to the sole bidder, Northeast Industrial Services Corporation, in the amount of \$36,442.00. The motion passed as presented.

Ten of the sixteen homes surveyed on North Fifth Street responded to the survey. Mr. Mahalchick will perform a door-to-door survey for CDBG.

New Business:

Ms. Newton made a motion, second by Mr. Mahal to have three trees at the Second Street playground, which are imposing on the neighboring home, removed after confirmation from DCNR or Schuylkill Conservation District that the trees are dead. Removal will be by Jason's Tree Service in the amount not to exceed \$8000 without cleanup, or an additional \$1000 with cleanup. Mr. Kuehn voted no. The motion passed as presented.

Ms. Newton made a motion, second by Mr. Mahal to approve the driveway application for 608 Pottsville Street with retaining walls as required by the Borough. The motion passed as presented.

Mr. Mahal made a motion to allow Mr. Mahalchick to seek appraisals for 5 lots to be sold. The buildings were razed using CDBG funds. The motion passed as presented.

Mr. Kuehn made a motion, second by Mr. Firestine to approve the ATV Event on October 9th by Reading Famous Outdoor with the Borough giving permission to use Borough streets, with an optional donation fee which would be used for playground revitalization. On the question, Mr. Firestine asked if vehicles would need to abide by all traffic laws. Police Chief Combs stated they would. On the question, Police Chief Combs will check on any additional insurance needed by the Borough. On the question Police Chief Combs stated there would be police coverage in two vehicles and one on foot. The motion passed as presented. Ms. Milbrandt requested a report by borough businesses following the event to see if their business benefited from the ride.

Ms. Newton reminded Police Chief Combs that soccer would not be over until 11am.

Parking in the lot by Rodnick's would only be for drivers shopping in Rodnicks.

Mr. Mahal made a motion approving the repository sale of 201 Spruce Street for parking for Holy Family Parish in the amount of \$1200. Ms. Newton seconded the motion. The motion passed as presented. Mr. Mahal asked council members to study the repository site as the land bank can acquire parcels without fees. Mr. Kuehn

made a motion, second by Ms. Newton to approve the actuary assumptions for the police pension. The motion passed as presented... Mr. Kuehn made a motion, second by Mr. Firestine to approve the Non-uniform MMO obligation at \$51,888. Mr. Kuehn made a motion, second by Ms. Newton to approve the Police MMO obligation in the amount of \$119,709.

Council Reports

Streets and Highways-Mr. Firestine reported lighting on the island at Fourth Street is complete. The new 2022 dump truck will be delivered in the spring.

Law and Order-Mr. Mahalchick thanked the Water, Street and Police Departments for their help with the Fireman's Parade. Mr. Mahalchick stated the Street Department did a great job beautifying the parade route. Police Chief Combs thanked the Fire Police for a great job.

Water and Sewer-Mr. Darosh stated there is an interest in leasing 1500 acres from the Water Company to establishing a solar farm. The Sewer Authority had no incidents during the recent severe storm.

COMMUNITY UPDATES

Fall cleanup will be held September 16 and 17 from 8am to 3pm and September 18th from 8am to noon. The Haunted House will be held October 23 and 24th pending COVID conditions. The Halloween Parade will be held October 24 with formation at 6pm and beginning at 6:30pm. Trick or treat will be October 31 from 6pm to 8pm. The rain date is November 1.

Mr. Firestine made motion, second by Mr. Kuehn to adjourn.

Respectfully submitted,

Gloria Capik, Secretary