MINUTES-REGULAR MEETING OF COUNCIL

AUGUST 07, 2017

Council Vice-President John Mazurowski opened the meeting at 7:00P.M. Council Members present were Tom Swisher, Matt Crytzer, Sean McCalmont, Ron Gallagher; Mayor James Swartz and Solicitor Gerald DeAngelis. Ricki Hastings, Don Rehner, Treasurer Rich Hill, Superintendent Ken Boroski and Chief Jeff Swiklinski were absent.

The meeting was opened with the Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag.

MINUTES- Motion was made by Matt Crytzer to approve the July 5, 2017 Regular Council Meeting Minutes, with corrections to typing errors. Motion was 2nd by Tom Swisher. Motion carried. Motion was made by Sean McCalmont to approve the July 24, 2017, with the corrections to typing errors. Motion was 2nd by Ron Gallagher. Motion carried.

PUBLIC WORKS REPORT- Motion was made by Ron Gallagher to approve the Public Works Report as written. Motion was 2nd by Tom Swisher. Motion carried.

POLICE REPORT- Motion was made by Sean McCalmont to approve the Police Report as written. Motion was 2nd by Tom Swisher. Motion carried.

INVOICES- Motion was made by Tom Swisher to approve the Invoices. Motion was 2nd by Ron Gallagher. Motion carried.

TREASURER’S REPORT- Motion was made by Tom Swisher to approve the Treasurer’s Report. Motion was 2nd by Matt Crytzer. Motion carried.

MAYOR’S REPORT- Mayor Swartz presented Council with a letter requesting that Council set up meeting dates with Norfolk Southern to discuss the condition of the railroad tunnels, Penn Dot to discuss what the Borough responsibility is and what their responsibility is, also requesting Council to establish a sidewalk ordinance. Mayor Swartz reported that Council needs to act on Lou Gaston resignation for the Police Department. Vice –President John Mazurowski asked if President Ricki Hastings and the Borough Secretary would work on setting up a meeting with Norfolk Southern to discuss the condition of the tunnels.

SOLICITOR’S REPORT- Solicitor DeAngelis followed with the Penn Dot issue of responsibility to cutting grass and weeds, Penn Dot never transferred the property to the Borough, property was taken by eminent domain has to remain public purpose. Solicitor DeAngelis reported he reviewed the Norfolk Southern Railway Company Agreement, sent by KLH Engineers stated on problem that the Borough needs to provide a Certificate of Liability Insurance; he will get a copy from Clark Carrier to add Norfolk Southern to the policy. The agreement needs to be signed within 60 days and pass by a Resolution. Walt Czekalski is moving ahead on the properties on Market Street that is involved in the plans for the construction of the new Sewage Plant. Solicitor DeAngelis reported that he followed up with contacting retired State Troopers that would maybe interested in working part-time for the Borough.

CITIZENS’S COMMENTS- Dan Snow owner of the Body Revolution Gym on High Street, was here to see if Council would be interested in matching funds to beautify the front of his business, John Mazurowski stated that would be the Flag Organization but the DCED Program is done, but said that he may want to get in contact with Heidi Powell of the Business Network, and Freeport Renaissance Association.

PUBLIC WORKS- Ron Gallagher reported that Street Sweeping will be once a month on Washington Street, the first Thursday of the month, will have Superintendent Ken Boroski put up signs on Washington Street. Ron said he will check on how often they sweep on Stewart Street.

PUBLIC SAFETY- Rosetta Eshenbaugh‘s Handicap Parking request no decision has been made.

PARKS, RECREATION & COMMUNITY- There will be a public meeting for the James E. Swartz Park, Tuesday August 29th, 2017 open house will be at 6:30 P.M. and meeting will start at 7:00 P.M. at the United Methodist Church on Fourth Street. Quotes for the playground equipment down on Second Street, Climbing Wall are a little over $2,000, to install is $800.00, an AD Panel will be donated by Mark Ford and will charge $100.00 to install. Motion was made by Matt Crytzer to spend up to $3,000 for the playground equipment. Motion was 2nd by Sean McCalmont. Motion carried.

FINANCE- 18 delinquent accounts were posted on August 01, 2017 for the 48 postings, at this time 3 accounts have not paid, they will be contacted and shut-off date is scheduled for August 03, 2017. The Borough received $361.91 from Sharp Collections for the month of June in payments made to delinquent income tax accounts.

PROPERY & ORDINANCE- Motion was made by Sean McCalmont to purchase a new copier for the Borough Office. Motion was 2nd by Tom Swisher. Sean McCalmont asked to look into the maintance agreement. Lou Gaston and his son were present to discuss the swap of properties on Second Street and Riverside Drive. Sean McCalmont put the pros and cons he had received from the Council Members on a list, Solicitor DeAngelis made everyone aware about the zoning, is Residential not Commercial, which would need to be taken into consideration for what the property would be used for, a variance would have to be done before a swap of properties could be done. The market value is similar for both properties, but Council has unanswered questions as to the use for the Riverside Drive Lot. Sean’s recommendation to Council after compiling a list of pros and cons of the properties swap is that Council get more answers to be able to make a better decision, the Property and Ordinance Committee will set up a special meeting before the next Regular Council Meeting, August 28th, 2017 to be able to come to a conclusion to the matter.

PERSONNEL-

Council called for Executive Session at 8:23 P.M. for Personnel and Real Estate

Council returned from Executive Session at 9:10 P.M.

Council Vice –President reported that no straw votes and no action taken.

Motion was made by Tom Swisher to accept the resignation of Part-Time Police Officer Lou Gaston. Motion was 2nd by Matt Crytzer. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Tom Swisher to hire Matt Feldmeier as Part-Time Police Officer at $15.00 per hour with 6 months’ probation. Motion was made by Tom Swisher to hire Joe Kihn and Fred Pastoria as temporary Part-Time Borough Workers at $11.00 per hour and 3 months’ probation.

Seam McCalmont stated he would work on the side walk ordinance but there is a lot of work to be done and would need the cooperation from everyone, Matt Crytzer reported he would be happy to connect Pitt, GSPIA School where intern students would come in and do all the leg work in helping revise the side walk ordinance. Mayor Swartz reported there is no Ordinance for garbage stating you cannot put your garbage out before 6:00 P.M. the day before pick-up date, Sean said he would also work on establishing a Garbage Ordinance . Council decided that Washington Street will only be done once a month the first Thursday starting in September.

Motion was made by Matt Crytzer and 2nd by Sean McCalmont to adjourn the Regular Council Meeting. Motion Carried. Meeting adjourned.