

Borough Council Meeting Minutes – February 21, 2013

Call to Order – Mr. Farley called the meeting to order at 6:00pm and Mr. Flick offered the prayer and led the flag salute.

Roll Call – The following members of the Borough Council were present; Robert Flick, Maureen Howland, Eugene Osmun, JoAnn Sabatura, Eugene Cerutti, and Henry Farley. Also present; Mayor Denny Thomas, Elizabeth Fice, Finance Coordinator, Jonathan Foster, Jr., Borough Solicitor, and David Jarrett, Borough Manager. **Excused:** William Hickey.

Approval of the Minutes – There were no questions or comments, the minutes of the January Council meeting were approved as presented.

Special Presentation – Chuck Bement, Greater Valley EMS - Executive Director introduced Derek Hall and Ray Stackhouse who are part of the Greater Valley EMS management team. Mr. Bement gave an overview of Greater Valley EMS operations and distributed the organization's annual report. Mr. Osmun asked if emergency responders have experienced difficulty with the new addressing system. Mr. Hall explained that there have not been any significant issues and that 911 dispatchers also provide the old street name when necessary.

Citizens To Be Heard – There were none.

Finance Report – There were no questions or comments. The report will be filed for audit.

Correspondence Summary – Ms. Sabatura commented on correspondence received from Time Warner Cable regarding a 10% rate increase for basic customers.

Bills List – A motion was made by Mr. Flick and seconded by Mrs. Howland to approve the bills as presented. **Under the question:** Ms. Sabatura asked if the insurance payments on the bills list was for the full year or partial. Ms. Fice explained that the all but the worker's compensation premium was for the full year. Mr. Cerutti asked for information about the invoice for hepatitis shots. Mr. Jarrett explained that hepatitis shots will be given to the police officers and DPW employees. **Roll Call:** Mr. Flick, Mrs. Howland, Mr. Osmun, Ms. Sabatura, Mr. Cerutti, and Mr. Farley. **Excused:** Mr. Hickey. **Motion Carries.**

Appointed & Elected Officials Reports

- a. Borough Manager's Report – Mr. Jarrett explained that he attended a grant workshop hosted by PA-DCNR.
- b. Fire Chief's Report – There were no questions or comments.
- c. Police Chief's Report – There were no questions or comments.
- d. Code Enforcement Officer's Report – The Code Agency did not meet in February.
- e. Borough Solicitor – Attorney Foster asked for a brief executive session to discuss a litigation issue.
- f. Mayor's Report -- Mayor Thomas commended the DPW for their efforts during the last snow storm and asked that the snow emergency ordinance be reviewed. Mayor Thomas explained that under the current ordinance, a snow emergency automatically goes into effect when the National Weather Service issues a winter storm warning for our area. Mayor Thomas explained that during the last snowstorm, the winter storm warning went into effect several hours before snow starting falling, and businesses owners complained that customers could not park in the downtown because the streets are snow emergency routes. Mayor Thomas also asked that registration information be included in the next sewer bill insert.
- g. Council President's Report – Mr. Farley asked the Administration Committee to review the snow emergency ordinance and make a recommendation for any changes to address Mayor Thomas' concerns.
- h. Valley Joint Sewer Authority Report – Mr. Farley explained that the upgrade project continues to move forward and that the project remains under budget. Mr. Jarrett explained that the rate adjustment for the project loan is nearing completion and lower rates will save all members a substantial amount of money over the term of the loan.

Vote to approve contract for Bradford County Communication Services for the calendar year 2013. A motion was made by Mr. Osmun and seconded by Mr. Flick to approve contract for Bradford County Communication Services for the calendar year 2013. **Under the question:** There were no questions or comments. **Roll Call:** Mr. Flick, Mrs. Howland, Mr. Osmun, Ms. Sabatura, Mr. Cerutti, and Mr. Farley. **YES.** Excused: Mr. Hickey. **Motion Carries.**

Vote to re-appoint Andrew Hickey to the Borough's Zoning Hearing Board for a five (5) year term. A motion was made by Mrs. Howland and seconded by Mr. Flick to re-appoint Andrew Hickey to the Borough's Zoning Hearing Board. **Under the question:** Ms. Sabatura asked how many members are on the Zoning Hearing Board and Mr. Osmun asked if there were any plans to increase the number of members on the Board. Mr. Jarrett stated that there were three (3) members on the Zoning Hearing Board and there are two (2) alternate members. There were no other questions or comments. **Motion Carries.**

Vote to approve Resolution 2013-02 establishing fees for equipment and personnel in 2013. A motion was made by Mr. Flick and seconded by Mr. Cerutti to approve Resolution 2013-02. **Under the question:** Mr. Jarrett reviewed the increase in 2013 rates compared to the 2012 rates. There were no other questions or comments. **Motion Carries.**

Vote to approve request from Sayre Engine Company #1 to use Riverfront Park for the organization's annual fireworks display Saturday, July 6th and street closures. A motion was made by Ms. Sabatura and seconded by Mr. Osmun to approve request from Sayre Engine Company #1. **Under the question:** There were no questions or comments. **Motion Carries.**

Vote to approve the request from Sayre Elks Club to use Howard Elmer Park for the organization's annual Easter Egg Hunt on Saturday, March 30, 2013. A motion was made by Ms. Sabatura and seconded by Flick to approve the request from Sayre Elks Club for the annual Easter Egg Hunt. **Under the question:** There were no questions or comments. **Motion Carries.**

Vote to approve the request from Sayre Elks Club to use Howard Elmer Park for the organization's annual Flag Day Ceremony on June 14, 2013. A motion was made by Mr. Flick and seconded by Mr. Osmun to approve the request from Sayre Elks Club for the annual Flag Day Ceremony. **Under the question:** There were no questions or comments. **Motion Carries.**

Committee Reports

- a. **Public Works Committee** – Mr. Flick reviewed the issues discussed at the Committee’s February meeting.
- b. **Public Safety Committee** – Mr. Osmun reviewed the issues discussed at the Committee’s February meeting.
- c. **Administration Committee** – The Committee did not meet in February.
- d. **Code Enforcement Agency** – The Agency Board did not meet in February.
- e. **Library Board** – Mrs. Howland reported that the Library recently held a very successful art show and bingo party. The annual Dr. Seuss program is scheduled for March 2, 2013.

Recess – Mr. Farley recessed the Council meeting at 6:32pm prior to starting the executive session.

Executive Session – The Borough Council went into executive session at 6:37pm to discuss a litigation issue and a personnel issue. The executive session concluded at 6:42pm.

The Borough Council took the following actions after the executive session:

Vote to approve Middendorf Settlement Agreement -- A motion was made by Mr. Cerutti and seconded Mr. Flick to approve the settlement agreement with Middendorf Construction in the amount of \$19,500 for work completed as part of the first phase of the Public Works Building construction project. **Under the question:** There were no questions or comments. Roll Call: Mr. Flick, Mrs. Howland, Mr. Osmun, Ms. Sabatura, Mr. Cerutti, and Mr. Farley. YES. Excused: Mr. Hickey. Motion Carries.

Vote to accept resignation - A motion was made by Mr. Osmun and seconded by Mr. Flick to accept the resignation with regret of William Hickey from the Borough Council effective immediately. **Under the question:** There were no questions or comments. **Motion Carries.**

Respectfully submitted

David M Jarrett, Borough Manager, Secretary

