

**Borough Council
Minutes – March 19, 2015**

Call to Order – Mr. Farley called the meeting to order at 6:00pm and asked that anyone audio recording the meeting identify that they are doing so. Max Bennett, The Daily Review; James Daly, Borough Council; Warren Howeler, The Morning Times; and Jan Scott, 204 Hayden Street all indicated that they were recording the meeting.

Pledge of Allegiance & Meeting Prayer – Mr. Osmun led the Pledge of Allegiance and offered the meeting prayer.

Roll Call – The following members of the Borough Council were present; James Daly, Robert Flick, Eugene Osmun, JoAnn Sabatura, Timothy Shaw, Eugene Cerutti, and Henry Farley. Also present; Gil Crossett, 1st Assistant Fire Chief; Elizabeth Fice, Borough Finance Coordinator; Maureen Howland, Library Board Representative; David Jarrett, Borough Manager, Christopher Kaiden, Code Enforcement Officer; Blane Lathrop, DPW Foreman; Daniel Reynolds, Police Chief; Tracy Stroup, 2nd Assistant Fire Chief; and Denny Thomas, Mayor.

Approval of Minutes – The minutes of the February 19, 2015 were approved as presented.

Citizens To Be Heard – There were none.

Approval of Bills List – A motion was made by Mr. Daly and seconded by Mr. Flick to approve the bills list. Under the question: There were none. Roll Call: Mr. Daly, Mr. Flick, Mr. Shaw, Mr. Cerutti, and Mr. Farley; **YES**. Mr. Osmun and Ms. Sabatura; **NO**. **Motion Carries.**

Correspondence Report – March 2015 – There were no questions or comments.

Finance Report – February 28, 2015 – There were no questions or comments.

Committee Reports – The following reports were presented to the Borough Council;

Administration Committee – Mr. Cerutti reviewed the issues discussed at the Committee's March meeting.

Public Works Committee – Mr. Flick reviewed the issues discussed at the Committee's March meeting. Mr. Flick also reported that Bimbo Bakery has informed the Borough that \$5,000 grant is available from the company and that the funds could be used for new trees at Island Pond.

Public Safety Committee – Mr. Daly reviewed the issues discussed at the Committee's March meeting.

Code Enforcement – Mr. Cerutti reviewed the issues discussed at the Agency’s March meeting.

Planning Commission – Mr. Daly reviewed the Commission’s proposed changes to the Borough’s zoning map to address natural gas related activities.

Library Board – Mrs. Howland explained that the Librarian resigned and that her last day will be next week. Mrs. Howland also reported that the annual fundraiser will be held on April 23rd. Mr. Farley stated that Ms. Eike will become the interim Librarian until a replacement can be hired.

Elected & Appointed Official’s Reports – The following reports were presented the Borough Council;

Police Chief – Chief Reynolds stated that all of his issues are agenda items.

Borough Manager – Mr. Jarrett reported that a pre-bid meeting was held earlier in the day for the Oliver Lane Pump Station Project and he provided a tentative project schedule anticipating the project being completed by mid-December. Mr. Jarrett explained that the Borough received the quote for the Oliver Lane Pump Station and that the pumps will cost \$179,003 and that ordering these items now will expedite the project because it will take 18 – 20 weeks for delivery. Mr. Jarrett also stated that the Borough received a request from the Greater Valley Chamber of Commerce to host the annual Farmer’s Market in Howard Elmer Park.

Code Enforcement – There were no questions or comments.

Fire Chief – There were no questions or comments.

Valley Joint Sewer Authority – There were no questions or comments.

Emergency Management – Mr. Daly reported that he will be participating in a Public Information Officer’s training program hosted by the County’s EMA office and that Patrol Officers Keir and Burlingame will also be participating in the training program.

Borough Solicitor – Attorney Foster asked for a brief executive session to discuss a personnel issue and litigation issue.

Mayor’s Report – Mayor Thomas reported that the Police Department has been very busy and that the officers are doing a fantastic job. Mayor Thomas also commended the job of the Public Works Department this winter.

Council President – Mr. Farley announced that the April Council meeting will be on Wednesday, April 22, 2015 at 6:00pm.

Vote to authorize the forgiveness of municipal liens and taxes in the amount of \$2,512.71 to facilitate the purchase and resale of 105 Chemung Street by the Sayre Code Enforcement Agency under the Borough's Slum & Blight program and as recommended by the Administration Committee. A motion was made by Mr. Daly and seconded by Mr. Shaw to authorize the forgiveness of municipal liens and taxes in the amount of \$2,512.71. **Under the question:** Mr. Osmun asked what would be the benefits of forgiving the municipal lien and back taxes. Ms. Sabatura asked where the proceeds of the sale will be going. Mr. Kaiden explained that he has met with County Commissioners Office, School District, and been in contact with representatives of PHFA and each entity has indicated that they are willing to forgive all or a portion of their respective liens. Mr. Cerutti stated that the Agency has been working to resolve this issue for 18 months and that buying the property and reselling it will enable the property to return to the tax rolls and clean up a blighted property. **Roll Call: Mr. Daly, Mr. Flick, Mr. Osmun, Ms. Sabatura, Mr. Shaw, Mr. Cerutti, and Mr. Farley; YES. Motion Carries.**

Vote to authorize the purchase of a new John Deere tractor with mowing deck and snow blower attachments for \$12,026.71 as recommended by Public Works Committee. A motion was made by Mr. Flick and seconded by Mr. Daly to authorize the purchase of the new tractor. **Under the question:** Ms. Sabatura asked if the purchase was a replacement or new piece of equipment, and Mr. Jarrett stated that the new tractor will replace an older piece of equipment that is at least 18 years old. **Roll Call: Mr. Daly, Mr. Flick, Mr. Osmun, Ms. Sabatura, Mr. Shaw, Mr. Cerutti, and Mr. Farley; YES. Motion Carries.**

Vote to void the sale of approved on February 19, 2015 of the 2007 Dodge Charger to Bruce Hoffman in the amount of \$4,200. A motion was made by Mr. Daly and seconded by Mr. Flick to void the sale of the 2007 Dodge Charger. **Under the question:** Mr. Jarrett explained that the vehicle was damaged and that the insurance pay off was approximately \$9,800. **Roll Call: Mr. Daly, Mr. Flick, Mr. Osmun, Ms. Sabatura, Mr. Shaw, Mr. Cerutti, and Mr. Farley; YES. Motion Carries.**

Vote to approve the hiring of Justin Lathrop as a per diem Public Works employee retroactively to February 24, 2015. A motion was made by Mr. Daly and seconded by Mr. Osmun to approve hiring Justin Lathrop. **Under the question:** Mr. Jarrett explained that it was necessary to hire someone due to short staffing caused by illness, injury, and vacation time and Mr. Lathrop was available to help out. Mr. Shaw asked if there would be an issue with supervision in light of the fact that Mr. Lathrop is the DPW Foreman's son, and Mr. Jarrett stated that it would not be an issue. **Roll Call: Mr. Daly, Mr. Flick, Mr. Osmun, Ms. Sabatura, Mr. Shaw, Mr. Cerutti, and Mr. Farley; YES. Motion Carries.**

Vote to authorize the Civil Service Commission to commence the testing process that will include a written examination and oral examination in accordance with Chapter A181-402 and Ordinance 807 and prepare a list of qualified candidates for the position of Police Sergeant as recommended by the Administration Committee. A motion was made by Mr. Flick and seconded by Mr. Daly to authorize the Civil Service Commission to commence the testing process that will include a written examination and oral examination in accordance with Chapter A181-402 and Ordinance 807 and prepare a list of qualified candidates for the position of Police Sergeant. **Under the question:** Mayor Thomas asked if the Council intends to hire two Sergeants. Mr. Flick amended his motion and Mr. Daly amended his second to the motion to reflect that the Borough would be hiring two (2) Sergeants. **Roll Call: Mr. Daly, Mr. Flick, Mr. Osmun, Ms. Sabatura, Mr. Cerutti, and Mr. Farley; YES. Mr. Shaw, NO. Motion Carries.**

Vote to request that the Borough Civil Service Commission extend the expiration date of April 22, 2015 for Patrol Officer Civil Service list to October 22, 2015 as recommended by the Public Safety Committee. A motion was made by Mr. Osmun and seconded by Mr. Daly to request that the Borough Civil Service Commission extend the expiration date of April 22, 2015 for Patrol Officer Civil Service list to October 22, 2015. **Under the question:** Ms. Sabatura asked why the request was not for a year, and Mr. Jarrett explained that it should only be necessary to extend the list for six (6) months. **Roll Call: Mr. Daly, Mr. Flick, Mr. Osmun, Ms. Sabatura, Mr. Shaw, Mr. Cerutti, and Mr. Farley; YES. Motion Carries.**

Vote to extend the 90 Day Trial Parking Restrictions previously approved by the Borough Council on Frank Street, Toolan Lane, North Hopkins Street, and Madison Street as recommended by the Public Safety Committee. A motion was made by Mr. Daly and seconded by Mr. Osmun to extend the 90 Day Trial Parking Restrictions on Frank Street, Toolan Lane, North Hopkins Street, and Madison Street. **Under the question:** Ms. Sabatura asked that Holly Street be included in the extended trial period. Mr. Daly amended his motion and Mr. Osmun amended his second to include Holly Street. **Roll Call: Mr. Daly, Mr. Flick, Mr. Osmun, Ms. Sabatura, Mr. Cerutti, and Mr. Farley; YES. Mr. Shaw; NO. Motion Carries.**

Vote to authorize the purchase of the pumps and control panels for the Oliver Lane Pump Station rehabilitation project. A motion was made by Mr. Flick and seconded by Mr. Daly to authorize the purchase of the pumps and control panels for the Oliver Lane Pump Station rehabilitation project. **Under the question:** Mr. Jarrett explained that the Borough received a quote from Mid Atlantic Pump in the amount of \$179,003 and that the amount is approximately \$20,000 less than anticipated. **Roll Call: Mr. Daly, Mr. Flick, Mr. Osmun, Ms. Sabatura, Mr. Shaw, Mr. Cerutti, and Mr. Farley; YES. Motion Carries.**

Vote to amend Chapter A181-306B revising the requirements for the position of Corporal, Sergeant, Lieutenant, and Captain as recommended by the Administration Committee. A motion was made by Mr. Flick and seconded by Mr. Daly to amend Chapter A181-306B of the Borough Code. **Under the question:** Ms. Sabatura asked if the proposed change has to be discussed with the Union, and Mr. Jarrett stated that it did not need to be discussed. **Roll Call: Mr. Daly, Mr. Flick, Mr. Osmun, Ms. Sabatura, Mr. Shaw, Mr. Cerutti, and Mr. Farley; AYES. Motion Carries.**

Vote to approve request from Greater Valley Chamber of Commerce – A motion was made by Ms. Sabatura and seconded by Mr. Daly to approve the request to host the annual Farmer's Market in Howard Elmer Park. **Under the question:** There were none. **AYES - 6. Mr. Shaw; ABSTAIN. Motion Carries.**

Vote to approve request from Sayre Elks for annual Easter egg Hunt and Flag Day Ceremony in Howard Elmer Park. A motion was made by Mr. Shaw and seconded by Mr. Daly to approve both requests. **Under the question:** There were none. **AYES – 7. Motion Carries.**

Vote to approve Resolution 2015-04 – Hazard Mitigation Plan. A motion was made by Mr. Daly and seconded by Mr. Osmun to approve Resolution 2015-04. **Under the question:** There were none. **AYES – 7. Motion Carries.**

Vote to authorize the Police Chief to accept bids for the sale of the Department's used TASERS®. A motion was made by Mr. Daly and seconded by Mr. Osmun to authorize the Police Chief to accept bids for the Department's used TASERS from Law Enforcement Agencies and Law Enforcement Secondary Vendors. **Under the question:** Chief Reynolds explained that he has already received a very good offer from a company in Las Vegas, Nevada that resells the TASERS to law enforcement agencies. **AYES – 7. Motion Carries.**

Vote to approve agreement with the Mansfield University Internship Program A motion was made by Mr. Osmun and seconded by Mr. Daly to approve the agreement. **Under the questions:** Mr. Jarrett explained that the Borough's insurance company is reviewing the insurance policy to ensure that there is coverage. **AYES – 7. Motion Carries.**

Vote to approve the use of Riverfront Park for the 2nd Annual Sayre Borough Fireworks Event on Saturday, August 22, 2015 and designate sole vending rights to the volunteer group organizing the event. A motion was made by Mr. Daly and seconded by Mr. Flick to approve the use of Riverfront Park for the Fireworks Event on August 22, 2015 and designate sole vending rights to the event organizers. **Under the question:** Mr. Jarrett explained that vendors will be allowed and that volunteer and civic organizations will be allowed to set up a stand for free, but for profit businesses will have to pay a fee. **AYES – 6 Abstain – Mr. Shaw. Motion Carries.**

Vote to amend the appointments to the Shade Tree Commission. A motion was made by Ms. Sabatura and seconded by Mr. Daly to appoint Vincent DeSisti to a five (5) year term; Susan Alvino-White to a four (4) year term, and John Strange to a three (3) year term. **Under the question:** Mr. Farley stated that the Commission is responsible to conduct meetings in accordance with the Sunshine Law. **AYES-7. Motion Carries.**

Vote to terminate the Borough's fire alarm system as recommended by the Public Safety Committee. A motion was made by Mr. Daly and seconded by Mr. Shaw to terminate the Borough's fire alarm system. **Under the question:** There were none. **AYES – 7. Motion Carries.**

Vote to authorize the demonstration of computers in two (2) of the Borough's Patrol cars as recommended by the Public Safety Committee. A motion was made by Mr. Daly and seconded by Mr. Shaw to authorize the demonstration of one (1) computer in a patrol car. **Under the question:** There were none. **AYES – 7. Motion Carries.**

Citizen Questions – Mr. Farley asked if there were any questions regarding the actions taken by the Borough Council this evening. Janice Gardner, 103 Park Place asked when the new trees will be planted at Island Pond. Mr. Jarrett explained that Vincent Cottrone of the Penn State Cooperative Extension prepared a report that included tree selection options and that the Shade Tree Commission will be consulted.

Recess – Mr. Farley recessed the meeting at 7:00pm.

Executive Session – The Borough Council went into executive session at 7:07pm to discuss personnel issues involving the Police Department and a litigation issue involving the PAXAR property. The executive session ended at 7:29pm.

Vote To Amend Collective Bargaining Agreement – A motion was made by Mr. Daly and seconded by Mr. Flick to amend the collective bargaining agreement between the Borough and the Police Department to allow the Patrol Officers to work a 10 hour work day beginning in April and continuing through the remainder of 2015. The amendment to the agreement is for a trial period and was requested by the Patrol Officers and shall not be construed as past practice. The trial period could be terminated by the Borough Council with two (2) weeks notice. **Under the question:** There were none. **Roll Call: Mr. Daly, Mr. Flick, Mr. Osmun, Ms. Sabatura, Mr. Shaw, Mr. Cerutti, and Mr. Farley; YES. Motion Carries.**

Adjourn – A motion was made by Mr. Daly to adjourn the meeting at 7:30pm. There were no objections.

Respectfully submitted,

David M Jarrett
Borough Manager/Secretary

