

## **MERCER BOROUGH REGULAR MEETING**

**April 12, 2016**

Attendance: Beth Hillmar, Frank Curl, Jerry Johnson, Cliff Hughes, Mayor Ross Vernon, Caroline DaCosta, Jac Carter, Joe Kurtanich, Debbie Sarvis, Attorney Ray Bogaty.

Beth Hillmar led the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance. Jerry Johnson moved to approve the March 8<sup>th</sup> and April 5<sup>th</sup> minutes with Cliff Hughes seconding. Vote carried unanimously. Jerry Johnson moved to approve the Treasurers Report with Jac Carter seconding. Vote carried unanimously. Jerry Johnson moved to approve the Payment of Bills with Caroline DaCosta seconding. Vote carried unanimously.

### **VISITORS**

William Finley and Aaron Sines reviewed their qualifications and asked council to consider their letters of intent to fill the vacant Borough Councilman's seat.

Jennifer Bunger asked council if they would sponsor movie night at Brandy Springs Park. Beth Hillmar responded that the Borough may be able to find private sponsors for the event without using additional Mercer Borough budget funding.

Delores Zook informed council that she was interested in seeing our community go forward with some new ideas.

Shelly Redmond and Abigail Whetzel addressed council with the problem of vehicles speeding on N. Pitt Street and turning on South Street to cut through to Route 19. They added that many vehicles are from the Regional and County Jails running the stop sign on South Street. Chief Fockler agreed to talk to the Jail Supervisors but said council would need to send a letter to the surrounding police chiefs to ask them to slow down and obey the traffic laws. Jac Carter moved to draft a letter to the area Police Chiefs with Jerry Johnson seconding. Vote carried unanimously.

Linda Munnell stated that she was there as a concerned citizen of the community hoping to see things progress in the Borough.

Shane Nugent representing the Mercer Area Chamber of Commerce thanked council for the extra police and street support during the Clarks concert.

Linda Harton introduced herself to the Visitors and members of council that she had not met before as the new Zoning/Code Enforcement Officer.

### **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

The Borough Administrator reviewed the Brandy Springs Park DCNR grant application submittal that she would submit through the Borough on behalf of Brandy Springs Park. She added that the project to install a Spray Park totaled approximately \$ 206,000.00 and that the Park agreed to pay the 50 % match.

Frank Curl motioned to approve submitting the Brandy Springs Park Grant and the new lease required to the DCNR with Cliff Hughes seconding. Vote carried unanimously.

Beth Hillmar announced that the next unfinished business item was Aaron Sines with a first and seconded motion and discussion on the table to appoint him for the vacant council position. Frank Curl explained his reasons for supporting Aaron Sines and thanked the other 2 applicants. Jerry Johnson stated that Roberts Rules of Order was not followed and that it was not fair to proceed with Cliff Hughes not in attendance. He added that for this reason he and Caroline left the meeting so that there would not be a quorum. Frank Curl stated that he was not in attendance when Cliff Hughes was appointed to council and for Mercer Borough to have a full quorum is not normal. Attorney Bogaty advised council that the procedure the Council President followed was correct. A roll call and verbal vote was taken to nominate Aaron Sines. Jac Carter, Frank Curl and Beth Hillmar voted yes. Jerry Johnson, Cliff Hughes and Caroline DaCosta voted no. Mayor Vernon with a tie breaker voted no. Jac Carter moved to appoint William Finley to the vacant seat with Frank Curl seconding the motion. Jac Carter, Frank Curl and Beth Hillmar voted yes. Jerry Johnson, Caroline DaCosta and Clifford Hughes voted no. Beth Hillmar asked for the Mayor's tie breaking vote and he voted no. Caroline DaCosta nominated Bonnie Kramer to the vacant seat. Cliff Hughes seconded the motion. Jac Carter, Beth Hillmar and Frank Curl left the meeting. The meeting was over due to a lack of a quorum.

Submitted by,

Debbie Scruci  
Administrator