

MERCER BOROUGH REGULAR MEETING

August 10, 2018

Attendance: Beth Hillmar, Jerry Johnson, Bill Finley, Cliff Hughes, Aaron Sines, Jac Carter, Joe Kurtanich, Debbie Sarvis

Beth Hillmar called the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

VISITORS

Trish Wardon addressed council with an issue she is having with her neighbor's cat and stray cats in her yard. She stated that she obtained a copy of the Borough's animal nuisance ordinance and talked to the "Judge" who advised that the Police enforced the regulations. She also asked how to get a new ordinance passed that was previously on the table that would regulate ownership and neutering requirements. Council agreed to review the Animal Nuisance Ordinance for an opinion at the next meeting. When asked, Beth Hillmar advised Ms. Wardon that council could not give her legal advice for trapping of the cats.

Shawn Emerson representing McGill, Power and Bell presented the 2017 Audited Financial Statement recap. He reviewed fund balances and explained the government fund accounting system (GASB). Mr. Emerson stated that he gave a clean and unmodified opinion of the Borough's financial statements and reviewed recommendations for the next audit.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Aaron Sines moved to officially hire David Montenegro as part-time Parking Officer effective August 9th at \$9.88 an hour. Jac Carter seconded the motion and vote carried unanimously.

Beth Hillmar announced that the Code complaints against residents keeping chickens on their property will be discussed at the next meeting with the Solicitors Opinion.

Council reviewed Mercer Forges request to change their sewer billing method that bases the bill on metered water usage to metered sewage usage. Joe Kurtanich recommended referring the issue to the Solicitor for legal review.

NEW BUSINESS

The Administrator reported that the 2018 CDBG application period is open and that she and the Engineer would be looking for projects that meet the program criteria.

Jac Carter advised council that the Borough could replace the driveway storm water piping under the Surrena's driveway on Peach Tree and require them to pave and restore but would like the Solicitor to review the Borough's regulations on maintenance.

Jac Carter moved to approve granting the Mercer Area School District 1 Sewer tap-on EDU at the Lamor Street Soccer Field. Aaron Sines seconded the motion and vote carried unanimously.

Jac Carter moved to approach the Neshannock Creek Watershed Authority with a proposal that the Brandy Springs Park pool connect to their system and the municipalities split the cost of the connection fee. Bill Finley seconded the motion and vote carried unanimously.

Council asked the Administrator to obtain an updated Streetscape schedule for the S. Diamond Street property owners.

Aaron Sines informed council that the Mercer Area Rotary would like to take over the maintenance of the E. Market Street Playground. He added that they would also like to maintain the Borough Building landscaping also. Jerry Johnson moved to have the Rotary Club take this over and to have the Solicitor's opinion on legalities. Bill Finley seconded the motion and vote carried unanimously.

Cliff Hughes commented to council that the trees on N. Diamond Street are getting too big and may interfere with the power lines. Aaron Sines agreed to talk to someone about the trimming.

The meeting was adjourned to an Executive Session to discuss the Teamsters Contract. The meeting was called back to order and properly adjourned.

Submitted by,

Debbie Sarvis
Administrator