

MERCER BOROUGH REGULAR MEETING

February 14th 2017

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

Jac Carter called the meeting to order with the Pledge of Allegiance. Aaron Sines moved to approve the January 10th and February 7th minutes with Cliff Hughes seconding. Vote carried unanimously. Jerry Johnson moved to approve the Treasurers Report with Frank Curl seconding. Vote carried unanimously. Caroline DaCosta moved to approve the Payment of Bills with Frank Curl seconding. Vote carried unanimously.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Jerry Johnson moved to rescind the motion to change the monthly public meetings from 2 meetings a month to 1 meeting a month with Caroline DaCosta seconding. Jerry Johnson added that he disagreed with council members posting negative comments on Facebook. Caroline DaCosta asked for council to pass a Social Media Policy. Aaron Sines advised Mrs. DaCosta that he reported true statements of Social Media. Frank Curl and Jac Carter commented that the Borough could not control personal use of Social Media by the elected officials. Vote carried unanimously.

Jerry Johnson moved to approve Ordinance # 2 – 2017 setting additional fees for the Tax Collector with Aaron Sines seconding. Vote carried unanimously.

Jerry Johnson moved to approve Ordinance # 3-2017 setting the Tax mills at 24.25. Caroline DaCosta seconded the motion and the vote carried unanimously.

Frank Curl moved to forgive interest from 2011 to the present for property owners who have unpaid final bills if they agree to pay the bills in full or agree to pay off the bills within 1 year. Cliff Hughes seconded the motion and vote carried unanimously. After a roll call vote, the motion was passed unanimously.

Council decided to table the decision to designate additional handicap parking spaces on S. Diamond Street to the next meeting for further review.

NEW BUSINESS

Jac Carter opened the bids for the 2017 Police Vehicle purchase. Bids were received from McCandless Ford Mercer, PA and Whitmoyer Auto Group Mount Joy, Pa. Aaron Sines moved to reject all bids with Beth Hillmar seconding. Council agreed to contact McCandless Ford or other Costars approved vendors in the future. Vote carried unanimously.

Frank Curl moved to approve the 2017-2018 Salt Contract with Costars with Caroline DaCosta seconding. Vote carried unanimously.

Frank Curl moved to authorize Jac signing the Right of Way Easement for the sewer line located under Route 19 with Aaron Sines seconding. Vote carried unanimously

REPORTS

Council reviewed the Police Report submitted by the Acting Chief of Police.

Joe Kurtanich reviewed the Engineers Report with council including S. Diamond Street Streetscape Project, the Low Volume Road Project and the RUS Accessibility Self Evaluations.

Jac Carter reported that the Street Department was obtaining estimates for N. Pitt from Venango to N Diamond Street and Turkey Street from Current to Venango. Council authorized repairing the differential on the pick-up truck.

Frank Curl reported that Council will be spending much more time on sewer items with the Sewer Plant Improvement Project commencing for bid the next month

Caroline reported that the Finance Committee still needs Financial Statements from Brandy Springs Park and the East End Fire Department before contributions can be made.

Frank Curl updated council on the Brandy Springs Park DCNR grant progress.

The Administrator reported that she had submitted information in regards to the Streets and Sewer Superintendent Position; however she felt that a meeting may be necessary to discuss salary and benefit details.

The meeting was adjourned to an Executive Session to discuss Personnel issues. The meeting was called back to order. Aaron Signs moved to promote Brad Shrawder to Mercer Borough's full time police chief pending a signed contract. Cliff Hughes seconded the motion. Vote carried unanimously. Aaron Sines moved to hire a new part-time police officer pending an interview with the Police committee. Beth seconded the motion. It was stated that the officer would begin at 15.00 per hour. Vote carried unanimously. Aaron Sines moved to hire Bob Davis full time starting March 6th pending the Vacancy created by Rob Yeager resigning. Beth Hillmar seconded the motion and vote carried unanimously. The meeting was properly adjourned.

Submitted by,

Debbie Sarvis
Administrator