

MERCER BOROUGH REGULAR MEETING

May 10th 2016

Attendance : Beth Hillmar, Jerry Johnson, Frank Curl, Mayor Vernon, Aaron Sines, Jac Crater, Joe Kurtanich, Ray Bogaty, Debbie Sarvis

Beth Hillmar called the meeting to order with the Pledge of Allegiance. Jerry Johnson moved to approve the Pledge of Allegiance with Jac Carter seconding. Vote carried unanimously. Jac Carter moved to approve the Treasurers Report with Aaron Sines seconding. Vote carried unanimously. Jac Carter moved to approve the Payment of Bills with Jerry Johnson seconding. Vote carried unanimously.

VISITORS

Robert Franks representing Sheetz Corporation introduced himself to council and explained that they were planning a rebuild of the Mercer store and would be working on the permit applications received at the committee meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Cindy Hewitt, Abigail Whetzel and Shelley Redmond informed council that traffic had not slowed down in the Pitt Street area and E. South Street area and some vehicles were still not stopping at the stop sign. Beth Hillmar reported that a letter was sent to the Jails and Sherriff's department asking them to obey the traffic laws in town. Jac Carter agreed to review other options including having Penndot install the flashing speed alert sign.

Dee Dee Zickar announced that the Mercer Art Collective will be hosting the 2016 Brews, Bands and Bike Show on August 6th.

VISITORS

Amanda Landon representing McGill and Stillwaggon reviewed Mercer Borough's Financial Statements and answered council's questions concerning the audit.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Mayor Ross Vernon reported that House Bill 71 making Radar available to PA municipalities is moving forward and more information would be coming.

Council decided not to adjust 2 residents sewer bills for water leaks stating that they should stay with the current policy to bill 100% of the water rates to the sewer users. Council also decided not to forgive the interest on Valerie Grandy's rental property accounts stating that it was not the Borough's policy and would be unfair to all of the other landlords who pay the interest.

Attorney Bogaty stated that he would work with the Zoning Officer on a Tomeo Sales and Farms permit violation.

Joe Kurtanich advised council that since Aqua paved Strawberry Street, it has caused extra storm water drainage onto the back of Mr. Mays' property on N. Pitt Street. Frank Curl asked if this is a problem with Bethany should the Borough be involved and step in. Attorney Bogaty advised council to meet with Bethany Church to discuss the problem. The Administrator asked Jac Carter and the Street Committee to contact her with dates they could meet.

Council reviewed Charlotte Urey's complaint concerning storm water exiting Mrs. Cresswells property over the street and into her yard and garage. Jac Carter agreed to ask Jim McGhee to get prices on a piece of pipe and catch basin and to contact Penndot to see if they could do ditching there as part of the agility program.

Beth Hillmar reviewed the note received from John West indicating that there was a parking problem on N. Pitt Street caused by business owners and employees parking on the residential side of N. Pitt Street. Ray Bogaty stated that the Borough could enact a residential parking permit process but it would be up to council to decide how they want to approach the problem. Jerry Johnson asked for 2- 2 hour parking spots in front of his home/business on that street also. Ray Bogaty agreed to talk to Jerrit Whalen about his continued parking on N. Pitt. Jerry Johnson commented that he has asked for the "no parking from here to corner" sign to be moved up further into the intersection to provide several other spaces also. Jac Carter stated that he was told past council decided to move the parking designation down because of the safety issues of the intersection. Beth Hillmar asked for the street committee to look further into the measurements of the intersection.

Council asked that the Burning Ordinance revision discussion be tabled until the next meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

Frank Curl stated that Jennifer Bungar handed to him a Street Closing permit request for Saturday June 11th from 8:30 A. M to 1:30 P.M. It would be a Primary Healthcare Bike Safety Event at the same time as the MS Escape to the Lake Bike run which will close the street at the same time. Aaron moved to approve the event above in conjunction with the MS Bike run and also to include Saturday June 18th for 6:00 A.M to 12:30 P.M for the BikeTour. Frank seconded the motion and vote carried unanimously.

REPORTS

Joe Kurtanich reviewed the Engineers Report. He explained that the South Shenango Street Sewer project bids were approximately \$ 85,000.00 below budget and recommended that the bids be formally rejected. Jerry Johnson moved to reject the South Shenango Street sewer bids with Frank Curl seconding. Vote carried unanimously. Jerry Johnson moved to bid a redesigned area of immediate need with Aaron Sines seconding. Vote carried unanimously. Frank Curl moved to bid the replacement of a sag area on the Sheriff Street sewer line with Jac Carter seconding. Vote carried unanimously.

Jac Carter moved to purchase and install speed bumps with appropriate signage on E. South Street with Aaron Sines seconding. Vote carried unanimously.

The Administrator explained that Walt Johnson's sewer lateral was connected to the Kendrew's sewer lateral at 122 S. Pitt Street preventing the contractor from lining the lateral to the main. Frank Curl agreed to talk to Mr. Johnson about having his lateral done at the same time.

Linda Harton informed council that she was handling code violations and building permit applications that had come to her and would be working on some of the older issues after.

Jerry Johnson informed council that many ideas and question were brought up at the last Finance Committee meeting but with Caroline DaCosta and Cliff Hughes not in attendance he would wait until the next meeting to discuss. He added that 2 items were to have Jac Carter submit a priority lists of Street work with costs and discussion on a new accounting system.

The meeting was properly adjourned.

Submitted by,

Debbie Sarvis
Administrator
Mercer Borough