

MERCER BOROUGH REGULAR MEETING

MAY 12TH 2015

Attendance: John Zohoranacky, Jerry Johnson, Ross Vernon, Gary Hancock, Jac Carter, Frank Curl, Beth Hillmar, Curtis Townsend, Attorney Bogaty, Joe Kurtanich, Debbie Scruci

John Zohoranacky led the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance. Curtis Townsend moved to approve the April 14th and May 5th meeting minutes with Gary Hancock seconding. Vote carried unanimously. Jerry Johnson moved to approve the Treasurer's Report with Gary Hancock seconding. Vote carried unanimously. Jac Carter moved to approve the Payment of Bills with Gary Hancock seconding. Council requested additional information on the bill received from Warners Home Improvement for the Security Door installation at the Police Station. Vote carried unanimously.

VISITORS COMMENT

There were no visitor comments.

Dan Goncz reviewed information from his WWTP improvement report. Mr. Goncz reported the he would not be able to meet the DEP deadline. Jerry Johnson moved to request an extension in the future for the Corrective Action Plan deadline. Gary Hancock seconded the motion and vote carried unanimously. Jack Carter moved to approve Payment Requisition # 3 in the amount of \$ 401.90 that would pay the interest on the 2014 Interim Sewer Plant Improvement loan. Gary Hancock seconded the motion and vote carried unanimously.

Michael Zubasic, PNC Bank and Attorney Christopher Brewer Dinsmore Shol discussed Mercer Borough's 2010 Sewer Bond Series. He informed council that there is an opportunity for the Borough to refund its 2010 Bonds due to current market conditions providing lower interest rates in comparison to the 2010 Bonds. Currently, there is approximately \$160,000 in net savings generated from the refinancing. Jac Carter moved to authorize PNC Bank and Dinsmore Shol to move forward with the procedures necessary to prepare for this opportunity. Beth Hillmar seconded the motion and vote carried unanimously.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Frank Curl moved to contract the restoration of Greg Vanderveen's yard that was in need of repair from the SWAG project. Jac Carter agreed to oversee the project and keep the costs below the state maximum bidding requirements. Beth Hillmar seconded the motion and vote carried unanimously.

Gary Hancock and Jac Carter discussed a 2015 Street Paving Project and informed council that information would be submitted for the next meeting.

Mayor Vernon informed council that he approached PAdot to install a "No Right Turn On Red" sign on the South East intersection of E. Venango St. at the N. Erie St in front of Pizza Joes. PAdot asked that council send a written request. Due to the changes that were made for a turning lane on N. Erie St at that intersection, John Zohoranacky asked the Administrator to contact PAdot for more information.

Jerry Johnson advised council that he thought a meeting with the new Mercer Race Track would be prudent to discuss the late night noise complaints. Frank Curl moved to send a letter to the Mercer Race Track to ask for a meeting to discuss the issues and work towards a new agreement. Curtis Townsend seconded the motion and vote carried unanimously.

Gary Hancock asked who to contact when there are problems with the Street Lights. The Administrator reported that the Street Light fixtures are owned and repaired by First Energy/Penn Power and residents can call First Energy or report a street light out on their Website for a fast response. The Mercer Borough Office also reports the Street Light issues when submitted by the Borough employees. Gary Hancock asked when the Code Officer begins enforcement procedures on the high grass complaints. The Administrator explained that the grass has to be at least 10 inches to start the process. Then the posting procedures or hand delivery service would begin. She added that the Borough amended the Property Maintenance Ordinance several years ago that allowed the grass to be cut by Borough employees or contractors and the property lien but this process could take an additional 10 to 20 days.

Ross Vernon reviewed the Police Report with council.

Joe Kurtanich reviewed the Engineer's Report with Council. The items included working with the Sewer Plant staff on WWTP and sewer lateral issues and CDBG project final items.

Jerry Johnson commented that Tomeo Farms has equipment on Wilson Ave that appears to be in the Floodplain area. Council commented that the D.E.P. or soil conservation should be advised.

VISITOR COMMENTS

Bob Giebner commented on the Police Department door replacement stating and stated that he would like a door bell installed. He also asked under property maintenance if anyone was looking at the properties with high grass. He commented on issues on the "no right hand turn" on Venango St. saying that it will be worse for the traffic backing up on Venango.

Frank Curl stated that the Bike MS bicyclers would be through Mercer on the 13th or 14th of June and asked if N. Diamond could be closed between 9:00 A. M. and 2:00 P.M. Jac Carter moved to approve the closing with the approval of the permit application from Chief Fockler. Beth Hillmar seconded the motion and vote carried unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned to an executive session to discuss personnel issues. The meeting was called back to order. Gary Hancock moved to table the discussion on the part-time office employee pay scale to the next meeting with Beth Hillmar seconding. Vote carried unanimously.

The meeting was properly adjourned.

Submitted by,

Debbie Sarvis
Administrator

