

## **MERCER BOROUGH REGULAR MEETING**

**May 7<sup>th</sup> 2019**

Attendance: Beth Hillmar, Jerry Johnson, Cliff Hughes, Mayor Ross Vernon, Caroline DaCosta, Aaron Sines, Joe Kurtanich, Chief Shrawder, Debbie Sarvis

Beth Hillmar called the meeting to order with the Pledge of Allegiance.

### **VISITORS**

Lou Ann Rock representing Trinity Gardens informed council that the group was planting a community garden on W. Market street and asked if they needed any special permits or approvals. She also reported that there were dead branches hanging over W. Market Street. Council responded that no permits are required and that the property owner is responsible for branches that need to be removed from the tree.

Jim Miller addressed council with remedies for his property violation that occurred as a result of his house fire on N. Otter Street. Mr. Miller advised council that he was renting a dumpster and borrowing a crane to remove the materials from the property. He added that he hoped Habitat for Humanity would build a house there on the lot for he and his wife to live in. Beth Hillmar told him that she hoped his plan worked and encouraged him to start as soon as possible.

Richard Kress asked council what items he was permitted to keep on his property stating that he believed he was being cited unfairly. Jerry Johnson moved to refer this question to the Solicitor for the next meeting with Aaron Sines seconding. Vote carried unanimously.

### **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

Joe Kurtanich stated that he would get quotes for the Jay Thompson property restoration.

Aaron Sines moved to approve the J & T Paving quote for N. Shenango Street in the amount of \$ 19,895.00 with Cliff Hughes seconding. Vote carried unanimously. Aaron Sines moved to approve pay Estimate # 2 in the amount of \$ 75,715.00 to J & T Paving for the S. Shenango Street Sewer Project with Cliff Hughes seconding. Vote carried unanimously.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

Jerry Johnson moved approve the Community Band Concert Special Event Road Closing with Aaron Sines seconding. Vote carried unanimously.

Jerry Johnson moved to approve the Memorial Day Special Event Memorial Day Road Closings with Cliff Hughes seconding. Vote carried with Aaron Sines abstaining.

Caroline DaCosta moved to advertise for a new Zoning Code Enforcement Officer with Aaron Sines seconding. The Administrator added that Harlowe Mattocks is willing to stay within reason until the Borough finds a replacement.

Beth Hillmar announced that applications were received for the Street and Sewer Supervisor and the part-time summer positions and that she would be setting up interviews with the applicants.

## **REPORTS**

Chief Shrawder reported that the Police Vehicle was being repaired since the last accident. He also reported that he was participating in a PCCD project to enforce safety belt rules.

## **ENGINEERS**

Joe Kurtanich reviewed items to be included in his next week's report including the LVR project and the Streetscape Project.

Jac Carter moved to direct the Borough Crew to fill in the last 2 feet of the sewer excavation area at Brandy Springs Park. Aaron Sines seconded the motion and vote carried unanimously.

Cliff Hughes asked council if the Borough had someone to cut the tree branches down that were hanging over the streets. Council explained that these trees were the responsibility of the property owners. The Administrator asked Mr. Hughes to supply her with the addresses and she would make sure letters were sent out. Jerry Johnson asked that a memo be sent to all employees that if they see anything that needs done they should report it.

Cliff Hughes and Mayor Vernon stated that the sewer line on Plum Street that caused a back up to the Jim West property needs replaced.

This portion of the meeting was adjourned to talk about Brandy Springs Park business. Jac Carter announced that he along with other volunteers including Findley Construction completed the sewer line. The Administrator informed council that she ordered and paid for the Spraypark embeds (ground sprays, anchors) and tank that would take approximately 4 weeks. She reported that the remaining features and water management system would take 6 to 8 weeks and the plan was to have the other other excavating, plumbing and concrete work done before that. Corey Masson advised council that he had not received a call back from Vernam excavating and Beth Hillmar agreed to contact him to get estimate for the water line and plumbing work for the pad.

The meeting was properly adjourned.

Submitted by,

Debbie Sarvis  
Administrator

