

MERCER BOROUGH REGULAR MEETING

November 1, 2016

Attendance: Beth Hillmar, Jerry Johnson, Ross Vernon, Caroline DaCosta, Aaron Sines, Jac Carter, Joe Kurtanich, Linda Harton, Debbie Sarvis

Beth Hillmar led the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance. Linda Harton reported that the Mercer Chapel is buying the former "McClelland Real Estate" building to be used as a residence upstairs. Frank Curl on behalf of the HARB board advised council that he didn't believe outside stairs in the back of the building would be something the board would consider historically significant but would request a copy of the project for the records. Ms. Harton also reported that Davis Chiropractic asked if they could replace their non-conforming signs on the side and front of their building. After opinions from the Administrator and council, she was informed that Dr. Davis could maintain his current signs but he would be required to conform to the new sign regulations if he were to replace.

NEW BUSINESS

Jerry Johnson submitted recommendations by the finance committee for the 2017 Budget. He asked council to review for the next meeting. The Administrator submitted the 2017 Proposed Budget Worksheets that outlined 2015 year to date and 2016/2017 projections for income and expenses. She also included a category for council to include any additional expenses or projects that they would like to include. Frank Curl asked why there was a necessity to budget \$ 5,000.00 for Mayors Expense. Mayor Vernon stated that it was addressed in the Borough Code Book that council had to provide this funding. The Administrator stated that she was aware of a borough code regulation that provides for up to \$ 4,000.00 for the Mayor's legal expenses for lawsuits between the Mayor and Council/Borough. Frank Curl disputed this practice stating that it was unfair to the other council members who may have legal disputes. He also stated that he thought it was unfair to reduce Brandy Springs Park budget for the next year considering all of the work individuals and groups have done to preserve and improve the park. Beth Hillmar reminded council that they should review the budget worksheet and be prepared to adopt a "proposed budget" next week.

Jac Carter moved to approve Marie Hart's Coolspring Township application to connect to Mercer Borough Sewage system conditionally that they are required to comply with the conditions of service. Frank Curl seconded the motion and vote carried unanimously.

REPORTS

Beth Hillmar advised council that the Police Committee would interview the part-time police applicants and meet with the School District to discuss the school officers and budget.

Joe Kurtanich discussed the MCRP meeting where Chris Conti informed Frank Curl and the Administrator that many of the proposed ADA ramps and domes submitted on the Borough's CDBG grant application may not be approved by the DCED due to current guidelines. Frank Curl discussed changes to the grant application to target certain areas for ADA ramps and sidewalk improvements in low to moderate income areas.

Jac Carter stated that Mealy Construction has not contacted or returned call concerning their water line excavation that resulted in damage to the borough's sewer line on Home Street. Joe Kurtanich recommended Attorney Bogaty to prepare a letter to send to the Aqua Water and Construction Company.

Jerry Johnson reported that Cliff Hughes told him that he could hear water running down a hole through a pipe at the property he owns behind Pitt Street. Since this could be contributing to the infiltration problem council members agreed to look into it again.

The meeting was properly adjourned.

Submitted by,

Debbie Sarvis
Administrator