

## MERCER BOROUGH REGULAR MEETING

October 11, 2016

Attendance: Beth Hillmar, Frank Curl, Jerry Johnson, Cliff Hughes, Mayor Vernon, Carolyn DaCosta, Aaron Sines, Jac Carter, Joe Kurtanich, Chief Fockler, Linda Harton, Debbie Sarvis

Aaron Sines moved to approve the September 13<sup>th</sup> and October 4<sup>th</sup> minutes with Cliff Hughes seconding. Vote carried unanimously. Jerry Johnson moved to approve the Treasurers Report with Jac Carter seconding. Vote carried unanimously. Jac Carter moved to approve the payment of bills with Aaron Sines seconding. Vote carried unanimously.

### UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Jac Carter moved to approve Ordinance # 4-2016 Limiting Parking and Providing Parking Permits. Jerry Johnson seconded the motion. After a roll call vote, the motion passed with Carolyn Dacosta opposing.

Beth Hillmar reminded council that the Borough is hosting the Mercer Area Council of Governments meeting on January 24<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 P.M. She added that the East End Fire Department officials will be attending to discuss their budget requests.

### NEW BUSINESS

Council agreed to table the DEP request for a Municipal Waste Ordinance until the Borough's current ordinances were reviewed.

### REPORTS

Chief Fockler reported that he received 3 applications for the part-time police officer position and the Personnel Committee agreed to meet to review.

Joe Kurtanich reviewed items on his Engineer Report. Jac Carter advised council that Finley construction discovered an Aqua Water Main project that restricted the sewer line causing problems with the residents and inhibiting their replacement direction Sheriff/Grant Street. Jac Carter moved to approve a cost increase to \$ 21,950.00 for the sewer main replacement project and to send a bill to Aqua for \$ 4,000.00 to pay for the work already completed. Jerry Johnson seconded the motion and vote carried unanimously. Mr. Kurtanich stated that he was ready to meet with the property owners of the S. Diamond Street Streetscape project to discuss their share of the costs totaling \$ 40,000.00. Frank Curl asked that Mr. Kurtanich meet with Bob Zarecky, ADA specialist at Penndot for opinions first. Cliff Hughes asked who would be responsible for the properties owners share if they refused to pay. Aaron Sines and Frank Curl stated that the Borough would pay the amounts.

Frank Curl moved to approve charging the Coolspring Sewer users \$ 5.00 additional in 2017 for the Sewer Treatment Plant Upgrades. This would bring the total to \$ 10.00 per month per EDU. Aaron Sines seconded the motion and vote carried unanimously.

Jac Carter moved to approve E. Venango Street to be closed from Erie Street to Strawberry Street so that Verizon contractors could finish work on the church steeple. Jerry Johnson seconded the motion

and vote carried unanimously. The Administrator reported that a resident from E. Beaver Street called before the meeting reporting that large semi-trucks were using the road and that there was a vehicle that has been parked on the road for 6 months. Jac Carter agreed to check to see where the weight limit signs are located. Chief Fockler informed council that if the vehicle has current tags, it is allowed to be parked on the street.

Frank Curl moved to deny Richard Kress his request to extend his deadline to remove the junk vehicles and other deteriorating items from his property. He added that if the District Justice gives him an extension, the code officer should keep citing him when the opportunity arises again. Aaron seconded the motion and vote carried unanimously.

Under Finance, the Borough Administrator reported that she would need the committees budget requests within the next few weeks so that she and the finance committee could submit a Proposed Budget to be reviewed at the November 1<sup>st</sup> meeting and approved for advertising at the November 8<sup>th</sup> meeting. She added that this would allow the 30 day review requirement for formal final adoption at the December 13<sup>th</sup> meeting.

Frank Curl announced that the HARB meeting is scheduled for the next night to review the Sheetz Plan rebuild.

The meeting was adjourned to an Executive Session to discuss police contract issues. The meeting was called back to order. Aaron Sines moved to move forward with Chief Fockler's insurance premium settlement agreement request pending on the taxes deduction information. Cliff Hughes seconded the motion and the vote carried unanimously.

Aaron moved to offer Chief Fockler a part time administrative consultant position after his retirement at \$ 15.00 per hour. Caroline DaCosta seconded the motion

Frank Curl moved to approve the 2017-2018 Police Bargaining Contract as submitted with Aaron seconding. Vote carried unanimously. The meeting was properly adjourned.

Submitted by,

Debbie Sarvis  
Administrator