

**MEETING OF THE MOUNT PENN BOROUGH COUNCIL**  
**January 9, 2018**

The Mount Penn Borough Council met in regular session on Tuesday, January 9, 2018 at the Borough Hall. President Staron brought the meeting to order at 7:30 P.M. and led the Pledge of Allegiance. Responding to roll call were Mayor Nowotarski and Council Members: Tom Staron, Mark Dudash, Roger Reto, Rick Lombardo, and Troy Goodman. Also in attendance were Solicitor Tom Klonis and Engineering Representative James Mohn, Secretary Christeena Hauck, Road Foreman David Wojchehoski, and Property Maintenance Inspector Adam Bender. Mr. Cocuzza arrived later.

**AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION:**

- Mayor Nowotarski presented the awards to the 2017 Holiday Decorating Contest winners:
  - 1<sup>st</sup> Place-44 N. 23<sup>rd</sup> Street
  - 2<sup>nd</sup> Place-15 N. 24<sup>th</sup> Street-The Coleman's were present to accept their award.
  - 3<sup>rd</sup> Place-211 Endlich Avenue
  - Honorable Mention-1957 Woodvale AvenueMayor Nowotarski read a letter submitted by Ms. Meredith Creswell of 211 Endlich Avenue.
- Ms. Rosie Skomitz of 412 Friedensburg Rd. asked Council to pass a resolution regarding water quality and the Delaware River Basin Commission (DRBC). Explaining the impact and long term effects fracking and shale gas activity have on our water resources has yet to be determined. Ms. Skomitz asked Council to call upon the DRBC to enact a permanent ban on natural gas development and all hydraulic related activities throughout the basin by passing the resolution that would prohibit such activity. Mr. Klonis will review the resolution prior to the next scheduled Council meeting.

- I. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** Moved by Mr. Lombardo and seconded by Mr. Reto that the minutes of December 20, 2017 and January 2, 2018 be approved as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Staron reported he would have the committee assignments by the January 30<sup>th</sup> meeting. Mr. Dudash will remain the Chair of Finance and Mr. Reto the Chair of Buildings. Mr. Staron will remain on streets until the new committees are assigned.

**II. FINANCE REPORT:**

- A.** Moved by Mr. Dudash and seconded by Mr. Reto to approve checks #17525-17536 dated December 26, 2017 in the amount of \$90,688.45, checks #17537-17557 in the amount of \$28,786.84 from the General Fund, and checks #1255-1257 in the amount of \$5,608.46 from the Liquid Fuels Fund. The motion carried unanimously. Mr. Goodman questioned check #17534 in the amount of \$20.00 payable to Thomas Staron. Mr. Staron explained he is reimbursed \$20.00 toward his cell phone bill for call overages. His plan does not allow unlimited minutes during the daytime hours, as Council President, he is required to handle business on a daily basis from his cell phone.

- B.** Moved by Mr. Dudash and seconded by Mr. Reto to accept the December 2017 Treasurer's report. The motion carried unanimously. The following balances were reported:

Checking-	\$	85,449.26
Savings-	\$	206,924.11
Liquid Fuels-	\$	53,000.77
Petty Cash-	\$	.00
Fire Tax	\$	6,053.49
PIB Loan-	\$	39,674.15
Ambulance Tax-	\$	136.22

### III. COMMITTEE REPORTS:

- A. STREETS:** No Report.
- B. BUILDINGS:** Mr. Reto reported the electronic door opener for the office has been fixed.
- C. LEGISLATIVE:** No Report.
- D. PARKS & PUBLIC PROPERTY:** Mr. Nowotarski reported he researched the automated ticket systems and found they are expensive. There are normally 11 cars in the lot over night. The committee would like to begin with permit parking. Discussion continued. Mr. Dudash suggested a survey be circulated to the residents and business owners within a block of the parking lot to gather feedback. Mr. Dudash will serve on the committee with Mr. Reto and Mr. Nowotarski.
- E. PUBLIC UTILITIES:** No Report.
- F. SOLID WASTE:** No Report.
- G. PERSONNEL:** Mr. Staron reported he received letters of interest for the Council vacancy from Claudia Hurwitz and John Fielding. Interviews will be conducted by Mr. Staron, Mr. Reto and Mr. Nowotarski. A recommendation will be made at the next meeting. The appointee will serve a two year term.
- H. INSURANCE:** No Report.
- I. PENSION:** No Report.
- A. CODES:** Mr. Lombardo reported Fire Marshal Vogt will be adding Adam Bender as a contact to the list for Knox.

### IV. LIASION REPORTS:

- B. Fire Company:** A committee to represent Mount Penn will be appointed at the January 30<sup>th</sup> meeting to begin discussion of fire study with the Fire Companies and Lower Alsace Township and what the next steps will be moving forward.
- C. MPBMA:** No Report.
- D. AVMA:** No Report.
- E. Planning Commission:** No Report.
- F. Police Commission:** Mayor Nowotarski reported today is day nine of the Oley agreement and things are going well. The rescheduled Commission meeting will be held January 18<sup>th</sup>.
- G. MPP:** Mr. Dudash reported Mount Penn Preserve will meet on January 11<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 PM at Borough Hall and invited everyone to attend.
- H. RCAV:** No Report.

**V. OTHER REPORTS:****A. Mayor:** No Report.**B. Motley Associates:** No Report.**C. Solicitor:** Mr. Klonis reported he researched the request from the citizen for asphalt transport into the alley and found using public employees and equipment for private use was not allowable.**D. Secretary:** Ms. Hauck reminded Council the Statements of Financial Interest are due back by April 15<sup>th</sup> for the year 2017.**VI. ORDINANCES: #842** Handicapped Parking for 1953 Woodvale Ave. Motioned by Mr. Cocuzza, seconded by Mr. Reto. The motion carried unanimously.**VII. RESOLUTIONS: 06-18** Appointing Troy Goodman to a five year term on Antietam Valley Municipal Authority. Motioned by Mr. Dudash, seconded by Mr. Reto. The motion carried.**21-18** Appointing James Cocuzza to serve a one year term on Central Berks Regional Police Department Commission. Motioned by Mr. Goodman, seconded by Mr. Reto. The motion carried.**22-18** Appointing Thomas Staron to serve a one year term on Central Berks Regional Police Department Commission. Motioned by Mr. Dudash, seconded by Mr. Reto. The motion carried.**VIII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS: No Report.****IX. CORRESPONDENCE: None.****X. NEW BUSINESS: No Report.**

President Staron asked for a moment of silence and wished eternal peace to former Council member Janice Podolick who passed away earlier this week.

**XI. ADJOURNMENT:** Mr. Lombardo made a motion for adjournment at 8:15 P.M., seconded by Mr. Reto. The motion carried unanimously. The next regularly scheduled Council meeting will be held Tuesday, January 30<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 P.M. at Borough Hall.

Respectfully Submitted,

*Christeena Hauck*