

MEETING OF THE MOUNT PENN BOROUGH COUNCIL
November 27, 2018

The Mount Penn Borough Council met in regular session on Tuesday, November 27, 2018 at the Borough Hall. President Staron brought the meeting to order at 7:34 P.M. and led the Pledge of Allegiance. Responding to roll call were Mayor Nowotarski and Council Members: Tom Staron, Jim Cocuzza, Roger Reto, Claudia Hurwitz, Rick Lombardo, Randall Miller, and Troy Goodman. Also in attendance were Solicitor Zachary Morey, Police Chief Ray Serafin, Secretary Bette Petrov, and Property Maintenance Inspector Adam Bender.

AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION:

- Kelly Dudash and Al Worrall, Mount Penn Borough Municipal Authority, and Ed Overberger and Champ Holman, Aero Engineering spoke on the condition of the Water Authority. Currently they are working on a reactive basis. Their policies and procedures, as well as their infrastructure are dated. The Authority is working on a 5 and 10 year plan and budget. They are interested in looking into rate studies and functioning of municipalities. Grants are available to help with the process. Mr. Overberger conveyed technically the Borough has responsibility for the Authority, and therefore the Borough would have to file the grant application. Funding is anywhere from 50K-100K with a 50% match and in some cases 75% 25% (municipality). The Authority would absorb all the expenses incurred in connection with the grant. There will be no expense to the Borough. The Director of DCED is in agreement to meet with the Water Authority and Borough. A resolution is required to move forward. Mr. Morey would like the solicitors office review the paperwork before moving forward.
- Rick Zerbe, 2208 Perkiomen Avenue, reported new curbing was placed at his residence going to the area of the grass strip. Curbing at neighbors home was redone and taken completely out to the curb. Basically he said work being done by Penndot is inconsistent. Besides the curbing issues (cement to grass strip or curb), there are more inconsistencies with sidewalk not being level causing tripping hazards. Two different contractors doing the cement work. The Penndot engineer is responsible for inspections. Chief Serafin stated Rod Con was cementing through to curb, and was instructed from PennDot to stop due to costs. Discussion continued. The PennDot inspector will meet with Mr. Reto. Mr. Reto requested the Streets Department and Mr. Mohn to be present.
- Pastor Derby, Faith Lutheran Church spoke on behalf of the three Mount Penn Churches regarding the Block Party. She suggested the following for the next Block Party: 1) End at 4:00 PM instead of 5:00 PM 2) Spread vendors out down to Cumberland Avenue 3) This year's date was too late in the year. A permanent date should be chosen, perhaps the third or fourth Saturday in September, and we should adhere to that date regardless of what other functions may be happening 4) More advanced planning.

I. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

- A. Moved by Mr. Lombardo and seconded by Mr. Cocuzza that the minutes of November 13, 2018 be approved as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

II. FINANCE REPORT:

- A. Moved by Mr. Miller and seconded by Mr. Cocuzza to approve checks #17865-#17888 in the amount of \$99,017.58 dated November 27, 2018 from the General Fund, and check #1279 in the amount of \$1,886.96 dated November 27, 2018 from Liquid Fuels. The motion carried unanimously. Ms. Hurwitz questioned the usage of heat and Windstream at the shop. She suggested we drop the phone number. Also questioned were the various prices on the Direct Connect phones.
- B. Mr. Miller spoke on the budget. He recommended some minor changes. Salaries were addressed, and the municipal pension line item (7% of salary). Mr. Wojchegoski explained the codes vehicle is causing the overage on the streets line. Questions and discussion followed regarding fire hydrant rentals, fire dispatch, and ems tax. Mr. Miller made adjustments so the Borough's expenditures and revenue match. Mr. Miller stated millage will remain the same generating \$800,000 in tax revenue. Republic Services raised their services 3%. Fee for trash \$203.00 for 2019. Total 2019 budget \$2,063,730. Mr. Miller made the motion and seconded by Claudia Hurwitz to advertise the budget. The motion carried unanimously.

III. COMMITTEE REPORTS:

A. STREETS:

- Mr. Cocuzza prefers to have a formal agreement with St. Lawrence prior to beginning to share the backhoe. Additionally, he is looking into new uniforms. And lastly, he conveyed the streets department will be working 10 hour days due to leaf collection.

B. PARKS & PUBLIC PROPERTY:

- Mr. Reto brought up the time and cost for utilizing the parking lot. 8 P.M.-8 A.M will be paid parking. No charge for day parking, and no permits required for businesses. Window stickers and plowing of the lot were discussed. Mr. Miller made the motion to authorize the solicitor's office to draft the proposal for advertising, seconded by Mr. Lombardo. The motion carried unanimously.
- Mr. Cocuzza brought up the booth on the lot, saying equipment used to maintain the lot can be kept there. It would have to be walled off or use pole buildings to keep it secured.

C. SOLID WASTE & PUBLIC UTILITIES:

Mr. Goodman reported 40 LED lights are completed. Our light count is 218. He is waiting for additional updates.

D. PERSONNEL:

Three more resumes were received. The personnel committee will move forward with interviewing.

E. INSURANCE/PENSION:

- Ms. Hurwitz is still waiting for quotes on the commercial property. They will be ready for approval at the next meeting.
- Ms. Hurwitz spoke with Tom Smith, Terri Styer, and AVMA regarding the pension plan and going in together on an RFP for a carrier. Bryan Boland will put it together, and expenses will be equally shared. It was tabled for the next meeting.

F. CODES: No report.

IV. LIASION REPORTS:

A. Fire Company: No Report.

B. MPBMA: No Report.

C. AVMA: No Report.

D. Planning Commission: No Report.

E. Police Commission: Meeting scheduled for December 6, 2018

F. MPP: No Report.

G. RCAV: No Report.

V. OTHER REPORTS:

A. Mayor: No Report.

B. Motley Associates:

C. Solicitor: No Report.

D. Secretary:

The Holiday Party is scheduled for December 24, 2018 beginning at 11:00 AM

VI. ORDINANCES: No Report

VII. RESOLUTIONS: No Report

VIII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

IX. CORRESPONDENCE: None.

X. NEW BUSINESS: None.

XI. ADJOURNMENT:

Mr. Lombardo made a motion for adjournment at 9:24 P.M., seconded by Ms. Hurwitz. The motion carried unanimously. The next regularly scheduled Council meeting will be held Tuesday, December 11, 2018 at 7:30 P.M. at Borough Hall.

Respectfully Submitted,

Bette E. Petrov