

MEETING OF THE MOUNT PENN BOROUGH COUNCIL
May 12, 2020

The Mount Penn Borough Council met in regular session on May 12, 2020 via Zoom. President Goodman brought the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M. and led the Pledge of Allegiance. Responding to roll call were, President Goodman, and Council Members: James Cocuzza, John Fielding, Richard Lombardo, Ryan Maurer, Roger Reto, and Tom Staron. Also in attendance were Mayor Nowotarski, Solicitor Tom Klonis, Property Maintenance Inspector Adam Bender, Chief Serafin, Engineer Christopher Falencki, and Secretary Bette Petrov.

I. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION: N/A

II. ENGINEERING

- Mr. Falencki discussed his two reports submitted (February 20 – May 20, 2020 and March 20 – May 06, 2020), and his March 18, 2020 proposal for HandiCap Ramp Design for the Borough. He received a map of all the HandiCap Ramps in the Borough. He would like to meet with the road crew regarding prioritizing the need for additional ramps.
- Dirt & Gravel training cancelled; and the grant money is held over for 2021.
- Mr. Falencki stated storm water run-off out of the Borough should be monitored. He can put together the proper forms and a training program covering the outfalls for the Borough. Outfalls are to be monitored after each significant rainfall/storm.
- Mr. Staron questioned the Mount Penn Townhomes. Mr. Falencki stated he received a copy of the approved permit the NPDES Stormwater Discharges Associated with Construction Activities. Mr. Falencki requested a copy of the new plans (for a comparison) as the originals were recorded in 2010. An escrow account will need to be in place prior to construction.
- Mr. Falencki requested an executive session at the end of the meeting.

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- Moved by Mr. Fielding and seconded by Mr. Maurer, that the minutes of February 25, 2020 be approved. The motion carried unanimously.

IV. FINANCE REPORT

- Mr. Fielding made the motion, seconded by Mr. Reto to accept the Treasurer's Reports for February, March, and April 2020. The motion carried unanimously. The following balances were reported for April 2020.

Checking	34,099.92
Savings	420,629.04
Fire	51,857.25
Ambulance Tax	12,025.14
PIB Loan	40,250.82
Liquid Fuels Fund	102,200.86
Petty Cash	50.00

Mr. Fielding made the motion seconded by Mr. Reto to ratify check #18311 - #18320 including on-line payments, dated March 09, 2020 totaling \$22, 705.72; check #18321 - #18333 including on-line payments, dated March 23, 2020 totaling \$102,131.67; check #18334 - #18345 including on-line payments, dated April 08, 2020 totaling 104,060.60; check #18346 - #18363 including the on-line payment, dated April 23, 2020 totaling 45,630.67, and check #18364 - #18372 including on-line payments, dated May 11, 2020 all from the General Fund. Check #1306 dated March 09, 2020 totaling \$2,594.99, and check #1307- #1309 dated April 23, 2020 totaling \$19,899.35 from Liquid Fuels. The motion carried unanimously.

V. COMMITTEE REPORTS:

A. STREETS:

- Mr. Cocuzza reported the following:
 - Mr. Cocuzza stated the union contract work rules need to be approved. Discussion continued. Mr. Reto spoke on the fairness of the benefits regarding union and non-union employees. Mr. Maurer addressed council in regards to this union contract mandating the need for an additional full time employee. Mr. Klonis reiterated his expertise is not labor union and again recommended the Borough hire a union labor attorney to review the contract prior to making a motion for approval.
 - Mr. Staron made the motion, seconded by Mr. Cocuzza to accept Resolution 25-20 adopting the Borough of Mount Penn Personnel Policy Handbook with the noted changes relating to the Teamster Union Local #429. The motion carried unanimously.
 - Mr. Staron made the motion, seconded by Mr. Cocuzza to accept the Union Contract. Mr. Maurer opposed. The motion carried.
 - Mr. Cocuzza conveyed the bed in the pickup truck is rotting and needs repair. Mr. Okonski suggested purchasing the patch panels and all necessary supplies. He has a contact who would then do the labor; and will have complete pricing at the next meeting.
 - Mr. Okonski conveyed Street Cleaning has not been arranged due to the amount of vehicles parked in the street resulting from Covid-19. Council agreed to let it go for this year saving the Borough approximately \$4K.
 - Mr. Okonski conveyed he was able to purchase wipes and hand sanitizer. Discussion followed regarding purchasing additional. Mr. Staron made the motion, seconded by Mr. Maurer to purchase three cases of the hand sanitizer. The motion carried unanimously.
 - Mr. Bender conveyed the recovery costs by PEMA are \$3,300. He suggested ordering additional to meet the recovery cost for reimbursement. Discussion followed regarding the purchase of the laptop and cleaning. Mr. Staron made the motion seconded by Mr. Maurer to purchase a laptop, not to exceed \$1500.00 for the Borough garage. The motion carried unanimously. Discussion continued. Mr. Staron amended his motion, seconded by Mr. Maurer. Mr. Staron made the motion, seconded by Mr. Maurer, to have the laptop purchased exactly as the original ThinkPad purchased in the event of future additional emergency management. The motion carried unanimously.

- Mr. Okonski spoke on trees that need removal. S. 25th and Fairview Avenue has a large oak that needs removal. Eight other trees in the surrounding same area need removal. Mr. Herb Davis quoted \$4K. Mr. Fielding made the motion, seconded by Mr. Reto to have Mr. Davis remove all nine trees not to exceed \$4K total cost. The motion carried unanimously.

B. PARKS & PUBLIC PROPERTY:

- Discussion was held regarding having the Borough building deep cleaned at a cost of \$332.50. Mr. Staron made the motion seconded by Mr. Fielding to have two deep cleanings. The motion carried unanimously.

C. SOLID WASTE & PUBLIC UTILITIES:

- One complaint received from Krafczek regarding placement of returned containers. There was also a complaint from the Dent Guy. Mascaro communicated The Dent Guy does not have their trash out the evening before.

D. PERSONNEL: No Report

E. INSURANCE/PENSION: - No Report

F. CODES:

- Mr. Bender conveyed rental inspections are on hold. Property transfer inspections are taking place if the property is vacant.
- Mr. Bender also suggested purchasing a pallet of sanitizing wipes. Also suggested considering accepting paypal or credit cards.
- Regarding the property fire on Woodvale Avenue, the County will vote on July 28, regarding having the County take over the property.
- Mr. Bender will check on the property across from the car wash.

V. LIASION REPORTS:

A. Fire Company: No Report

B. MPBMA:

- Mr. Staron stated they had their last meeting via Zoom.

C. AVMA: No Report

D. Planning Commission: No Report

E. Police Commission:

- Chief Serafin reported the preemption device at the 23rd Street traffic light is not being activated properly. Additionally, the same problem is occurring at the 22nd Street traffic light. Mr. Klonis stated the Chief could contact PennDot directly.
- Additionally, he addressed the issues of various businesses being in violation of regulations/orders resulting from COVID-19. Discussion continued.

F. MPP: No Report

G. RCAV:

- President Goodman conveyed the Borough would wait until the grant is actually awarded to RCAV before releasing the \$20K contribution towards the match.

VI. OTHER REPORTS:

A. Mayor: No Report

B. Solicitor: No Report

C. Secretary:

- President Goodman stated the office would be closed on Election Day. Mr. Bender will arrange the deep cleaning and the carpet cleaning immediately following the election.

VII. ORDINANCES:

VIII. RESOLUTIONS

- Mr. Klonis read Resolution 24-20. Mr. Maurer made the motion, seconded by Mr. Cocuzza, to adopt Resolution 24-20 applicable to taxable year 2020, all payments for Municipality Real Estate taxes received by September 30, 2020, shall be assessed a penalty of zero percent (0%) of the taxpayers liability. All late 2020 tax payments for Municipality Real Estate taxes received after September 30th, 2020 shall be assessed a penalty of ten percent (10%) of the taxpayer's tax liability. The motion carried unanimously.

IX. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

X. CORRESPONDENCE: No Report.

XI. NEW BUSINESS

President Goodman requested an executive session at 8:43 P.M.

Regular session resumed at 9:04 P.M

Let the record show Krafczek litigation was discussed. No action taken.

XII. ADJOURNMENT:

- Mr. Staron made the motion for adjournment at 9:05 seconded by Mr. Cocuzza. The motion carried unanimously.

The next regularly scheduled Council meeting will be held 7:30 PM, Tuesday, June 30, 2020 at Borough Hall.

Respectfully Submitted,

Bette E. Petrov
Secretary/Treasurer