

**MEETING OF THE MOUNT PENN BOROUGH COUNCIL**  
**May 25, 2021**

The Mount Penn Borough Council met in regular session on May 25, 2021. President Goodman brought the meeting to order at 7:30 P.M. and led the Pledge of Allegiance. Responding to roll call were, Mayor Nowotarski, President Goodman, and Council Members: James Cocuzza, Richard Lombardo, Ryan Maurer, Roger Reto, and Tom Staron. Also in attendance were Chief Serafin, Solicitor Tom Klonis, Engineer Mr. Falencki, and Secretary Teresa Dietrich.  
Mr. Fielding arrived late.

**I. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION:**

Discussion began with President Goodman regarding signage at Berks Renovations located on 23<sup>rd</sup> Street. There currently is a sign in place, but the business is requesting a loading zone. The Mayor will investigate the parking/loading needs and report to council in the future. The business owner was not present at the meeting.

**II. ENGINEERING**

- Engineering Report April 21 – May 21, 2021 submitted to Council.
- Received a letter from DEP re Krafczek issue; will cost \$7-\$8,000 to respond; President Goodman contacted State Rep Rossi's office regarding DEP losing the paperwork (sat on it for 9 months).
- Motion made by Mr. Reto, and seconded by Mr. Maurer to have the engineer proceed with resubmitting paperwork;
- Bids for the roof project are out and will be open on June 17; 15 bids are expected.
- Mr. Klonis spoke regarding parking issues for the chiropractor office (the former Grease Stop location), which the zoning hearing board had recently denied use. Motion made by Mr. Cocuzza, seconded by Mr. Reto to have the engineer investigate the issue and report back to council.

**III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

- Moved by Mr. Fielding, seconded by Mr. Maurer, to approve the minutes of April 27, 2021. The motion carried unanimously.

**IV. FINANCE REPORT**

- Moved by Mr. Maurer, and seconded by Mr. Reto to accept the Treasurer's Report for April 2021. The motion carried unanimously. The following balances were reported.

Checking	19,933.30
Savings	692,958.28
Liquid Fuels	133,417.71
PIB Loan	40,329.84
Fire Tax	87,644.80
Ambulance Tax	20,226.64
Petty Cash	50.00
Street Light Tax	

Mr. Maurer made the motion, seconded by Mr. Staron, for ratification of checks paid inclusive of on-line payments/auto drafts as presented.

The motion carried unanimously;

- Mr. Fielding presented information regarding a presentation he and President Goodman attended from Herbein, regarding the audit.
- Discussion continued regarding the audit proposal and additional revenue streams. A motion was made by Mr. Reto, seconded by Mr. Staron to have our engineer investigate our fee schedule for road cuts, increasing our fee to \$250 per road cut, which will be done via resolution.
- Mr. Fielding made the motion, seconded by Mr. Reto to accept the auditor's report. The motion carried unanimously.

## **V. COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

### **A. STREETS:**

- Mr. Staron made the motion, seconded by Mr. Reto to hire Industrial Grounds Maintenance for street sweeping beginning the week of June 21<sup>st</sup>. The amount not to exceed 4200. The motion carried unanimously.
- Mr. Staron made the motion, seconded by Mr. Lombardo to cancel the street sweeper. The motion carried unanimously.
- For \$2350, repaving the section at 23<sup>rd</sup> and Perkiomen can be paved/patched by Folk. 2 other bids are required for this project, according to our solicitor. Mr. Reto made the motion, seconded by Mr. Maurer to secure 2 other bids and have the lowest bid be awarded the job.
- On Memorial Day, Mr. Okonski reported the need to come in, to post signage for the paving, which will begin the following day. Mr. Fielding made the motion, seconded by Mr. Lombardo to allow Mr. Okonski to come in on Memorial Day for comp time to post signs. The motion carried unanimously.
- ARLE grant for traffic lights was discussed. The grant does include the ADA ramps. Council requested Mr. Falencki investigate for next year.

### **B. PARKS & PUBLIC PROPERTY:**

- Mr. Maurer reported the parking lot has been appraised at \$150,000. Discussion followed. Mr. Maurer made the motion to have the parking lot listed for sale on Municibid with a reserve of \$150,000. Additional discussion occurred and Mr. Maurer amended his original motion to hire an auctioneer. Further discussion continued. Mr. Maurer made another motion to list it with a reserve of \$160,000. Mr. Klonis interjected with statute requirements including advertising the sale. Mr. Klonis suggested council further research the auctioneers / Municibid, and gather additional information. Mr. Maurer withdrew his motion.

### **C. SOLID WASTE & PUBLIC UTILITIES: No Report**

### **D. PERSONNEL:**

A motion was made by Mr. Maurer, seconded by Mr. Cocuzza to accept the resignation of Bette Petrov, Borough secretary/treasurer, effective the close of business on May 21, 2021. The motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Reto made the motion, seconded by Mr. Cocuzza to hire a part time secretary. The motion carried unanimously.

There was discussion regarding the hiring of part time road crew and crossing guards, and the background checks and clearances required.

**E. INSURANCE/PENSION:** No Report

**F. CODES:**

- Mr. Lombardo referred council to the 2021 First Quarter codes report. Suggestions of what information should be included in the report in the future.
- Mr. Fielding made the motion, seconded by Mr. Cocuzza to approve the codes office set up cost of \$2140. The motion carried unanimously.
- Mr. Reto made the motion, seconded by Mr. Cocuzza to approve \$750 for the marking/lettering of the codes car.

**VI: LIASION REPORTS:**

**A. Fire Company:**

New vehicle should be in house in a few weeks.  
Alsace will be providing a contract now for services.

**B. MPBMA:** - No Report

**C. AVMA:**

A letter was sent requesting council's approval for the solicitation of a grant. Mr. Staron made the motion, seconded by Mr. Maurer to provide council's blessings in attempts to secure a grant for Crystal Lake.

**D. Planning Commission:**

President Goodman met with the County Planning Commission and at the option of revitalization grants.

**E. Police Commission:**

Mr. Fielding made the motion, seconded by Mr. Reto to execute the amended articles of agreement as presented and reviewed by our solicitor. The motion carried unanimously.

NNO has been canceled for 2021. The block party has also been canceled.

The Mayor noted dirt bikes are now present within the borough.

**F. RCAV:** No Report

**G. MT. PENN PRESERVE:** Meeting is May 26 at the Doubletree.

**VI. OTHER REPORTS:**

**A. Mayor:** No Report

**B. Solicitor:** UCC Appeals board; Mr. Staron made the motion, seconded by Mr. Lombardo to adopt the ordinance that changes the language to "Borough Council" instead of "Board of Commissioners." The motion carried unanimously.

**C. Secretary:** No Report

**VII. ORDINANCES:**

- Ordinance 866 – Requiring all owners of commercial properties to register with the borough and to be inspected, setting fees, procedure for inspections, etc. Mr. Lombardo made the motion, seconded by Mr. Maurer to adopt Ordinance 866. The motion carried unanimously.

- Ordinance 867 – Registration of vacant property. Requiring the registration of vacant properties by the owner. Mr. Cocuzza made the motion, seconded by Mr. Maurer to adopt Ordinance 867. The motion carried unanimously.

#### **VIII. RESOLUTIONS**

#27-21 – Brian Sands be appointed property inspector through 12/31/21 – Mr. Cocuzza made the motion, seconded by Mr. Reto to appoint Mr. Sands. The motion carried unanimously.

#28-21 – Teresa Dietrich appointed secretary / treasurer through 12/31/21. Mr. Fielding made the motion, seconded by Mr. Reto to appoint Ms. Dietrich. The motion carried unanimously.

#### **IX. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

#### **X. CORRESPONDENCE:**

#### **XI. NEW BUSINESS:**

- Mr. Staron reported the business in Mt. Penn plaza is now selling beer. They are posting signage on the fence. It was referred to codes.

#### **XII. ADJOURNMENT:**

- Mr. Lombardo made the motion for adjournment at 9:29 P.M. seconded by Mr. Reto. The motion carried unanimously.

Workshop meeting scheduled for 7:30 P.M. Thursday, September 23, 2021.  
The next regularly scheduled Council meeting will be held 7:30 P.M., Tuesday,  
July 27, 2021.

Respectfully Submitted,

*Josh Nowotarski*  
*Mayor*