

MEETING OF THE MOUNT PENN BOROUGH COUNCIL
December 29, 2020

The Mount Penn Borough Council met in regular session on December 29, 2020 via Zoom. President Goodman brought the meeting to order at 7:30 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, and Tom Staron. Also in attendance were Mayor Nowotarski, Solicitor Tom Klonis, Engineer Christopher Falencki, Chief Raymond Serafin, Property Maintenance Inspector Adam Bender, and Secretary Bette Petrov. Mr. Reto did not attend.

I. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION: No Report

II. ENGINEERING

- Engineering Report November 18, - December 28, 2020 submitted to Council. Mr. Falencki conveyed there is more communication with the property owner of 270 Friedensburg Road. The owner would like to open the downstairs commercial area and not deal with the upstairs area. Mr. Falencki conveyed items to be addressed in order for this to happen. Mr. Falencki sees the parking lot as the problem.
- The permit for Krafczek was submitted to DEP for approval.
- DEP accepted Mount Penn's 2020 MS4 report.

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- Moved by Mr. Staron, seconded by Mr. Lombardo to approve the minutes of November 24, 2020. The motion carried unanimously.

IV. FINANCE REPORT

- Moved by Mr. Maurer, and seconded by Mr. Cocuzza to accept the Treasurer's Report for November 2020. The motion carried unanimously. The following balances were reported.

Checking	64,546.48
Savings	208,583.40
Liquid Fuels	72,406.31
PIB Loan	40,304.83
Fire Tax	15,592.63
Ambulance Tax	16,191.92
Petty Cash	50.00

- Mr. Maurer made the motion, seconded by Mr. Cocuzza, to ratify check #18569 - #18582 dated December 08, 2020 inclusive of on-line payments for a total of \$109,002.21; and check #18598 - #18614 dated December 24, 2020 inclusive of an on-line payment for a total of \$23,961.51 from the General Fund. Additionally, check #1323 dated December 24, 2020 for \$2,618.12 from Liquid Fuels. The motion carried unanimously.
- Mr. Lombardo questioned the \$2,000 check for the Mount Penn Preserve. President Goodman conveyed the Ordinance was advertised but requested Council table until next year. Discussion continued. Mr. Fielding made the motion, seconded by Mr. Staron to forward a letter of intent to withdrawal from Mount Penn Preserve end of 2021. Mr. Maurer voted "No". The motion carried.

V. COMMITTEE REPORTS:**A. STREETS:**

Christmas Trees will be collected January 04-29, 2021.

B. PARKS & PUBLIC PROPERTY:

A roof leak was reported on the Water Company side of the building.

Mr. Stufflet patched.

C. SOLID WASTE & PUBLIC UTILITIES:

Complaints appear to be leveling off. Mr. Staron will request a 2021 calendar from Mascaro.

D. PERSONNEL:

A part time street representative was hired on a seasonal or as needed basis.

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

- Mr. Staron made the motion, seconded by Mr. Lombardo to advertise the Residential Rental Housing Program, the Tenant Registration Establishing Regulations, and the Registration of Defaulted Mortgage Properties ordinances, with required corrections, for adoption at the January 26, 2021 Council Meeting. The motion carried unanimously.
- Mr. Bender conveyed the 1951 Woodvale Avenue renovations are coming along nicely with all permits in place.
- Mr. Bender also spoke about the resident on the 1900 block of Fairview Avenue. He explained this is a more humanitarian issue.

V. LIASION REPORTS:**A. Fire Company:**

- Mr. Lombardo made the motion, seconded by Mr. Maurer to accept, with regrets, Barry Vogt's resignation as Fire Marshall effective December 31, 2020. The motion carried unanimously.
- Mr. Lombardo made the motion, on recommendation from the Fire Company, seconded by Mr. Cocuzza to appoint Timothy Waldman as the Fire Marshall for the Borough of Mount Penn effective January 01, 2021. The motion carried unanimously.
- Mr. Lombardo made the motion, seconded by Mr. Maurer to present Barry Vogt with a plaque for 25 plus years of service, not to exceed \$100.00. The motion carried unanimously.

B. MPBMA:

- The Reading Eagle was present at the MBPMA December meeting; and an article was in the December 9th edition of the paper. Mr. Staron wants it understood the issue of water being shut-off was a business decision by the MPBMA Board. He continued during the Authority meeting various comments were made regarding selling the company, new management etc. Mr. Staron made it clear during the meeting that remarks made were not those of Council. The issues never were discussed by Council.

C. AVMA: No Report**D. Planning Commission: No Repo**

E. Police Commission:

- Discussion was held regarding Mr. Stufflet, Mount Penn Borough employee, maintaining CBRPD vehicles.
- Meetings are the first Thursday of the month. New time for meetings is 6:30 PM.
- Shop with a Cop was a success. Twenty-two families were involved. \$200 per child plus \$100 Redners gift card for the family covering a holiday meal.
- Mr. Fielding made the motion, seconded by Mr. Lombardo, authorizing Mr. Maurer and Mr. Cocuzza to represent the Borough for the first Commission meeting; and for Mr. Staron to represent the Borough for the first meeting of the MPBMA. The motion carried unanimously.

F. RCAV: No Report**VI. OTHER REPORTS:****A. Mayor:**

- Discussion was held regarding the expenses incurred by the engineer.
- Mr. Mayor would like to keep the temporary handicap sign at 2331 Fairview Avenue for an additional 30 days.
- The Mayor will walk the neighborhood for the holiday decoration contest.

B. Solicitor: No Report.**C. Secretary:**

- Requested approval for 2021 workshop and meeting dates. Mr. Staron made the motion, seconded by Mr. Maurer to advertise the workshop and meeting schedule. The motion carried unanimously.

VII. ORDINANCES:

- Mr. Maurer made the motion, seconded by Mr. Cocuzza to adopt the 2021 Budget with the addition of the addition of the Street Light Tax. The motion carried unanimously. Mr. Klonis delivered the verbiage of Ordinance #857 fixing the tax rate for the year 2021. Mr. Maurer made the motion seconded by Mr. Cocuzza to adopt Ordinance #857. The motion carried unanimously.

VIII. RESOLUTIONS**IX. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:****X. CORRESPONDENCE:****XI. NEW BUSINESS:****XII. ADJOURNMENT:**

- Mr. Staron made the motion for adjournment at 8:50 P.M. seconded by Mr. Cocuzza. The motion carried unanimously.

Workshop meeting scheduled for 7:30 P.M. Thursday, January 21, 2021
 The next regularly scheduled Council meeting will be held 7:30 P.M., Tuesday,
 January 26, 2021.

Respectfully Submitted,

Bette E. Petrov
Secretary/Treasurer