

**MEETING OF THE MOUNT PENN BOROUGH COUNCIL**  
**February 25, 2020**

The Mount Penn Borough Council met in regular session on February 25, 2020 at the Borough Hall. President Goodman brought the meeting to order at 7:28 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:**

- Suzanne D’Alonzo, Community Outreach Programs Manager, Humane Pennsylvania, addressed Council regarding the possibility of utilizing space from the Borough for a dog and cat clinic. The clinic is to administer rabies and distemper vaccinations, and provide microchipping. Discussion continued, and Ms. D’Alonzo will provide dates. Mr. Klonis requested Ms. D’Alonzo have the Borough as an additional insured on Humane Pennsylvania’s insurance policy satisfying liability.
- Michael Frankhouser, 1962 Woodvale Avenue, regarding run off water from one property onto another property, the proper procedure to handle the situation, and if the Borough can help in this regard. The alleys also come into play. He conveyed the severity of the problem throughout the Borough with the enormous volume of rainwater (substantial storms over the past ten years), and the lack of storm drains. Discussion continued regarding the drains, manhole covers popping, the old infrastructure not being able to handle the volume; overlays over the years decreasing curb reveal hampering water flow; and how to rectify without incurring additional taxes. The cost for improvements is phenomenal and cost prohibited. Mr. Klonis stated there are two issues, the private issue, and the public sector issue. Mr. Falencki suggested, initially, to correct the curb reveals back to at least six inches.

**II. ENGINEERING**

- Mr. Falencki submitted his report. He spoke on the Dirt and Gravel Road Studies. Certification is in April; Mr. Bender and Mr. Okonski will be attending. The grant application is due shortly thereafter. Mr. Falencki recommended we now begin the application process, and have the County Conservation representatives come to the Borough to review the project. The Borough may have to contribute 15% monetary value, or in-kind labor. Discussion continued, including additional types of grants, most of which are looking at economic development. Additionally the use of Liquid Fuels.
- Mr. Falencki requested an executive session.

President Goodman requested an executive session at 8:07 PM. Regular session resumed at 8:55. Let the record show Krafczek litigation was discussed. No action taken. Let the record show personnel was discussed.

**III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

- Moved by Mr. Lombardo and seconded by Mr. Reto, that the minutes of January 28, 2020 be approved with the noted changes. The motion carried unanimously.

#### IV. FINANCE REPORT

- Mr. Maurer discussed the year to date profit and loss. Additionally, he noted the new fee schedule is not yet in place. It was noted there is no capital budget in place.
- Mr. Lombardo made the motion, seconded by Mr. Fielding to accept the January 2020 Treasurer's Report. The motion carried unanimously. The following balances were reported.

Checking	10,393.02
Savings	169,179.64
Fire	3,498.98
Ambulance Tax	2,373.15
PIB Loan	40,202.89
Liquid Fuels Fund	45,014.49
Petty Cash	50.00

Mr. Maurer made the motion seconded by Mr. Lombardo to ratify check #18279 - #18290 and the on-line payments, dated February 07, 2020 totaling \$103,952.42 from the General Fund; Check #18291 - #18308 and the on-line payments, dated February 25, 2020 totaling \$22,809.61 from the General Fund; and check #1304 and #1305 in the amount of \$5,825.25 dated February 21, 2020 from Liquid Fuels. The motion carried unanimously.

#### V. COMMITTEE REPORTS:

##### A. STREETS:

- Mr. Cocuzza reported the following:
  - Mr. Cocuzza, Mr. Falencki, Mr. Goodman, and Mr. Okonski looked at Cumberland Avenue in regards to the handicap ramp and the complaint lodged with the State. Mr. Cocuzza made the motion, seconded by Mr. Fielding, authorizing Mr. Falencki to write the proposal addressing the handicap ramp issue at Cumberland Avenue and Center Street. The motion carried unanimously;
  - Delivery of the new truck is delayed another three weeks;
  - The new leaf picker will be arriving August 2020;
  - The basement of the Borough building will be cleaned for use by Humane Pennsylvania;
  - Discussion was held regarding the salt contract and the mild winter.

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

- Mr. Reto conveyed he has received one estimate for the new roof in excess of \$30,000. Discussion continued. It will have to be bid. There is no money available for this year. Mr. Reto asked for \$31,000 to be budgeted next year for the roof.

##### C. SOLID WASTE & PUBLIC UTILITIES:

- Trash complaints have decreased.

**D. PERSONNEL:**

- As a result of the resignation of one member of the street crew, Mr. Lombardo made the motion, seconded by Mr. Fielding, for the secretary to advertise for the position. Mr. Reto opposed. The motion carried.
- Mr. Staron questioned if the part-time street representative, Mr. Prater, is currently working full-time. Mr. Prater is permitted to work 32 hours weekly.

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

- Mr. Lombardo stated the new fee schedule should be ready for the next workshop;
- There is a vehicle available for Mr. Bender, as long as we remain in the Joint Codes Program. Mr. Maurer will convey at the Police Commission meeting.

**V. LIASION REPORTS:****A. Fire Company:** No Report**B. MPBMA:**

- Mr. Staron stated they continue to work on their master plan.

**C. AVMA:** No Report**D. Planning Commission:** No Report**E. Police Commission:** Meeting is Thursday, March 05, 2020**F. MPP:** No Report**G. RCAV:** No Report**VI. OTHER REPORTS:****A. Mayor:** No Report**B. Solicitor:**

- Mr. Klonis conveyed he received the information for the traffic ordinance.

**C. Secretary:**

- Ms. Petrov requested Council to advise if they were planning to attend the March 26, 2020 Municipal Officials Dinner. Reservations must be made by the 20<sup>th</sup> of March.

**VII. ORDINANCES:**

- Mr. Reto questioned the Ordinance on tractor-trailer parking. Mr. Bender stated this is a zoning issue, not an ordinance, and has to include Lower Alsace. Mr. Reto was concerned with 23<sup>rd</sup> Street and the Borough in general with respect with Fire and Ambulance vehicles. Discussion continued.

**VIII. RESOLUTIONS****IX. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

- Mr. Lombardo brought up the 2018 Fire Company merger study. Also the Borough and Lower Alsace merger with the Fire Companies. Both agreed there should be one structure. Lower Alsace said they would not take additional steps until the Borough takes the initiative. Mr. Lombardo will reach out to the supervisors of Lower Alsace;
- Mr. Cocuzza said he has to go back to Mr. Geist to redo the union contract regarding the work rules. The current verbiage is not acceptable;
- The fee schedule has to completed.

**X. CORRESPONDENCE:** No Report.

**XI. NEW BUSINESS**

- Mt. Staron suggested all Council should have new ID's taken.

**XII. ADJOURNMENT:**

- Mr. Lombardo made the motion for adjournment at 9:40, seconded by Mr. Maurer. The motion carried unanimously.

The next regularly scheduled Council meeting will be held 7:30 PM, Tuesday, March 31, 2020 at Borough Hall.

Respectfully Submitted,

*Bette E. Petrov*  
*Secretary/Treasurer*