

Mercersburg Borough Council
Borough Hall, Mercersburg, PA
April 8, 2019
MINUTES

Attending: President Donald (Dusty) Stoner Jr., Vice-President Jeff Main, Dr. Michael Pedersen, Paul Sipes, Sean Grove, Amy Burkot, Tom Heefner, Mayor Roger Defibaugh, Borough Manager Derek Stoy, Borough Secretary Stacey Golden and Solicitor Steve Coccoresse

Absent: None

Guests/Press: Rachel Nichols, Linda Hargrove, Kelly Buterbaugh, Lisa Minton, Raymond Minton, Preston Spahr

President Donald Stoner Jr. called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM and asked Mayor Roger Defibaugh to lead in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mercersburg resident Kelly Buterbaugh asked Council about the Herbruck's truck route and the grant for widening Landis Drive. Borough Manager Derek Stoy explained that Council approved a truck route for their highway occupancy permit for the trucks to come out Corner Road into North and South Park coming across Main to Oregon and out Landis. Stoy said Penn Dot approved that truck route. Stoy also said Commonwealth Financing Authority approved a grant to restore all of Landis in both the Borough and Peter's Township and to perform work at both intersections of Landis and Oregon/Church Hill & Landis & Loudon Road. Stoy commented that the trucks would be the standard 53' trailers with a tractor, no double short trailers. Stoy concluded with saying as far as Herbruck's, he isn't sure when their business will start and that he would dig up some numbers for how many trucks would be commuting daily. Borough Manager Stoy isn't sure of the timetable of the actual approving of the road and intersections.

MOTION: To approve the March 11, 2019 meeting minutes was made by Jeff Main, second by Michael Pedersen. All ayes, motion carried.

Council President Donald Stoner Jr. asked who approved the Keystone Ford invoice and explained that any invoice over the amount of \$500.00 needed to be brought before the Council. Sgt. Wertz and Mayor Defibaugh approached the Council explaining that tires were needed for a police vehicle and that they use special speed rated tires. Council President Stoner Jr. asked that purchases be brought before the council when they exceed \$500 in the future.

MOTION: To approve the Treasurer's Report and Bills Payable for the month ending March 31, 2019 was made by Tom Heefner, second by Jeff Main. All ayes, motion carried.

President Stoner moved into the Mayor's Report. Mayor Roger Defibaugh gave an update on the two candidates for the part time police officer positions saying they both have a few minor things to complete before being sworn in. Defibaugh presented a quote for ammunition from Eagle Point Gun/T.J. Morris & Son stating that the purchase will last for two years.

MOTION: To approve police ammunition purchase from Eagle Point Gun/T.J. Morris & Son in the amount of \$1,017.14 was made by Jeff Main, second by Sean Grove. All ayes, motion carried.

MOTION: To repair the light bar in the police vehicle in the amount of \$605.00 from 911 Rapid Response LLC was made by Jeff Main, second by Paul Sipes. All ayes, motion carried.

Council member Amy Burkot asked if the Enradd System was in service yet. Sgt. Wertz responded yes and that it has been used successfully.

Nothing to report from the Solicitor.

Engineer was not present. Council member Jeff Main asked about Findlay Park with the driveway drainage. Borough Manager Derek Stoy said it is all ready to go and the plan is done. Stoy stated he was going to contact three or four pavers for quotes saying that it was in the budget to be done noting it is going to be "very elevation critical".

President Donald Stoner Jr. continued into the Borough Manager's Report. Manager Derek Stoy reported that there were two water main breaks on Friday, April 5th. Stoy said that the chainsaw that was purchased through the Joint Equipment Fund experienced a bar and chain failure while cutting pipe. Manager Stoy explained since it was purchased through the Joint Equipment Fund it would be split between the three entities. Stoy continued in his report with reporting that only one bid was received by David H. Martin in the amount of \$162,566.00 and noted that he will have a recommendation for the next council meeting on whether to accept the bid or not after he meets with Dr. Liz George to get a detailed breakdown to make sure funds will be available. Dr. Michael Pedersen has agreed to join the Water Authority. One nomination was received for the Harriet Lane Award. Manager Stoy spoke to Council about the asbestos results for the Police Department, Stoy noted in his report that he is pulling together prices for asbestos abatement, new flooring, drop ceiling and new lighting and will present to the Property Committee "hopefully in May" for review. Stoy continued in his report with updating Council about the Summer Playground saying one of his biggest concerns is liability of the children and then raised the question of using tax payer dollars since the program has been in the negative for the past two years. Council Member Amy Burkot raised concern about the program being "taken away". President Stoner said that the programs aren't being taken away but rather handed over to the community. Stoy stated that he met with Mr. Benedick from the Tuscarora School District about the possibility of "handing over" the program noting that the school district wouldn't be ready to take it over this year. Stoy asked the Council to give administration direction on how to proceed with the program. President Donald Stoner Jr. asked Council members to bring their thoughts and ideas to the next meeting noting that a decision would be made. Borough Manager Derek Stoy stated that he met with Franklin County Soil Conservation District to look at a grant for low volume roads. Stoy said the program is called "Low Volume/Dirt Road/Gravel Road Program". The grant provides stone base and "may" cover 20% of paving and "will" cover 10% of engineering cost and would have to be applied for in August. Stoy also talked to Council about a PennDot program called "Green Light Go Program" saying that lights would be upgraded to LED. The grant is a 80/20 grant with the borough being responsible for 20% of repair costs and wouldn't be applied for until the end of the year. Stoy said the next step is to look at the Borough budget and decide if the funds are available to move forward in 2020.

MOTION: To approve \$280 towards the purchase of a chain and bar from LB Water for the chainsaw out of the Joint Equipment Fund was made by Jeff Main, second by Tom Heefner. All ayes, motion carried.

President Donald Stoner Jr. moved into Committee Reports

Borough Manger Derek Stoy said he would be making contact with Senator Judy Ward to ask about when repairs would be made to the Mercersburg Post Office.

Vice President Jeff Main gave an update on the HARB committee meeting and mentioned that Vice-Chairwoman Jennifer Greenlee was standing in for Chairwoman Judy Kelsey.

MOTION: To approve HARB application COA 2019-03-01 was made by Tom Heefner, second by Sean Grove. All ayes, motion carried.

MOTION: To approve HARB application COA 2019-03-02 was made by Tom Heefner/Jeff Main. All ayes, motion carried.

MOTION: To hire Raphael Kissoon as a part time police officer for the Mercersburg Police Department at a starting wage of \$16.80 per hour was made by Jeff Main, second by Tom Heefner. All ayes, motion carried.

MOTION: To approve the Solicitor to review the full time police officer job description as presented to Council was made by Jeff Main, second by Tom Heefner. All ayes, motion carried.

MOTION: To approve a wage increase of \$1.00 per hour to public works employee Donald Keefer retroactive to receiving his CDL license was made by Jeff Main, second by Tom Heefner. All ayes, motion carried.

MOTION: To approve the public works position wage at \$14.00 to \$15.50 per hour was made by Tom Heefner, second by Jeff Main. All ayes, motion carried.

President Donald Stoner Jr. moved into Old Business.

President Stoner Jr. asked Mayor Defibaugh about the status of the third police vehicle since approval was given to get rid of it. Mayor Defibaugh said that after talking to the Chief and Sergeant, they would like to wait until hiring of the third police officer to see if there is a need for the vehicle. Mayor Defibaugh also noted that a motion was made in a previous council meeting to allow the Mayor and Police Department to use their discretion as to how to proceed with the vehicle. Council agreed to continue to let the vehicle in their discretion.

MOTION: To approve Resolution 06-19 appointing Michael Pedersen to the Water Authority was made by Jeff Main, second by Tom Heefner. All ayes, motion carried.

MOTION: To approve the Mont Alto Fire Police request for June 14, July 27 & August 17, 2019 was made by Jeff Main, second by Sean Grove. All ayes, motion carried.

MOTION: To approve the Fort Loudon Peach Festival Fire Police request for August 17, 2019 from 9 AM-3 PM was made by Sean Grove, second by Jeff Main. All ayes, motion carried.

MOTION: To nominate Terri Fink for the 2019 Harriet Lane Award was made by Amy Burkot, second by Michael Pedersen. All ayes, motion carried.

Borough Manager Derek Stoy said there was a need for someone to present the James Buchanan Award on April 11, 2019 at 6:30 PM at the American Legion.

President Donald Stoner Jr. noted that he would like to advertise to solicit volunteers for the Civil Service Committee members. Borough Manager Derek Stoy said he would advertise on the borough website.

President Stoner confirmed committee meeting dates.

MOTION: To go into executive session for personnel matters at 8:34 PM was made by Jeff Main, second by Tom Heefner. All ayes, motion carried.

MOTION: To offer the public works position to candidate A and if A doesn't accept to make the offer to candidate B was made by Michael Pedersen, second by Tom Heefner. All ayes, motion carried.

Regular session resumed at 8:47 PM.

MOTION: To adjourn the meeting at 8:50 PM was made by Tom Heefner, second by Sean Grove. All ayes, motion carried.

These meeting minutes were transcribed and respectfully submitted for approval by Stacey M. Golden with the use of her meeting notes and audio recording.

Date approved: _____ Motion by: _____ Second by: _____