

Mercersburg Borough Council
Borough Hall, Mercersburg, PA
May 4, 2015
MINUTES

Attendance: Council President Tom Suddeth, Mayor Jim Zeger, Treasurer Catalin Bonciu, Lisa McCoy, Jonathan (Jon) Kittredge, Donald Stoner, Vice President Jeff Main, Amy Burkot, Assistant Borough Manager Derek Stoy, Solicitor Steve Coccoresse,

Absent: Dawn Scheller, Borough Manager, Engineer Lance Kegerreis

Guest/Press: See sign-in sheet

Meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm with the Mayor leading the Pledge of Allegiance. President Suddeth opened the floor for Public Comments.

Mrs. Helen Bryan spoke to council in reference to a sewer back up in here basement last month. She praised Mr. Donald Shaffer Sr.'s quick response but expressed concern over this happening. She stated this was the third time this back up has happened and wanted something done to resolve the issue. She also stated to council that she has spoken to a lawyer in reference to this situation. President Suddeth advised her that this is a Sewer Authority issue and the council can only ask the sewer authority to look into the problem and get it resolved as quickly as possible. Assistant manager Derek Stoy added that the situation is being monitored closely and flow through the manholes is being looked at frequently. Mrs. Bryan was advised of the time and date of the next Sewer Authority meeting where she can express her same concerns.

President Suddeth asked for any other public comment and none was received.

MOTION: to approve the April 6, 2015 and the April 20, 2015 minutes as presented was made by Jon Kittredge, second by Catlin Bonciu. All ayes, motion carried.

MOTION: to approve the Treasurer's Report and Bills Payable/Invoice List as presented for the month of April 2015 was made by Jon Kittredge, second by Jeff Main. All ayes, motion carried.

President Suddeth then asked for the Mayor's report. Mayor Zeger reported that he participated in the Women In need fundraiser on behalf of the United Way on Friday May 1. The fundraiser was a "Walk a Mile in Her Shoes" whereas men walked in women's shoes. He also presented Helen Smith with the Harriet Lane award at the Tea on Saturday morning May 2. He stated that Ms. Smith was a great choice and that she was one of the founders of Meals on Wheels in the area.

The Police Report was reviewed with a request by Chief Zechman to replace the odometer in the 2008 Ford Crown Victoria at an estimated cost of \$689.97.

MOTION: To approve the repair of the odometer in the 2008 Ford Crown Victoria Police cruiser for an estimated cost of \$689.97 was made by Jon Kittredge, second by Donald Stoner. All ayes, motion carried.

President Suddeth asked if there was anything from the Solicitor, Steve had the following.

The solicitor discussed a newly proposed Shade Tree Ordinance. As presented to the council previously, some members expressed concern over telling a property owner that he or she was required to plant a tree on their property. The solicitor agreed to remove that from the proposed ordinance. Also responsibility of the trees was discussed at length.

More concerns were brought forth as to who would be responsible for continuing maintenance on trees planted in the area of the sidewalk.

MOTION: To advertise Ordinance 3-2 as amended by the solicitor was made by Jeff Main, second by Jon Kittredge. Amy Burkot opposed, remaining ayes, motion carried.

Council moved on to the Borough Manager's report.

MOTION: to approve a check be written to Lucinda Piper from the Summer Playground Fund in the amount of \$850 for the following. A \$500 and a \$250 gift card for purchases and \$100 petty cash for the Summer Playground program, was made by Donald Stoner, second by Jon Kittredge, all ayes. Motion carried.

MOTION: to allow the borough manager to sign the form presented by Senator John H. Eichelberger Jr. to allow his staff to set up a satellite office at borough hall was made by Donald Stoner second by Jeff Main. Jon Kittredge opposed, remaining ayes. Motion carried.

MOTION: to purchase up to \$150 in flowers and potting soil for the flower boxes on the square (monies to be spent out of the general fund) was made by Donald Stoner, second by Jeff Main. All ayes, motion carried.

MOTION: to authorize President of Borough Council to sign a new agreement with PSAB to change drug and alcohol testing providers from Worknet to First Lab was made by Donald Stoner, second by Jeff Main. All ayes, motion carried.

President Suddeth moved to the Assistant manager's report. Derek Stoy reported that line paving has begun and should be completed in time for Spring Fest. Also, Columbia Gas is currently working on West Seminary St and Linden Ave. Updates were also provided for the street project. Derek Stoy also reported that the service truck purchase would need to be decided upon so that the Water and Sewer Authorities could also approve the purchase. Discussion ensued about a four wheel drive versus a two wheel drive as well as a single rear wheel as opposed to a dual rear wheel. Prices were reviewed and Jeff Main asked Derek Stoy what he would be happy with. Mr. Stoy said he would be happy with either truck but the four wheel drive model is available right now for purchase. Other trucks would need to be ordered with an 8 to 12 week turn around on receiving one.

MOTION: to purchase, through the joint equipment fund, a GMC 3500 4wd dually with a 73" High Knapheide body from Penske GMC for \$44,852.00 with authorization to finance up to \$20,000 of said purchase at an interest rate not to exceed 3.0% was made by Donald Stoner, second by Catlin Bonciu. Jon Kittredge opposed, remaining ayes. Motion carried.

Mr. Stoy continued with his report stating that the Rotary Club of Mercersburg donated \$500 to the Summer Playground Program and 1 Land Use Permit was granted in the month of April.

There was no Public Works Report.

Committee reports were reviewed as Personnel committee was the only one with a report. Committee chair Jeff Main reported that they are looking into Health Care and Pension plan costs and will report back once all information is received and reviewed. Mr. Main also reported that council should make a policy as it pertains to the audio recordings of meetings.

MOTION: to keep all audio recordings in digital form from council meetings forever on an external hard drive and to charge \$30.00 per digital audio file requested through a Right to Know request was made by Catlin Bonciu, second by Jeff Main, all ayes. Motion carried.

President Suddeth moved on to new business.

MOTION: To approve Resolution 14-15 appointing Victoria Kieffer to the General Purpose Authority with a term ending on December 31, 2017 and to appoint Joseph Burkot to the General Purpose Authority with a term ending on December 31, 2016 was made by Donald Stoner, second by Catlin Bonciu. All ayes, motion carried.

All correspondence was reviewed.

MOTION: To enter into executive session for personnel matters and Quasi-Judicial Deliberation at 8:40 p.m. was made by Jeff Main, second Donald Stoner, all ayes, motion carried.

Regular session resumed at 8:55 p.m.

MOTION: to send a letter to Bruce Jacobs, 240 Linden Avenue in response to his Quitclaim deed information was made by Catlin Bonciu, second by Jon Kittredge. All ayes, motion carried.

MOTION: to adjourn at 8:58 p.m. pm was made by Catlin Bonciu, second by Jon Kittredge, all ayes, motion carried.

These meeting minutes were transcribed with the use of meeting notes and audio recording and have been respectfully been submitted for approval by Derek J Stoy.

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