

MINUTES OF THE BOROUGH OF MONTOURSVILLE

January 4, 2016

The reorganizational meeting of the Montoursville Borough Council was called to order by Mayor John Dorin at 7:00 PM, with the following answering roll call: Mark Tillson, Eric Greenway, Tina Kline, Rosemary Holmes, Dave Moyer and Christopher Lucas.

The Pledge of Allegiance was observed. Mayor Dorin swore in the following newly elected Council members prior to the Borough Council meeting: First Ward – Eric Greenway, Second Ward – Mark Tillson, Third Ward – Tina Marie Kline.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT – Mayor Dorin called for nominations for Council President. It was moved by Mr. Greenway to nominate Mr. Moyer for Council President. Mayor Dorin called for additional nominations, hearing none, Mayor Dorin closed the nominations. Mayor Dorin requested a vote for nominee, Mr. Moyer. The vote was 6-0; Mayor Dorin stated that Council member, Mr. Moyer had won by majority vote and will be Council President.

COUNCIL VICE PRESIDENT – Mayor Dorin called for nominations for Council Vice President. It was moved by Mr. Moyer to nominate Mr. Lucas for Council Vice President. Mayor Dorin called for additional nominations, hearing none, Mayor Dorin closed the nominations. Mayor Dorin requested a vote for nominee, Mr. Lucas. The vote was 6-0; Mayor Dorin stated that Council member, Mr. Lucas had won by majority vote and will be Council Vice President. Mayor Dorin turned the gavel over to Mr. Moyer as Council President.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT PRO TEM – Council President, Mr. Moyer explained the Council President Pro Tem and requested nominations for the Council President Pro Tem.

It was moved by Mr. Lucas to nominate Mrs. Holmes for Council President Pro Tem. Council President, Mr. Moyer called for additional nominations, hearing none, Council President, Mr. Moyer requested a vote. The vote was 6-0; Council President, Mr. Moyer stated that Council member, Mrs. Holmes had won by majority vote and will be Council President Pro Tem.

RE/APPOINTMENT - VACANCY BOARD CHAIR – Council President, Mr. Moyer explained that this is a non-elected official and there is currently a vacancy. He questioned if there is anyone that would consider filling that vacancy in the audience or if they knew of anyone that lived with the Borough that would consider filling the position to please let him know.

REAPPOINTMENTS/APPOINTMENTS - Council President, Mr. Moyer at this time reviewed with council various vacancies on several boards and commissions.

Motion by Council member, Mr. Lucas to reappoint Ginny Gardner as Secretary/Treasurer/Open Records Officer and Ronald Smith as Street/Water Commissioner, Borough Solicitor - McNerney, Page, Vanderlin & Hall, Borough Engineer's – Pysher & Associates and Larson Design Group, Zoning Hearing Board member, Mr. Steve Rush, Zoning Hearing Board member alternate, Mr. Tim Strein, Property Maintenance Board of Appeals members, Steve Rush and Nicole Greenway, Recreation Board member, Christopher Lucas and Matt Joiner, Planning Commission member, Bryan Pauling, Civil Service Commission member, David Moyer, Memorial Gardens Committee member, Rosemary Holmes, and Wellhead Protection Committee member, David Moyer, second by Mrs. Kline. The motion carried

Motion by Mr. Lucas to approve the appointment of Rosemary Holmes as LCWSA & Library Liaison, second by Mr. Greenway. The motion carried.

The minutes of the December 7, 2015 were approved on a motion by Mrs. Kline, second by Mr. Lucas. The motion carried.

VISITORS AND PUBLIC COMMENT – Nothing at this time.

TREASURERS REPORT – December 2015 Treasurer's report was reviewed.

NEW BUSINESS –

RESOLUTION 2016-01- AUTHORIZING SEDA-COG TO EXECUTE CERTAIN DOCUMENTS ASSOCIATED WITH PADCED ON BEHALF OF MONTOURSVILLE BOROUGH –

Motion by Mr. Lucas to approve Resolution 2016-01, authorizing SEDACOG to execute certain documents associated with PADCED on behalf of Montoursville Borough, second by Mrs. Kline. Ms. Kristin McLaughlin/SEDACOG explained this will apply to the day to day administration paperwork of the CDBG grant. Council member, Mr. Tillson questioned if there was a cost. Ms. McLaughlin explained that there is no extra cost as it is included in the administration fee. The motion carried. Council President, Mr. Moyer explained the PSAB offers training for newly elected Council members, which is very beneficial. He stated that newly elected Council member's, Mr. Greenway and Mrs. Kline will be attending the local training held in Williamsport.

Motion by Mr. Lucas to approve Council member's Mr. Greenway and Mrs. Kline to attend PSAB Newly Elected Council member's training, second by Mrs. Holmes. Council member, Mr. Tillson questioned the cost. It was noted that it was approximately \$300.00. Council President, Mr. Moyer asked for any public comment. Hearing none. The motion carried.

PLANNING & ZONING – Central Keystone COG December Reports/Update was reviewed by Zoning Officer, Mr. David Hines

RECREATION – Nothing at this time.

STREETS/WATER – Street/Water Commissioner, Mr. Ron Smith reviewed Larson Design Group's water project status update report. Council member, Mr. Tillson questioned the Broad Street Waterline Replacement project issue with the sign at Lycoming Physical Therapy. Street/Water Commissioner, Mr. Smith stated that the sign's malfunction is not related to the project as per the photos supplied by the contractor and reviewed by the engineer. Council member, Mr. Tillson stated that prior to making final payment to reconfirm that the sign's issue is not due to the contractor. Street/Water Commissioner, Mr. Smith updated Council on the ongoing meter replacement program, noting that due to unforeseen circumstances the program is taking longer than anticipated.

MAYOR – Mayor Dorin reviewed the December Police Report with Council. He also explained that there is a light that needs replaced on the Welcome sign and there had been an electrical issue caused by a power surge at the mini park. He stated that a surge protector will be installed before next Christmas season. Council member, Mr. Tillson requested Street/Water Commissioner, Mr. Smith to inspect the Christmas lights near the 300 block of Broad Street. Street/Water Commissioner, Mr. Smith agreed to have them inspected.

POLICE CHIEF –Chief Gyurina gave a brief update to Council on some ongoing investigations. He explained that an officer recently recognized a needy family during the Christmas Holiday and Borough employees contributed in several ways so that the family could have a wonderful holiday. Chief Gyurina discussed & explained with council members his need to request to hire another full time officer. Council member, Mr. Lucas questioned the total amount of officers. Chief Gyurina stated he would have 6 full time officers, if he received approval to hire. Council member, Mr. Lucas questioned the total amount of active part time officers. Chief Gyurina explained he had two part time officers actually available to work.

Motion by Council member, Mr. Lucas to approve the hiring of another full time Police officer, second by Mr. Greenway. Council President, Mr. Moyer asked for any public comment. Hearing none, he asked for any discussion or questions from Council members. Council member, Mr. Greenway questioned how the hiring of another full time officer would affect the part time officer wages 2016 budgeted dollar amount. Chief Gyurina gave a brief explanation regarding is needed coverage of shifts. He explained his current part time wage budget is \$58,000.00; hiring a full time officer would reduce that amount to \$20,000.00. He stated that the approximate cost of a newly hired full time officer would be between \$48,000.00 - \$50,000.00. Council member, Mr. Lucas questioned the availability of candidates for the full time position who had

previously taken the Civil Service exam. Chief Gyurina stated yes that there is a prior approved list of candidates who are available. Council member, Mr. Lucas explained that the subject of hiring another full time officer had been discussed several years now and he is in favor of the hiring of another full time officer. He stated he has yet to hear, any citizens complain of having too many police officers but consistently hears there is not enough officers. He explained that there were several evenings that there had been no coverage within the Borough and if there had been a break in attempted to his home and there was no officer on duty he would not be pleased. He personally implores the rest of council to really think about this when it comes to vote. He stated we are here to represent the citizens who voted us into office. Council President, Mr. Moyer noted that the part time wages budgeted for 2016 was \$60,000.00 and could be decreased to \$20,000.00. Council member, Mr. Tillson commented that he will be voting “no” to the hiring of full time officer and explained hiring a full time officer will minimize our part time officer budget but it will not eliminate it. He also stated that the Borough has an upcoming contract negotiation with the Police bargaining unit and currently \$40,000.00 will be the starting point; what about the future years down the road. He stated the full time officer wages should have been put in the 2016 budget if the intent was to hire a full time officer and it is not fair to the citizens when it wasn’t voted on in 2015 when the 2016 budget was approved. He explained that a new police vehicle was budgeted for 2016 and in all good conscience it would not be fair to the citizens. He explained with upcoming negotiations, he would like to see what happens before he votes; that is why he is voting no. Council member, Mr. Lucas explained in reviewing the police roster there is a possibility in the near future that several officers will be retiring; we will be forced to hire several new officers without any experience. He explained that we can’t continue to pass it off; the citizen’s taxes should be going to the police department and it should be our duty to restructure the budget in order to do so. A discussion between Council members, Mr. Lucas and Mr. Tillson ensued regarding how to finance and budget for the hiring of the new officer. Council member, Mr. Tillson stated that he feels all departments made concessions in order for the 2016 budget to work without a tax increase; now we want to hire another full time officer and he would like to know how the borough will pay for it. Council member, Mr. Lucas explained that \$40,000.00 would be used from the budgeted part time wages which is 90 percent of the full time officer wages and the difference can be made up. He stated crime is on the increase and the Borough needs to be proactive. Council member, Mrs. Holmes stated that she would also like to wait to see how hiring of a full time officer would be paid for, along with the concessions made for the wages and benefits on paper and would like the vote deferred to the next meeting. Council member, Mrs. Kline suggested to consider why the Borough lost some police officers to other entities, noting that a lot of dollars were expended to train those officers. She would like to see some sort of commitment to the Borough. Council member, Mr. Greenway questioned Chief Gyurina if any officers on our current list have been trained. Chief Gyurina stated yes, so there would be no expense. He explained that hiring a full time officer is an investment and by not doing so the Borough is putting a band aid on the problem. He explained why the police department runs and flows much easier with full time officers. Council member, Mr. Greenway questioned if the part officer’s wage budget is reduced will those officer’s still want to work or will they start to pursue other place to work. Chief Gyurina stated the Borough should be ok, and explained why the part time officers employed by the Borough should still be willing to work. The motion carried.

COUNCILPERSONS – Council member, Mr. Tillson stated he would like to see how the new full time officer will be paid for and questioned if hiring the new officer will affect the usage of police vehicles. Chief Gyurina stated that it should not and explained the rotation schedule. Council member, Mr. Tillson questioned the current rotation schedule. Chief Gyurina explained that he tries to keep mileage on all vehicles distributed evenly so that a vehicle could be replaced yearly; the oldest car would become the unmarked car; the following year the unmarked car would be put on municibid; this process would be continued with a new car replacing the vehicle put on municibid with the exception being the Tahoe. Council member, Mr. Tillson questioned if in September it comes to be seen that the Police budget is over-budget; what happens then. Chief Gyurina stated he cannot predict the future however with all the concessions with the current budget and the cutting of the part time officer wages; the \$50,000 for the hiring of the full time officer has been met. Council member, Mr. Lucas noted he appreciated the comment Council member, Mrs. Kline made regarding training costs of an officer. He stated since he has been on council every couple of months another part time officer would be hired; he would like to see if in the future the possibility of having some sort of agreement that would require the part time officer being trained to work so many hours, which would maximize the training dollars that were spent.

SOLICITOR – Nothing at this time. Council member, Mr. Lucas requested an update on the Horvath hearing. Solicitor, Randy Sees explained the records have been closed, both parties briefed the issue and the Zoning Hearing Board will be meeting on January 26th, 2016 at 7:00PM to vote on their decision

COUNCIL PRESIDENT – Nothing at this time.

PENDING MATTERS – Nothing at this time.

COORESPONDENCE AND ANNOUNCEMENTS – The next regular Council meeting will be Monday, January 18, 2016 at 7:00 PM.

VISITOR AND PUBLIC COMMENTS –Resident, Wayne Miller, 717 Broad St. questioned the notification process for the meter replacement program. He explained he had not received notice as the owner of several properties. It was explained the letters were not sent out and the properties where being notified to schedule an appointment for their meter to be replaced by door hangers on the properties. Resident, Donna Ponegrate, Cherry Street questioned if the Borough had problems with any homeless people. Chief Gyurina stated that there weren't any that he was aware of.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 8:00 pm on a motion by Mrs. Kline, second by Mrs. Holmes and carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Ginny Gardner, Borough Secretary