

MINUTES OF THE BOROUGH OF MONTOURSVILLE

November 13, 2017

The regular meeting of the Montoursville Borough Council held in the Borough building was called to order by Council President Eric Greenway at 7:00 PM with the following answering roll call: Mark Tillson, Ted Haines, Tina Kline, Eric Greenway, Chris Lucas, Rosemary Holmes and Mayor Dorin.

The Pledge of Allegiance was observed.

The October 16, 2017 minutes were approved on a motion by Mrs. Kline, second by Mr. Lucas. The motion carried.

VISITORS/PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS – Nothing at this time.

TREASURERS REPORT – **Motion** by Mr. Lucas to approve the treasurer's report and the Borough bills for October 2017, second by Mr. Greenway. The motion carried.

FINAL LAND DEVELOPMENT – SAVOY FURNITURE WAREHOUSE, 300 HOWARD STREET – MANUFACTURING WAREHOUSE, INDUSTRIAL DISTRICT – Zoning officer, Mr. David Hines reviewed the proposal and stated it meets all zoning requirements and complies with Article 11 of the ordinance. Attorney, Mr. Fred Holland represented Savoy Furniture Warehouse and explained the Savoy's have been in discussion with the Williamsport Municipal Airport Authority to provide emergency access to the airport. He stated there will be an agreement between Savoy Furniture and the Williamsport Municipal Airport Authority that provides a permanent access easement from Howard Street to the rear of the Savoy Furniture plant to the right continuing to the railroad crossing.

Motion by Mrs. Kline to approve Final Land Development for Savoy Furniture Warehouse, 300 Howard Street, second by Mr. Greenway. The motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS –

EASEMENT AGREEMENT – 10 FT PERMANENT EASEMENT – TAX PARCEL #34-002-913 – It was noted the easement is required for the installation of the new traffic signal that was previously damaged by a car accident. **Motion** by Mr. Lucas to approve the Easement Agreement for 10 feet permanent easement for Tax Parcel #34-002-913, second by Mrs. Kline. Council member, Mr. Lucas questioned if the property owner willingly agreed. Solicitor, Randy Sees stated yes. The motion carried.

AUTHORIZATION TO PERMIT THE SOLICITOR TO SUBMIT A LEASE FOR 209 BROAD STREET TO FEMA FOR APPROVAL – Council President, Mr. Greenway explained Plocinski Barbershop requested to lease the property at 209 Broad Street for additional parking for their office.

Motion by Mr. Lucas to approve authorization to permit Solicitor, Randy Sees to submit a lease for 209 Broad Street to FEMA, second by Mrs. Kline. Council member, Mr. Tillson questioned if the property would be paved. Council member, Chris Lucas stated no; however, gravel will be acceptable but it must go through FEMA for approval. He stated the lessee will be responsible to maintain the property; it will be built into the lease. The motion carried.

AUTHORIZATION TO ADVERTISE ORDINANCE #477 – REPLACING 2006 INTERNATIONAL PROPERTY MAINTENANCE CODE WITH 2018 INTERNATIONAL PROPERTY MAINTENANCE CODE -

Motion by Mr. Greenway to approve authorization to advertise Ordinance #477, replacing the 2006 International Property Maintenance Code with 2018 International Property Maintenance Code, second by Mrs. Holmes. The motion carried.

AUTHORIZATION TO ADVERTISE 2018 BUDGET – Council President, Mr. Greenway explained the borough came into the year with a deficit. The Budget Finance Committee presented the 2018 proposed draft budget which includes a tax increase of .7 mills.

Motion by Mrs. Kline to authorize the advertisement of 2018 Budget, second by Mr. Greenway. Council member, Mr. Tillson explained if we are going to offer the services such as police, paving, improvement to park, the citizens must pay for it. He continued stating Montoursville Borough's millage is lower than most municipalities; the Budget Finance Committee increased it .7 mills in order to get it correct in hopes that a tax increase will not be needed next year. Council member Mr. Lucas questioned the justification of the increase. Council President, Mr. Greenway stated there are three options: #1 to do nothing and run out of money which can result in the state taking over our finances, #2 to forecast a small increase each year; which does not allow any finances to be put into our capital reserve for extra projects (i.e.: tennis courts, bike path, municipal building new roof), or # 3 one large increase which allows extra money to be put aside in order to complete projects and in the event of emergency projects (i.e.: the sink hole). Council member, Mrs. Kline explained the Finance Committee anticipates the amount of PUC monies received yearly and factors it into the budget however the actual monies received have always been less than what has been anticipated. She stated the Borough receives less each year. She continued stating the PUC monies should not offset the general budget costs whatever PUC monies received should be put into a capital fund for additional improvements. Council President, Mr. Greenway stated in the 2018 draft Budget the PUC monies have been placed into a special fund that will allow us to move forward with the future MS4 required improvements. Mayor Dorin questioned the deficit that caused the increase in the 2018 Budget. Council President, Mr. Greenway explained approximately \$150,000.00 deficit. Mayor Dorin questioned the cause for the \$150,000.00 increase. Council President, Mr. Greenway stated the Finance Committee has chosen to set aside the PUC monies and the added increase in insurance costs along with several other costs in the last year is the reason. He stated there are no big purchases in the 2018 Budget. The increase will allow the Borough to do improvements that you are going to see in town. He stated the County, State and Montoursville Area School District taxes have all increased. The amount of taxes that are paid to the Borough affect residents the most ; out of that tax bill the Borough receives the least amount of money (i.e.: out of \$100,000.00 home the Borough receives \$330.00 per year). Council President, Mr. Greenway explained the Borough had a park project, grants had been applied for however, in order to apply and receive these grants a local share of money was required. Council member, Mr. Tillson asked with the proposed 2018 Draft Budget, the average cost increase per household. Council President, Mr. Greenway stated the increase in tax would be \$70.00 per a home assessed at \$100,000.00. Mayor Dorin questioned additional street paving. Council member, Mr. Tillson stated paving is done every three years; a paving project will take place in 2018. Council President, Mr. Greenway questioned the public for its comments. Resident, Donna Ponegrate questioned the 2018 recreation budget. Council President, Mr. Greenway stated it was the same as the previous year. Council member, Mr. Lucas explained grants received for the park improvements were part of the 2017 recreation budget. He stated the monies allocated in the 2018 recreation budget includes monies for hosting events; the Borough also receives donations from several local businesses. Council President, Mr. Greenway explained the cost to maintain and make repairs to the park is approximately \$50,000.00 per year. Council member, Mr. Tillson explained even with the proposed millage increase, we are still well below other municipalities with the same like, kind and quality of services within a 15 mile radius. The motion carried.

AUTHORIZATION TO ADVERTISE ORDINANCE #478 – TAX LEVY ORDINANCE –

Motion by Mr. Greenway to authorize the advertisement of Ordinance #478, Tax Levy ordinance, second by Mrs. Kline. The motion carried.

PLANNING & ZONING – Nothing at this time.

RECREATION – Council member, Mr. Lucas reviewed and explained Event Permits 2018-02, 2018-03 and 2018-05.

Motion by Mr. Lucas to approve Event Permits 2018-02, 2018-03 and 2018-05, second by Mrs. Kline. The motion carried.

Council member, Mr. Lucas reviewed and explained Event Permit 2018-04 for the Montoursville Men's Softball Leagues. He noted the Recreation Committee made a recommendation to approve their permit with this year's fee schedule however by the end of next year a new fee schedule will be in place. He stated the softball leagues must police all leagues to ensure there is no smoking and no alcohol use in the park. He also noted there is no parking allowed in the grassy area.

Motion by Mr. Lucas to approve Event Permit 2018-04, second by Mr. Greenway. Council member, Mrs. Kline questioned the anticipated fee increase. Council member, Mr. Lucas stated the committee will meet next year to review and discuss the fee increase. Softball League representative, Mr. Carter McGill distributed a list of the things the leagues have done to the fields. He noted that the softball leagues are an asset to the borough, noting that the fee was increased from \$75.00 to \$150.00 four years ago. The motion carried. Council member, Mr. Lucas stated there had been a nice amount of participants in the pumpkin decorating contest sponsored by Muncy Bank & Trust with photos posted on the Recreation Board Facebook page. He noted the 70th Anniversary of the lighting of the Christmas tree will be celebrated on December 2nd, 2017; times will be announced at a later date. He stated the plans are still under way.

STREETS/WATER – Nothing at this time.

MAYOR – Mayor Dorin reviewed the police report for October. He stated the Christmas tree lights will be installed on November 18, 2017 with the anticipation of turning the lights on November 22, 2017. On December 2, 2017, there will be a celebration for the 70th Anniversary of the Christmas tree lighting. He questioned if there is an agenda available as the newspaper would like a copy. Council member Mr. Lucas stated the agenda is still being finalized. Mayor John Dorin stated the lights have been inspected and ready to be installed. The lights will be turned on at 5PM and shut off at 12:30AM. He stated last year the lights were converted to LEDs and paid for by the Legion. He stated there is no tax payer's money involved in the lighting of the tree and the Chamber of Commerce 501C handles the finances. He stated the tree has been lit since 1947 and is a tradition we plan on continuing.

POLICE CHIEF – Police Chief Gyurina stated it was a busy month. He explained the recent police shooting chase was handled by every agency in the county. He stated there were three crime scenes: the first scene was at the house, the second was the traffic stop with the officer involved with the shootout, then the third crime scene at Sheetz. He stated a Montoursville Borough officer went to the initial crime scene to secure it. Chief Gyurina noted the Montoursville High School is posted with no parking signs. He explained the recent landing at the airport by Hilary Clinton's plane went smoothly.

COUNCIL PERSONS – Council member, Mr. Lucas mentioned the recent election that took place noting he is looking forward to having Mr. Haines with us for the next four years. He also noted there are a few other volunteers in the audience that will be joining us and wanted to extend a thank you to them for stepping up and volunteering.

SOLICITOR – Nothing at this time.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT – Nothing at this time.

PENDING MATTERS – Nothing at this time.

CORRESPONDENCE AND ANNOUNCEMENTS – The next regular Council meeting will be held Monday, December 4, 2017 at 7:00 PM.

VISITOR AND PUBLIC COMMENTS – Resident, Donna Ponegrate questioned Event Permit 2018-05 questioning if the wedding will be taking place for three days. Council President, Mr. Greenway stated the event will be set up on Friday, the event takes place on Saturday and tearing down the event on Sunday.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 7:47 PM on a motion by Mrs. Kline, second by Mr. Lucas and carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Ginny Gardner, Borough Secretary