

MINUTES OF THE BOROUGH OF MONTOURSVILLE

November 15th, 2010

The regular meeting of the Montoursville Borough Council was called to order by Council President Robert Brobson at 7 PM, with the following answering roll call: Donald Konkle, Kim DiRocco, Eugene Boyles, Robert Brobson, Ronald Shearer, Gary Marshall and Junior Councilperson, Hunter Konkle.

The Pledge of Allegiance was observed.

Mr. Brobson made an announcement that an executive session was held to discuss personnel matters this evening prior to the meeting

The minutes of the October 18, 2010 meeting were approved on a motion by Mr. Eugene Boyles, correction that Mr. Marshall was in attendance, second by Mr. Shearer and carried.

Public Comment-

John Wagner, would like to speak regarding the rental property ordinance. There are lots of concerns regarding this new ordinance. Mr. Wagner feels there are too many regulations with little or no safety benefits. Some of the concerns discussed are windows, fans in bathrooms, tub caulking, sidewalk inspections etc. Regarding the letter residents received listing items to be inspected he felt it was lacking in specifics and when he called the Borough up to receive a more detailed list of items for inspections he was told there was no such document and he was told to call Code Inspections. Upon calling Codes they told him to refer back to the Borough. Mr. Wagner would like to respectfully request that the Council delay implementation of this ordinance until they can meet with someone on the Council or the Borough Solicitor to further clarify these issues.

Mayor asked if we could put a moratorium on this ordinance so that we can take a look at and interpret what Mr. Wagner has been saying.

Cathy Rockey asked if we had to have hard wired smoke detectors and the Council stated that no you do not need to have that unless there is new construction.

Mr. Bill Holmes stated that it seems the regulations are totally over the top and he would be surprised if even 5 % of the homes in this town would be able to pass these regulations.

Lou Bassler, 400 Jordan, wanted to state that if he has to spend even \$5000 dollars to fix his rental unit he would have to raise rents. So rents would have to increase not due to the gas people but due to this ordinance.

Mike Caldera, 201 Montour Street, would like to question what the safety hazard is to having peeling paint? Discussion held that it could possibly contain lead.

Stephanie Hanna stated that this letter came in the last week of October and she went ahead and did this because it did not state anywhere on there that people were going to be grandfathered in.

Lanny Reed questioned as to why rental property owners are being singled out? What is the difference between having your residence having an issue versus a rental property. Mr. Brobson stated that one of the differences with Rental Properties is that you have different people coming in and out of each house and there is a certain responsibility of a landlord to keep the property within regulations.

John Wagner brought up the subject of sidewalks again and Mr. Konkle stated that we could drop the subject because that should not be in there.

Mr. Brobson stated that they would put a delay on this ordinance so that they can look into everything.

Mr. Roger Jarrett requested that a committee of residents be put together and Mr. Brobson agreed.

Discussion held on reinstating old committee as well as having new members added.

More questions were discussed concerning specifics and it was determined that all of these things will be addressed and determined and council will report back to the residents.

Jeff Paulhamus questioned if the people who have received letters can disregard those letters for now. Council stated that yes they can be disregarded as everything is being reviewed.

Scott Konkle would like to request that the Fire Company have a spot on that Committee.

Council has stated that this issue has officially been tabled at this point in time.

Carol Savoy & Atty Wilfred Knecht: Regarding vacating the following streets:

1. Jordan Avenue from Tule to Howard
2. Charles Street from Eck Lane to the Covenant Builders' property line extended
3. Tule Street from Charles Street to Eck Alley
4. Tule Street from Jordan Avenue to Church Alley

Discussion held on the possibility of the Borough vacating certain alleys

Motion made by Mr. Eugene Boyles to have the ordinance prepared by the Solicitor to vacate the alleys second by Mrs. DiRocco and carried.

Lou Bassler asked Council why a few years ago they did not give L & L Boiler the ability to close an alley to expand his business due to the fact that would in turn take away income from

the fuel tax. Mr. Boyles stated that you can never get fuel taxes for alleys so that cannot apply to that situation. Discussion was held as to why that may have happened years ago.

Mayor Dorin stated that he does support this proposal as well.

Land Development Permit – Hutchinson Realty Development

Mr. Boyles was on the phone this afternoon with the engineer and there are still a lot of things that need to be done in regards to this development. At this point in time he is not prepared to give approval. Discussion held on what needs to be done. Motion by Mr. Eugene Boyles to hold this development until the next meeting, second by Mr. Ronald Shearer and carried.

Reverse Subdivision –

C & I Boiler would like to combine three lots into 1 at the rear of the Sylvania property. Motion made by Mr. Eugene Boyles to approve the reverse subdivision, second by Mrs. DiRocco and carried. The Mayor also supports this reverse subdivision.

Treasurers Report—

Motion by Mr. Eugene Boyles to approve the treasurer's report for October, second by Mr. Gary Marshall and carried. Clarification by Mr. Boyles stating that on the Cash Flow Report it is missing \$800,000 dollars that was transferred from the water fund to the water capital fund account. This was due to a minor oversight in the accounting system and we have contacted them so that it will be on the next report.

Old Business

2011 Proposed Budget-

Motion by Mr. Eugene Boyles to approve the proposed 2011 Budget, second by Mr. Gary Marshall and carried.

New Business –

Motion by Mr. Donald Konkle to make a motion to approve Ginny Gardner as the new LST Tax Collector, second by Mr. Boyles and carried.

Tax Levy Ordinance Number 445

Motion by Mr. Boyles to adopt the tax levy of 2.3 mills to be adopted at the December 6th meeting, Mr. Konkle seconded the motion and carried.

Mr. Brobson stated that there will not be a tax increase this year.

Renewal of PA Municipal Health Insurance Co-Op Agreement (PMHIC)-

Motion by Mr. Boyles to authorize signatures to renew agreement, second by Mr. Shearer and carried.

LCWSA acquiring Village Water Co. requesting Montoursville Borough approval to the PUC for transfer-

Mr. Boyles made a motion to have Mr. Brobson write a letter stating that we have no objection, second by Mrs. DiRocco and carried.

Code Inspections Activity—October Report for Review

Recreation Minutes –

Mr. Shearer stated that the Rec Board will not be participating in Old Tyme Christmas this year.

Mayor-

The Lights on the tree will be going up tomorrow and will be lit on Thanksgiving Eve. There will not be a program this year due to the construction going on down at the center. The Trolley will be used at the Old Tyme Christmas on December 10 and December 11, 2010.

Mr. Shearer discussed a letter that was received from Montoursville Softball league in regards to putting up advertising signs to help them with the costs as well as build a new storage shed and new bases. The Rec Board gave their approval. Mr. Shearer made a motion to approve the Montoursville Softball League request second by Mr. Marshall. Mr. Konkle stated that he believes the Charter states that advertising cannot be done in Indian Park. He thinks it is time that the Borough puts up some money towards those fields.

Mr. Shearer and Mr. Marshall both withdrew their motion until we check the sign issue within the Indian Park Charter. This issue will be revisited at the December 6th meeting.

Streets/Water—

Ron Smith reported that they have been working on leaves and leaks. 5 water leaks have been repaired which have saved approximately 300,000 gallons a day. Next Monday the lights will be put up on Broad Street. They still have two more leaks to repair yet.

Police Report – nothing at this time

Solicitor – nothing at this time

Council President—

The personnel committee has been looking at changes in the non uniformed contract. Mr. Boyles made a motion to approve non uniformed employees to receive \$1 per hour raise, second by Mr. Konkle and carried as long as the union approves the changes.

Mr. Brobson discussed a request from Samantha Gstalder who is the PA 4H secretary. She would like to put a sign and a bucket up to collect soda tabs to raise money for the Ronald

McDonald House. Motion by Mr. Konkle, second by Mr. Boyles to allow Miss Gstalder to do this at the recycle area and carried.

Council Persons—

Mr. Marshall wanted to let everyone know that this past Saturday was the fall cleanup of the memorial gardens. They had an excellent turnout from students of the Key Club and they did a great job. At sometime in the near future they would like to discuss the possibility of putting ground lights. The only thing that is of major concern, no one is making any money and at some point down the road someone is going to have to address the needs to maintain that garden and area. Currently they are in good shape.

Mr. Marshall would also like to address the Spring and Summer flowers that are still hanging around town. The Mayor brought this up at the last meeting and a few days later he spoke with the Chamber. He will speak with them again tomorrow and will let them know that the Christmas lights are going up Monday.

Next Council Meeting will be December 6th, 2010.

Visitor and Public Comment-

Donna Pongrat stated that when she heard about the Village Water Company being sold she started wondering if LCSWA would be working on the Borough to try to sell. She just wants to make sure that this Council does not have any intentions of selling our Water Company as they stated at past meetings. Mr. Brobson stated that he has not changed his mind at all.

Steve Birch wanted to discuss the Howard Street entrance that as soon as everything was in place it would be able to be used. Mr. Boyles stated that he was hoping that would be in place by the next council meeting.

Carol Savoy suggests having a staging entrance at the Howard Street entrance because it is so congested when the water trucks have to wait. Mr. Boyles stated that they are aware of that but it is a big push right now to get water because they have to shut down for 3 weeks. It is being watched and if it continues they will contact the water companies to let them know.

Wayne Miller stated that a couple weeks ago he had a yard sale on Broad street and during that time the Borough decided to work on a street to block people from coming to his yard sale. His question is how much water is being taken in by the money and what is happening with the money. Mr. Brobson stated that all of this money is going back into water system itself. In 2011 there are plans for a new reservoir and springs. Discussion held on the reservoir. Approximately 1.2 million has been received so far this year. Mr. Konkle stated that this information will be in the next newsletter.

Correspondence and Announcements--

Next Council meeting will be Monday, December 6, 2010 at 7pm. There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 8:25pm on a motion by Mr. Boyles, seconded by Mr. Marshall and carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Ginny Gardner, Borough Secretary/Treasurer