

## MINUTES OF THE BOROUGH OF MONTOURSVILLE

December 2, 2019

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

The Pledge of Allegiance was observed.

The November 20, 2019 minutes were approved on a motion by Mr. Brown, second by Mr. Lucas. The motion carried.

**VISITORS AND PUBLIC COMMENT FOR AGENDA ITEMS** – VIP's, Mr. Robert Weaver and Mr. John Hunsinger gave the 2019 VIP Annual Report to Council. Mr. Weaver shared he has been part of the Montoursville VIP's for the past two years. He introduced Mr. John Hunsinger and shared he has been part of the VIP's for the past 25 years, and is responsible for drafting the yearly VIP Report. Mr. Weaver provided an overview with some of the projects the VIP's conducted during 2019 that included the following: removal of Christmas lights from the Sylvania tree located by Johnson's Café along with removal of the Santa display near the Hutchinson property located in the same area; during the winter season approximately 15 picnic tables were repaired; assisted the Borough Crew with construction of Pavilion #5; sanded and painted the park bench located by the pond; constructed two bluebird boxes; assisted with construction of the break room for the Borough Crew; repaired several benches located by the stage; painted the inside of the restroom's near Pavilion #5; re-roofed, painted and installed vinyl ceilings to the Teepee restroom; repaired the Indian at entrance to Indian Park and trimmed shrubbery; made modifications the welcome sign for Superior Energy as per PennDot specifications; reconstructed the wreath to hang at Sylvania as well as hung lights on the tree. Additionally, he shared with the hiring of Cliff Hoffman as the Street & Water Project Coordinator, he appreciates his dialog along with Ron Lee, providing direction with projects the VIP's are involved with. Mr. Weaver also acknowledged Ginny Gardner's leadership and her role working the VIP's both in the past and present; stated the group does enjoy the work they are able to do for the Borough. Council Vice President, Mr. Lucas commended the work conducted by the VIP's and stated the report is only a fraction of what the VIP's do throughout the year. Mr. Weaver stated at the end of the year the group does hold a luncheon as fellowship time that is held in the Borough Council Chambers at the Borough office and extended an invitation to Council. Council member, Mr. Brown questioned if the VIP's are responsible for the installation of the lit star on the tree located in Indian Park during Christmas. Mr. Weaver responded the VIP's are responsible for the installation.

Boy Scout, Mr. Ezra Newton introduced himself, stating he is 17 years old, and currently working towards earning his merit as an Eagle Scout. He stated his project for Council's consideration is the installation of 10 new benches and refurbishing 5 benches for an approximate total of 15 benches to be placed throughout Indian Park. He would like to place them near the stage, baseball fields and pond. He noted funding for materials will be via fund raisers. In addition, he has already met with the Recreation Board and plans to meet with the VIP's to discuss plans. Council member, Mrs. Kline thanked Ezra for his attendance at tonight's meeting and for selecting Montoursville's Indian Park for his project. Council member, Mr. Lucas questioned what is needed from Council in order for the project to move forward. Ezra stated he will require a letter of approval that will include approved location of the benches.

**Motion** by Mr. Lucas to approve Mr. Ezra Newton's Eagle Scout Project for the installation and refurbishing of approximately 15 benches, with the final locations to be determined by Street and Water Project Coordinator, Mr. Clifford Hoffman, second by Mr. Greenway. The motion carried.

**TREASURERS REPORT** – Motion by Mr. Greenway to approve November 2019 and through December 31, 2019 treasurer's report, second by Mr. Brown. The motion carried.

**NEW BUSINESS –**

**2020 BUDGET** – Council President, Mr. Greenway present the 2020 Budget for approval.

**Motion** by Mr. Greenway to approve the 2020 Budget as presented, second by Mrs. Kline. The motion carried.

**RESOLUTION 2019-09 - TAX LEVY RESOLUTION** - Council President, Mr. Greenway presented Resolution 2019-09 regarding a tax levy for review and approval. It was explained in previous years Council was required to approve by ordinance, however can now be approved by resolution. It was noted there will be no tax increase for 2020.

**Motion** by Mr. Lucas to approve Resolution 2019-09, Tax Levy Resolution as presented, second by Mrs. Kline. The motion carried.

**RESOLUTION 2019-10 – ELIMINATING POLICE PAYMENTS INTO THE POLICE PENSION FUND FOR 2020** – Council President, Mr. Greenway presented Resolution 2019-10 for review and approval.

**Motion** by Mr. Greenway to approve Resolution 2019-10 Eliminating Police Payments into the Police Pension Fund for 2020, second by Mr. Brown. The motion carried.

**RESOLUTION 2019-11 – PA SMALL WATER AND SEWER PROGRAM APPLICATION** – Council President, Mr. Greenway presented Resolution 2019-11 regarding a PA Small Water and Sewer Program grant application for review and approval. It was shared the application is for the South Montour Street Waterline Replacement Project.

**Motion** by Mr. Greenway to approve Resolution 2019-11 for a PA Small Water and Sewer Program grant application as presented, second by Mrs. Kline. The motion carried.

**OPINION AND ORDER REGARDING JAMES MATTHEWS CONDITIONAL USE APPLICATION** –

Council President, Mr. Greenway explained last month, Council approved the Conditional Use Application for Tax Parcel #33-001-404 submitted by James Matthews. Council member, Mrs. Kline indicated she was not present at the November meeting and asked for a brief review. After the brief review, it was shared the Opinion and Order document is required as part of the application process; therefore the document is being presented for review and approval.

**Motion** by Mr. Greenway to approve the Opinion and Order in regard James Matthews Conditional Use application, second by Mr. Brown. The motion carried.

**MONTOURSVILLE BOROUGH PERSONNEL 2020 WAGES** - Council President, Mr. Greenway, presented the Montoursville Borough Personnel 2020 Wages for review and approval. It was noted wages include a 2.5% increase effective January 1, 2020.

**Motion** by Mr. Greenway to approve Montoursville Borough Personnel 2020 wages as presented; second by Mr. Lucas. The motion carried.

**2020 MEETING SCHEDULE NOTICE** – Council President, Mr. Greenway presented the 2020 meeting schedule notice for review and approval.

**Motion** by Mr. Greenway to approve the 2020 meeting schedule notice as presented, second by Mr. Brown. The motion carried.

**EMPLOYMENT – PROSPECTIVE PART-TIME POLICE CANDIDATE – WILLIAM DEININGER** –

Council President, Mr. Greenway presented a request for employment of part-time police candidate due to a part-time police officer's resignation.

**Motion** by Mr. Greenway to approve the employment of Officer William Deininger, Jr. for the position of a part-time police officer, second by Mr. Brown. The motion carried.

**PLANNING & ZONING** – Nothing at this time.

**RECREATION** – Council Vice President, Mr. Lucas shared the Building, Assets and Recreation Committee met prior to this meeting. At that meeting, a discussion regarding the preparation for Phase II of the Indian Park Master Plan which pertain to upgrades to a playground facilities within the park. Council Vice President, Mr. Lucas stated the cost for the upgrades will be approximately \$350,000 to \$400,000. He noted grant funding is being sought to offset some of the costs. He explained unfortunately many of the grants require a cash match. It was shared the Borough currently has an endowment through a donation but funds will still be need to be raised to begin the process. Council Vice President, Mr. Lucas indicated fundraising efforts will be conducted in order to reach the approximate \$200,000 required as the cash match.

Council Vice President, Mr. Lucas reviewed and explained Event Permit 2020-02, and Event Permit 2020-03.

**Motion** by Mr. Lucas to approve Event Permit 2020-02 and Event Permit 2020-03, second by Mrs. Kline. The motion carried. Following the motion, Council member, Mr. Tillson opened additional discussion in regard to future fundraising for the playground improvements. He stated people will inquire as to what the funds will provide and recommended a finite proposal to include drawings be prepared to help address these inquiries. Council Vice President, Mr. Lucas confirmed the steps have already been part of the process to date; he then recapped each stage of the process; starting with the initial meeting that discussed possible improvements. Council member, Mr. Tillson reiterated the need for drawings. Council Vice President, Mr. Lucas confirmed several years ago design and drawings were prepared and displayed in the Borough Council Chambers. It was also confirmed an itemized budget has been created to reflect all costs associated with the playground and donations made.

**STREETS/WATER** – Nothing at this time.

**MAYOR** – Mayor Bagwell shared the police department will hold its second annual Christmas Light contest; Lowe's, Walmart and Elery Nau each contributed three \$50.00 gift cards to be awarded to the winners. Mayor Bagwell added the contest provides a positive image for the police department without cost to the Borough as in years past. Mayor Bagwell publicly thanked Boy Scout, Ezra Newton for his Eagle Scout Project presentation; he further stated he feels it is a great project idea. In addition, Mayor Bagwell acknowledged the VIP's for their time and all the work they do for the community.

**POLICE CHIEF** – Chief Gyurina reviewed the November police report. He shared there a couple of large cases being investigated. He also shared the Veteran's Day Parade was a success with only a small number of incidents.

**COUNCIL PERSONS** – Council member, Mr. Brown indicated Council members should have received an email with a copy of the Civil Service Report for 2019. He thanked the members of the Civil Service commission for all that they do throughout the year. Council member, Mrs. Kline stated this evening will be her last Borough Council meeting as a Council member; she commented she had enjoyed her time as a member of Borough Council, she learned a lot, referred to her time as a unique experience. In addition, she expressed her satisfaction regarding the amount of write-in candidates for Ward 3 and is excited for Misty Emick who will be taking her seat on Borough Council. She wished her all the best with making Montoursville a nice place to live.

**SOLICITOR** – Nothing at this time.

**COUNCIL VICE PRESIDENT** – Nothing at this time.

**PENDING MATTERS** – Nothing at this time.

**CORRESPONDENCE AND ANNOUNCEMENTS** – The next regular Council meeting will be held Monday, January 6, 2020 at 7:00 PM.

**VISITOR AND PUBLIC COMMENTS** – Resident, Donna Ponegrate, 437 Cherry Street, commented she could not attend last month's Council meeting, however she read in the newspaper regarding the increase in water rates effective 2020. She shared her concern regarding the paper reporting that Council might consider selling the water system. She

expressed her feelings, noting if Council were to go that direction it would be the worse decision they could make. Additionally, she strongly recommended Council to do whatever they had to do to avoid selling the water system to an authority even if that meant to increase rates again. Council President, Mr. Greenway addressed her concerns sharing that Council will not be making any quick decisions on this matter. He stated options have been put in place to make our water system more efficient. Resident, John Hunsinger commented regarding the Veteran's Day Parade, noting this year's parade was the finest and shared his appreciation of all the hard work that went into hosting the parade. Resident, Carrie Staron, 928 Mulberry Street, took the opportunity to recognize and thank all the VIP's who volunteer with all the work they do for the community. She stated without them the Borough would not have a nice park and a nice looking community. She added how much time, talent and effort they each donate to the community.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 7:35 PM on a motion by Mrs. Kline, second by Mr. Brown. The motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

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Ginny Gardner, Borough Secretary