

MINUTES OF THE BOROUGH OF MONTOURSVILLE

May 4, 2020

The regular meeting of the Montoursville Borough Council held as a virtual meeting using Zoom was called to order by President Eric Greenway at 7:00 PM with the following answering roll call: Ted Haines, Misty Emick, Eric Greenway, Chris Lucas and Robert Brown. Mark Tillson: absent.

The Pledge of Allegiance was observed.

The March 2, 2020 minutes were approved on a motion by Mr. Brown, second by Mr. Haines. The motion carried.

VISITORS AND PUBLIC COMMENT FOR AGENDA ITEMS – Nothing at this time.

TREASURERS REPORT – Motion by Mr. Lucas to approve March and April 2020 treasurer's report, second by Mr. Haines. The motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS –

REVIEW – 2019 AUDIT & FINANCIAL REPORT – Council President, Mr. Greenway presented the 2019 Audit and Financial report.

Motion by Mr. Greenway to accept the 2019 Audit & Financial Report, second by Mrs. Emick. The motion carried.

SRO AGREEMENT & EXTENSION LETTER – Council President, Mr. Greenway presented the SRO Agreement & Extension Letter.

Motion by Mr. Lucas to approve the SRO Agreement & Extension Letter, second by Mr. Brown. Council Vice President, Mr. Lucas stated due to the current circumstances of the COVID19 uncertainty and the possibility of the reoccurrence in the fall is there any adjustment with the agreement regarding the amount of days the school is open. Borough Solicitor, Randy Sees explained his recollection of the agreement noting the school district pays a portion and the borough pays a portion. It was noted the school district is invoiced quarterly. Council Vice President, Mr. Lucas questioned if the agreement still stands if the amount of the days are changed next year. Borough Solicitor Randy Sees stated as far as he can determine the school district has not requested any changes to the agreement and the school district would benefit from any changes. The motion carried.

APPLICATION FOR COUNTY AID – Council President, Mr. Greenway presented the application for county aid

Motion by Mr. Greenway to approve the Application for County Aid, seconded by Mr. Lucas. The motion carried.

PLANNING & ZONING – Central Keystone COG Report March and April 2020

RECREATION – Council Vice President, Mr. Lucas stated the softball fields, playground, tennis courts, basketball courts and facilities in the parks are closed and will continue to be closed until Governor Wolfe gives authorization to open.

STREETS/WATER – Street and Water Project Coordinator Report March and April 2020

COUNCIL PERSONS – Nothing at this time

SOLICITOR – Nothing at this time.

COUNCIL VICE PRESIDENT – Nothing at this time.

PENDING MATTERS – Nothing at this time.

CORRESPONDENCE AND ANNOUNCEMENTS –

The next Council meeting will be held Monday, June 1, 2020 at 7:00 PM

VISITOR AND PUBLIC COMMENTS – Resident, Pamela Nelson, 225 Bennett Street, stated the Montoursville Borough Community yard sale had been scheduled for Saturday, May 30th, understanding that the permit was approved for Friday, May 29th and Saturday, May 30th; however was questioning whether the Borough Council should cancel the permit and approve a permit at a future date. Council Vice President, Mr. Lucas stated it could be addressed at each future council meeting, noting we are currently scheduled to enter into the yellow phase of Governor Wolfe's orders next week, and if it continues where we get to the green phase status and deemed safe; the community wide yard sale could be rescheduled. He continued stating that he is aware that many people look forward to it and the majority of council is supportive of it, noting that a future date could be chosen with the hopes that we are at the green phase status at that time for planning purposes. He stated however if we are not at the green phase at that time it could be postponed as needed or if she would prefer Council to table it indefinitely they could accommodate that as well. Mrs. Nelson shared she would sooner postpone it than pick a date and have to move it. Council President, Mr. Greenway shared that if permits were approved with a specific date, they are allowing for an alternate date to be used for rescheduling therefore avoiding an additional step. Mrs. Nelson stated she will keep watch to the governor's phases and revisit it the future. Council Vice President, Mr. Lucas questioned if all Council members are in agreement with not moving forward with entertaining permits until Governor Wolf moves us into the green phase. Council member, Mrs. Emick stated she is not agreement, noting that as a person who hosts and goes to yard sales. She stated she is struggling with the difference between yard sales and retail stores and feels a person hosting a yard sale can enforce the same guidelines given to retail stores. Council Vice President, Mr. Lucas stated the difference is in the oversight, from a business perspective there are legal ramifications for retail stores as for yard sales, unless you desire the police force to follow up with enforcement. He stated he did not believe this was a good use of the police force. Council member, Mrs. Emick stated she did not disagree however a yard sale permit states the guidelines for yard sales which the police force currently enforces. She stated she does feel waiting until we are in the green phase is necessary. Council member, Mr. Haines stated allowing yard sales before we have moved into the green phase would be introducing risk that is not necessary. Council President, Mr. Greenway stated how can we move forward with permitting yard sales knowing that a lot of our small businesses are not open. He continued stating we can try to do the best by staying within the state guidelines. Softball league representative, Mr. Sam Booth, 425 Cornhill Rd., Hughesville stated he understands the softball leagues will not be able to play however the leagues that have funding are requesting permission to upgrade the fields with 2 triaxle loads of diamond tech. He is questioning the status of the softball leagues permit, noting he does not want to be at the fields if they are not permitted but was questioning if the work could be done on the fields. Council Vice President, Mr. Lucas stated it is understandable that people want to get out on the fields including doing maintenance on those fields. He feels that if you can do the maintenance on those fields with a limited number of volunteers practicing safe social distancing while respecting the guidelines of the state, personally he would have no issues and be in favor of his request. He however explained to Mr. Booth there is risk that we may never get to the green phase that would permit organized sports for the rest of the year, noting that would include practicing. Mr. Booth explained there would be no practicing and no more than one individual working on the field. He explained the triaxle loads would be dumped with contracting out the work to have the diamond tech spread on the fields however he does not want to expend any monies on the fields until they have a permit to play. He stated that if they received a permit he feel the league may vote to expend the money to maintain the fields. A discussion took place regarding recreation and maintenance during COVID-19; it was noted that landscaping is a permitted activity. Council President, Mr. Greenway stated Council has not entertained any other pending permits at this time. Council Vice President, Mr. Lucas explained that this is the perfect time of the year to do maintenance on the fields. He continued stating he is not suggesting changing the issuing of permits however it would be the decision of the softball leagues to do the maintenance with the understanding there is no guarantee of receiving a permit; he does not want to selectively approve permits at this time. Council President, Mr. Greenway agreed. Mr. Booth stated they are doing this for the community, however without an approved permit he does not anticipate the league moving forward with it. Council Vice President, Mr. Lucas stated he understands, however at the current time Council is not entertaining the issuance of permits. Council President, Mr. Greenway and Council Vice President, Mr. Lucas both agreed, there is no issue with having a contractor contribute to the maintenance on the field as long as you stay within

the new construction guidelines issued by the state. Council Vice President, Mr. Lucas recommended if the softball leagues so choose to move forward with the maintenance on the softball fields, they would be required to contact the borough office so that the contractor's licenses and insurance requirements are documented. Borough Solicitor, Mr. Sees also recommended a borough employee be in attendance when the work has commenced on the field. Mr. Booth stated he would discuss it with the league and get back to the borough. Resident, Tina Kline 1009 Tule St. thanked Borough Council for hosting the virtual meeting, noting that through her own experiences the need for transitioning into the virtual world.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 7:32 PM on a motion by Mr. Brown, second by Mr. Haines. The motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Ginny Gardner, Borough Secretary