

BOROUGH OF WYOMISSING – COUNCIL MINUTES

October 8, 2019

Wyomissing Borough Council held its regular monthly meeting at the Borough Hall on the above date. Council President Thomas M. Moll called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. with the following persons present: Council Members Thomas M. Bausher, John C. Woodward, Gregory L. Portner, Stephen D. Brunner, S. Jenckes, and Jody W. Menon; Mayor Frederick C. Levering, Treasurer Paul W. Brass, Borough Solicitor Christopher J. Hartman, Consulting Engineer James C. McCarthy, Police Sergeant Thomas Endy, Public Works Director James V. Babb, Parks and Recreation Director Rob Lewis, Borough Manager Pat Brandenburg and Senior Administrative Assistant Melissa Miller. The following persons were absent: Zoning/Code Enforcement Officer and Assistant Borough Secretary Michele E. Bare, and Chief of Police Jeffrey Biehl.

CALL TO ORDER

Council President Moll announced that Council had met in executive session prior to this meeting to discuss personnel matters.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

ROLL CALL:

VISITORS:

Crystal Seitz— Pennsylvania's Americana Region
Tiffany Gallagher— Pennsylvania's Americana Region
John Cullen— 47 Cardinal Road
Jim Margrave— 1601 Old Mill Road
Rick Weinhoffer— 801 N. 9th Street
Gregory Krutoyarsky— 41 Cardinal Road
Dave Becker—1821 Lincoln Avenue
Jana Barnett—1238 Cleveland Avenue
Jordan Beach— Borough Intern

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Dave Becker, 1821 Lincoln Avenue asked Council if any information from the Flooding and Drainage Analysis Work Plan would be available during the present Council meeting. He was advised the report will be presented at the October 21, 2019 Infrastructure committee meeting.

Park and Recreation Director, Rob Lewis introduced his student intern from Wyomissing Area School District, Jordan Beach.

PUBLIC HEARING FOR THE WYOMISSING BOROUGH TOURISM IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT (WBTID):

Borough Solicitor, Chris Hartman called the hearing to order at 7:03 p.m. by providing an introduction to the process of the hearing, the purpose of the hearing, and the presentation of the proposed tourism improvement district. He further indicated the affected properties would be the current and future commercial lodging properties within the Borough of Wyomissing. A 2% gross short term guest sleeping room rental rate would be imposed to generate future revenue to enhance development and promotion of the hotel and tourism industry within the Borough of Wyomissing for at least the next 10 years.

No public comment was provided during the WBTID hearing.

The Public Hearing for the Wyomissing Borough Tourism Improvement District adjourned at 7:15 p.m.

Crystal Seitz, Pennsylvania's American Region, indicated after the public hearing that she conversed with the hotels in the affected Tourism Improvement District, and all owners appear to be on board. The imposed tax revenue would be spent on promotions and bringing more business to the Borough. Revenue made in the Borough will stay in the Borough, and the owners of the hotels would be involved with the allocation of tax revenue. Crystal indicated she has not approached the Chamber of Commerce since not every district in Berks County has commercial lodging.

Councilmember Woodward made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Portner, to authorize advertisement of the WBTID Ordinance No. 1405-2019, for enactment at the December 10, 2019, Council meeting if forty percent or more of the affected property owners do not register their objection to the ordinance within forty-five days after October 8, 2019, all in favor, 7-0.

RECEIPT OF REPORTS: On motion duly made, seconded and passed, Council received all reports submitted for consideration.

COUNCIL MINUTES: On motion duly made, seconded and passed, Council approved the minutes of the meeting of September 10, 2019.

CONSULTING ENGINEER'S REPORT: On motion duly made, seconded and passed, Council accepted the Consulting Engineers report dated October 2, 2019.

Jim McCarthy reviewed the report. He indicated the guiderail at the tennis courts will be replaced later in October. He also indicated the Borough applied for \$772,250 for the Green Light Go grant, and was only awarded \$173,995. A discussion with PennDOT determined they were unsure why that peculiar amount was given. PennDOT will be reviewing.

POLICE CHIEF & MAYOR'S REPORT: On motion duly made, seconded and passed, Council approved the Police Chief & Mayor's reports of October 1, 2019.

FIRE COMMISSIONER'S REPORT: On motion duly made, seconded and passed, Council approved the Fire Commissioner's Report for September 2019.

Councilmember Jenckes reviewed the report. He stated in September there was \$75,000 fire loss sustained at Burger King,

LIBRARY REPORT: On motion duly made, seconded and passed, Council approved the Library report for September 16, 2019.

Councilmember Menon reviewed the report.

The library will receive a State funding increase of 9.2% for 2020. The budget and strategic plan is currently being drafted. The library block party was held in August, and the basket and trolley tour fundraisers are currently being organized. The Summer reading program had a decline this year, Board and staff members will further assess the decline.

The Library Board is currently in need of two voting members, and three at large members.

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE REPORT: On motion duly made, seconded and passed, Council approved the Personnel Committee report for September 17, 2019.

Councilmember Bausher reviewed the report.

RECREATION BOARD REPORT: On motion duly made, seconded and passed, Council approved the Recreation Board report for September 17, 2019.

Councilmember Brunner reviewed the report.

The 2020 budget was submitted for review. Teachers in the Park went well this year, and Spooky Hollow will be coming up October 19, 2019.

The fitness campaign grant will be discussed at the October 15, 2019 Rec Board meeting.

Councilmember Brunner made a motion, seconded by Council President Moll to approve Morgan Welliver as student representative for the duration of two years on the Recreation Board, all in favor, 7-0.

INFRASTRUCTURE COMMITTEE REPORT: On motion duly made, seconded and passed, Council approved the Infrastructure Committee report for September 18, 2019.

Councilmember Bausher reported on the meeting.

The residents that participated in the 50/50 sidewalk program will have dirt restoration completed in a few weeks.

Councilmember Bausher made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Woodward to approve Payment Application No. 1, in the amount of \$100,413.00, to Allgyer Enterprises, LLC, all in favor, roll call vote, 7-0.

Councilmember Bausher made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Brunner to approve Change order No. 1, in the amount of \$9,500.00, to Allgyer Enterprises, LLC, for the installation of two fire hydrants on Woodland Road and Berkshire Boulevard, all in favor, roll call vote, 7-0.

Councilmember Bausher made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Jenckes to approve Payment Application No. 5 in the amount of \$275,461.94 to Ronnie C. Folk Paving Inc., all in favor, roll call vote, 7-0.

Councilmember Bausher made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Menon to approve payment of Payment Application No. 7, in the amount of \$1,233.90, to TELCO, all in favor, roll call vote, 7-0.

Councilmember Bausher made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Portner, to approve the submission of ordinance drafts pertaining to amendments to update the 2015 version of the International Fire Code concerning wet standpipes and the other pertaining to amendments to the Borough's building code requirements to comply with the International Fire Code and to add a new part 5 to be entitled "Hydrants", and to submit the building code amendments to L&I for review and approval, all in favor, 7-0.

Councilmember Bausher made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Jenckes, to approve the submission of an ordinance draft pertaining to amendments to the Subdivision and Land Development Ordinance, specifically fire hydrant requirements, to the Berks County Planning Commission, for review and comment prior to adoption by the Borough, all in favor, 7-0

Councilmember Bausher made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Woodward, to approve payment of Payment Application No. 4, in the amount of \$119,736.70, to Dolan Construction, all in favor, roll call vote, 7-0.

Councilmember Bausher made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Jenckes, to approve payment of Payment Application No. 5, in the amount of \$154,019.93, to Dolan Construction, all in favor, roll call vote, 7-0.

Stephen Brunner made a motion, seconded by Thomas Moll to authorize Borough Manager, Pat Brandenburg, and Public Works Director, Jim Babb, to work with the Huyett House tenant to develop a plan of action for potential renovations, all in favor, 7-0.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE REPORT: On motion duly made, seconded and passed, Council approved the Economic Development committee report for September 26, 2019.

Councilmember Woodward reviewed the report.

A tax increment financing informational presentation was given to the Economic Development committee during the September 26, 2019 meeting.

FIRE & POLICE COMMITTEE REPORT: On motion duly made, seconded and passed, Council approved the Fire & Police Committee report for September 30, 2019.

Councilmember Jenckes reviewed the report.

Tower 79 is still out of service due to apparatus computer communication issues, and a grant was received for the purchase of hose and nozzles.

Sergeant Endy reported that 39 police applications were submitted, and those individuals will test on October 12, 2019.

Councilmember Jenckes made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Menon to approve restriction of parking on both sides of Cardinal Road near the addresses of 47 and 48 Cardinal Road, at the curved section as indicated on the provided map, to allow safer maneuvering of oversized vehicles, 1 in favor, 6 opposed, motion denied.

FINANCE & ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE REPORT: On motion duly made, seconded and passed, Council approved the Finance & Administration Committee report for October 1, 2019.

Councilmember Portner reviewed the report.

A pension plan update was given to the Finance & Administration committee during the October 1, 2019 meeting, by Girard. Findings from the presentation indicate the Borough of Wyomissing has a higher long-term interest rate compared to other municipalities, and lowering the interest rate expectations will increase the MMO.

Councilmember Portner made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Brunner to approve reduction of the long-term interest rate a quarter percentage point to 7.5% which will increase the 2020 MMO contribution, all in favor, 7-0.

A special budget meeting will be held on October 21, 2019 to review the preliminary draft budget.

PLANNING COMMISSION REPORT: On motion duly made, seconded and passed, Council approved the Planning Commission report for October 7, 2019.

Councilmember Woodward reviewed the report.

The Sly Fox fundraiser event supporting WYOways will be held on November 9, 2019.

An unofficial request for rezoning 1 Vista Road was heard during the October 7, 2019 meeting. Due to the request being unofficial, the Borough is not obligated to make any official decision or motion.

BOROUGH MANAGER'S REPORT: On motion duly made, seconded and passed, Council approved the Borough Manager's report for October 8, 2019

Borough Manager Pat Brandenburg reviewed his report.

He indicated the Humane Society of Berks County has expressed intentions to change from a, "fee for service" model, back to a, "per capita" model. Emails sent from the Borough Manager to the contact at the Humane Society, to date, have not been answered.

TREASURER'S STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS: On motion duly made, seconded and passed, Council approved the Treasurer's Statement of Operation and all financial statements.

ACCOUNTS PAYABLE REPORT: On motion duly made, seconded and passed, Council approved the Accounts Payable report outlining the following invoices paid:

General Fund	\$	2,078,034.40
Water Fund		55,551.59
Sewer Fund		86,032.48
Refuse Fund		151,484.68
Liquid Fuels Fund		<u>25,432.01</u>
Total of all Funds	\$	2,457,365.67

TAX COLLECTOR'S REPORT: On motion duly made, seconded and passed, Council approved the Tax Collector's Report for the month of September.

Betsy Heckman further reported that several residents indicated they did not receive their tax bills, and have expressed their intent to want to pay the flat tax rate on their tax bills that are now in arrears. She indicated she is not making exceptions for any of the complaints she has received.

ORDINANCE NO. 1406-2019:

AN ORDINANCE OF THE BOROUGH OF WYOMISSING, BERKS COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA, TO AMEND THE CODE OF ORDINANCES, BY AMENDING CHAPTER 1 ADMINISTRATION AND GOVERNMENT, PART 2 AS TO THE PURPOSE OF THE PARK AND SHADE TREE COMMISSION AND THE RECREATION BOARD, AND BY AMENDING CHAPTER 16 PARKS AND RECREATION FOR CONSISTENCY IN PURPOSE

Councilmember Woodward made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Portner, to approve the adoption of Ordinance No. 1406-2019, all in favor, 7-0.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Council went into executive session at 7:50 p.m. to discuss real estate matters. Executive session adjourned at 8:05 p.m. and the regular Council meeting resumed.

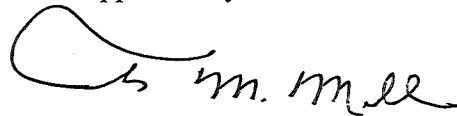
Borough Council adjourned at 8:05 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



Melissa Miller
Senior Administrative Asst.

Approved by:



Thomas M. Moll, President
Wyomissing Borough Council