

BOROUGH OF WYOMISSING – COUNCIL MINUTES

DECEMBER 8, 2020 – 6:30 P.M.

The Borough of Wyomissing Council held their regular meeting via a recorded Zoom video/conference call platform on the above date and time. Council President Thomas M. Moll called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. with the following persons present: Council Members Thomas M. Bausher, John C. Woodward, Stephen D. Brunner, William S. Jenckes, Jody W. Menon, and Keith L. Derr; Mayor Frederick C. Levering, Borough Solicitor Christopher J. Hartman, Borough Engineer Jim McCarthy, Police Sergeant John Phillips, Borough Manager Pat Brandenburg, Assistant Borough Manager & Economic Development Coordinator Michele Bare, Public Works Director James V. Babb, and Assistant Borough Secretary Melissa Miller. The following person was absent: Treasurer Gregory L. Portner.

CALL TO ORDER

Council President Moll announced an executive session was held before the meeting to discuss contractual issues and personnel matters.

Council President Moll addressed the public concerning the deer population discussion that occurred during the November 10, 2020 Council meeting. The United States Department of Agriculture is responsible for assisting communities with plans to manage deer populations. The USDA is currently preparing a cost estimate for a deer density survey; a density survey must be conducted before reviewing what options are available to the Borough for herd management. Borough Manager Pat Brandenburg will serve as the point of contact if the community has further questions on this matter.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

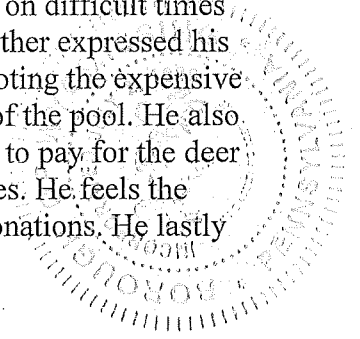
ROLL CALL

VISITORS:

Phyllis Smith – Business Manager
Dan Macrina – Interim Parks and Recreation Director
Adrian Jadic – Borough Resident
John Cullen – Borough Resident
Barbara Reeser – Borough Resident

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Adrian Jadic, 48 Cardinal Road expressed his dissatisfaction with the proposed tax, and water and sewer rates increases. He feels that many Borough residents have fallen on difficult times during COVID-19, not to mention rates were just increased last year. He further expressed his discontent with financial management practices the Borough has in place, noting the expensive Borough hall window project, the library building repairs, and the opening of the pool. He also mentioned there is no reason why all tax payers in the Borough should have to pay for the deer density survey that will only benefit a few Borough residents with deer issues. He feels the survey and other Borough projects should be funded by private donors or donations. He lastly



mentioned that due to the current financial management practices, many of the sidewalk and road projects have been pushed into 2021.

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 November 10, 2020.

CONSULTING ENGINEER'S REPORT: On motion duly made, seconded and passed, Council approved the Consulting Engineer's report dated December 2, 2020.

Borough Engineer Jim McCarthy reviewed the report.

Jim McCarthy informed Council that the 4th Street Project is progressing, and milling will occur the week of December 14, 2020. Notices have gone to residents, and "No Parking" signs have been posted.

In conjunction with the 4th Street Project, Jim McCarthy explained to Council that two resolutions have been prepared for traffic signal improvements at North Wyomissing Boulevard and Park Road, and Park Road, Van Reed Road, and the Vanity Fair driveway, since PennDOT has provisionally issued permits. Borough Manager Pat Brandenburg must also be given authorizations to sign Mylar plans and PennDOT TE-160 forms for the aforementioned traffic signal improvements.

RESOLUTION NO. 2020-31

A RESOLUTION OF THE COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF WYOMISSING, BERKS COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA AUTHORIZING EXECUTION AND SUBMISSION OF AN APPLICATION FOR TRAFFIC SIGNAL APPROVAL TO THE PENNSYLVANIA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION FOR CERTAIN INTERSECTION AND SIGNAL IMPROVEMENTS AT PARK ROAD AND NORTH WYOMISSING BOULEVARD

Councilmember Woodward made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Jenckes to adopt Resolution No. 2020-31, all in favor, 7-0.



RESOLUTION NO. 2020-32

A RESOLUTION OF THE COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF WYOMISSING, BERKS COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA AUTHORIZING EXECUTION AND SUBMISSION OF AN APPLICATION FOR TRAFFIC SIGNAL APPROVAL TO THE PENNSYLVANIA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION FOR CERTAIN INTERSECTION AND SIGNAL IMPROVEMENTS AT PARK ROAD, VAN REED ROAD AND VANITY FAIR DRIVEWAY

Councilmember Jenckes made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Menon to adopt Resolution No. 2020-32, all in favor, 7-0.

Councilmember Bausher made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Derr to authorize Borough Manager Pat Brandenburg to sign Mylar plans and TE-160 forms for traffic signal improvements at Park Road and North Wyomissing Boulevard, and Park Road, Van Reed Road, and the Vanity Fair Driveway, all in favor, 7-0.

Jim McCarthy lastly informed Council that 2021 Street Work bids have been reviewed. He explained that Affordable Paving & Excavating, LLC was the lowest bidder but was not the lowest qualified bidder. The recommendation is to reject the Affordable Paving & Excavating, LLC bid for failure to comply with the specifications in the bid documents. The bid award should go to second lowest qualified bidder which is the H&K Group, Inc., for \$387,409.43.

Councilmember Derr made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Bausher to reject the lowest bid of \$381,820.62 from Affordable Paving & Excavating, LLC for the 2021 Street Work due to the bid being unqualified, and award the bid of \$387,409.43 to the H&K Group, Inc., as the second lowest qualified bidder for the 2021 Street Work, all in favor, roll call vote, 7-0.

POLICE DEPARTMENT & MAYOR'S REPORT: On motion duly made, seconded and passed, Council approved the Police Department & Mayor's report dated December 8, 2020.

Sergeant John Phillips had no further review of the report.

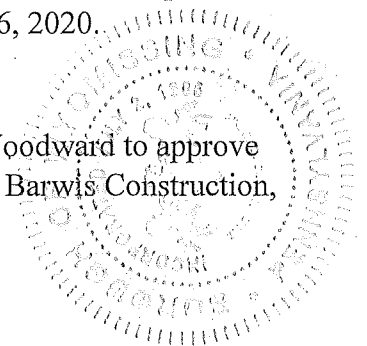
FIRE COMMISSIONER'S REPORT: On motion duly made, seconded and passed, Council approved the Fire Commissioner's report for November 2020.

Councilmember Jenckes reviewed the report.

INFRASTRUCTURE COMMITTEE REPORT: On motion duly made, seconded and passed, Council approved the Infrastructure Committee report dated November 16, 2020.

Councilmember Bausher reviewed the report.

Councilmember Bausher made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Woodward to approve payment of Payment Application No. 1, in the amount of \$177,511.94, to Barwis Construction, all in favor, roll call vote, 7-0.



Councilmember Bausher made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Jenckes to reappoint David Reeser to the Wester Berks Water Authority for another 5-year term, all in favor, 7-0.

Councilmember Jenckes commended Borough Public Works crews for their outstanding work with leaf collection this year, and their willingness to go above their duties to help residents. This commendation comes from a phone call received from an elderly Borough resident who expressed his gratitude for Public Works staff who helped him pick up a small amount of leaves that he was not able to finish before the leaf picking crews came around.

Council President Moll also received commendation for a Public Works crew for being cooperative with a landscaping crew who was not quit done blowing leaves; the Public Works crew finished collecting leaves on the rest of the street and came back to get the leaves when the landscaping crew was done.

LIBRARY BOARD REPORT: On motion duly made, seconded and passed, Council approved the Library Board report dated November 16, 2020.

Councilmember Menon reviewed the report.

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE REPORT: On motion duly made, seconded and passed, Council approved the Personnel Committee report dated November 17, 2020.

Councilmember Bausher reviewed the report.

Councilmember Bausher made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Jenckes to approve a one-year extension of the December 30, 2019 certification of the Civil Services list of candidates for the Police Department Patrol positions, all in favor, 7-0.

Councilmember Bausher made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Derr to approve a conditional offer of employment for the vacant Public Works position, contingent upon successful completion of the background investigation, physical, and drug test screening, all in favor, 7-0.

Borough Manager Pat Brandenburg informed Council that Justin Sekulski will be filling the open Public Works position on December 14, 2020.

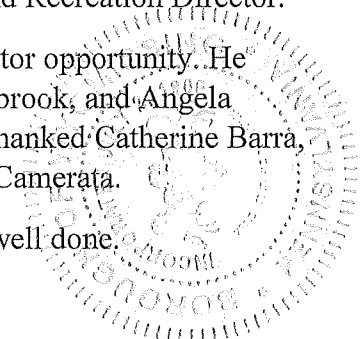
RECREATION BOARD REPORT: On motion duly made, seconded and passed, Council approved the Recreation Board report dated November 17, 2020.

Councilmember Brunner reviewed the report.

Councilmember Brunner introduced Dan Macrina as the Interim Parks and Recreation Director.

Dan Macrina thanked Council for the Interim Parks and Recreation Director opportunity. He further commended Recreation Board members Kate Fanning, Eric Esterbrook, and Angela Duen for their involvement with virtual Lighting of the Greens. He also thanked Catherine Barra, Director of Bands at Wyomissing School District, and also the band and Camerata.

Councilmember Menon also commended the Recreation Board on a job well done.



ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE REPORT: On motion duly made, seconded and passed, Council approved the Economic Development Committee report dated November 19, 2020.

Councilmember Woodward reviewed the report.

Councilmember Woodward indicated that research continues on electric car charging stations. He further commended Michele Bare for her research for her Reading Eagle interview on how COVID-19 has been detrimental on retail and restaurants in the Borough. Through her analysis, Michele's approach provided a positive and encouraging angle for the interview.

FIRE AND POLICE COMMITTEE REPORT: On motion duly made, seconded and passed, Council approved the Fire and Police Committee report dated November 30, 2020.

Councilmember Jenckes reviewed the report.

Councilmember Jenckes made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Woodward to approve the installation of a handicapped parking sign in front of the residence at 518 Oley Street, all in favor, 7-0.

Councilmember Jenckes shared with Council, that Borough residents Mr. and Mrs. Phil Wolf, have generously offered to purchase a new license plate reader for the new police vehicle that will be delivered in January 2021.

FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE REPORT: On motion duly made, seconded and passed, Council approved the Finance and Administration Committee report dated December 3, 2020.

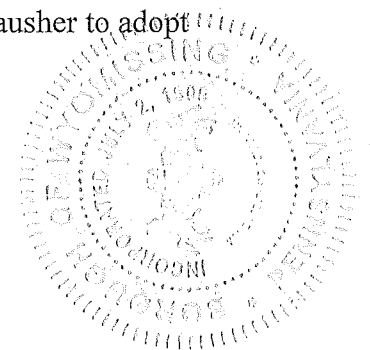
Councilmember Brunner reviewed the report.

Councilmember Brunner made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Jenckes to approve the three-year warranty extension for the portable and mobile radio units for the Police and Fire departments at a total cost of \$13,239, all in favor, roll call vote, 7-0.

RESOLUTION NO. 2020-28

A RESOLUTION OF THE COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF WYOMISSING, BERKS COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA AMENDING WATER RATES

Councilmember Brunner made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Bausher to adopt Resolution No. 2020-28, all in favor, 7-0.



RESOLUTION NO. 2020-29

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOROUGH OF WYOMISSING ESTABLISHING STANDARD METERED RATES FOR DOMESTIC AND INDUSTRIAL SEWAGE

Councilmember Brunner made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Woodward to adopt Resolution No. 2020-29, all in favor, 7-0.

RESOLUTION NO. 2020-30

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOROUGH COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF WYOMISSING, BERKS COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA, APPOINTING HERBEIN + COMPANY, INC. AS INDEPENDENT AUDITOR OF THE BOROUGH OF WYOMISSING

Councilmember Brunner made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Jenckes to adopt Resolution No. 2020-30, all in favor, 7-0.

Councilmember Brunner made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Menon to approve the updated Virtual Public Comment Policy as amended to also include Section 2, subsection VII indicating that public is permitted to interject during a meeting if they feel a Sunshine Law violation has occurred, all in favor, 7-0.

ORDINANCE NO. 1415-2020- AN ORDINANCE OF THE BOROUGH OF WYOMISSING, BERKS COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA, FIXING THE TAX RATE FOR THE YEAR 2021

Councilmember Brunner made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Derr to adopt Ordinance No. 1415-2020, all in favor, 7-0.

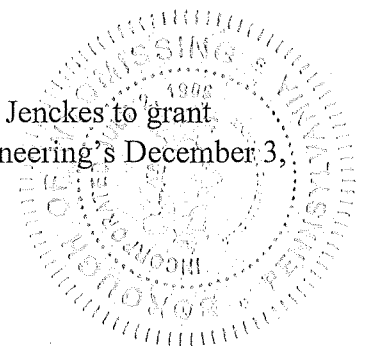
APPROVAL OF THE 2021 BUDGET:

Councilmember Brunner made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Jenckes to adopt the 2021 budget as advertised, all in favor, 7-0.

PLANNING COMMISSION REPORT: On motion duly made, seconded and passed, Council approved the Planning Commission report dated December 7, 2020.

Councilmember Woodward reviewed the report.

Councilmember Woodward made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Jenckes to grant conditional final plan approval subject to all comments in McCarthy Engineering's December 3, 2020 review letter being addressed, all in favor, 7-0.



BOROUGH MANAGER'S REPORT: On motion duly made, seconded and passed, Council approved the Borough Manager's report dated December 8, 2020.

Borough Manager Pat Brandenburg reviewed his report.

Borough Manager Brandenburg reminded Council that Police Lieutenant Thomas Endy will retire on December 12, 2020 after 29 years of services.

Borough Manager Brandenburg shared with Council that correspondence was received from a resident about placing a menorah next to the lit evergreen tree at the intersection of Wyomissing Boulevard and Reading Boulevard. As per Supreme Court recommendations, municipalities should refrain from religious connotations. Furthermore, the lit tree is a secular symbol, not a religious symbol. Council suggests the resident reach out to the Borough in 2021 if they would like to further discuss their request.

Councilmember Bausher made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Menon to approve advertisement of the 2021 Council, Commission, Committee, and Board meeting dates, all in favor, 7-0.

Councilmember Bausher made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Brunner to reappoint Joseph Zalewski to a 5-year term on the Joint Municipal Authority of the Wyomissing Valley, all in favor, 7-0.

Borough Manager Brandenburg lastly noted that Borough hall remains closed to the public, and the Borough continues to follow the COVID-19 procedures.

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

Borough Treasurer Gregory Portner was absent.

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

General Fund	\$ 260,347.80
Water Fund	82,472.97
Sewer Fund	156,423.37
Refuse Fund	55,070.54
Liquid Fuels Fund	<u>21,333.39</u>
	\$ 575,648.07

TAX COLLECTOR'S REPORT: On motion duly made, seconded and passed, Council approved the Tax Collector's report for the month of November 2020.



OTHER:

Council President Thomas M. Moll commended Borough staff and Borough Council for an outstanding performance in 2020.

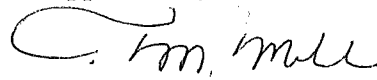
The Wyomissing Borough Council meeting adjourned at 7:24 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



Melissa Miller
Assistant Borough Secretary

Approved by:



Thomas M. Moll, President
Wyomissing Borough Council

