

Call to Order:

The regular scheduled meeting of November 1st, 2010 was called to order by Ms. McCarthy at 6:31 p.m.

Members present were: Mr. Kissell, Mr. Vandzura, Mrs. Chobany, Mr. Wozniak, and Mayor Fox. Also present were Robert Koban-Borough Manager; Mr. Emerick-Solicitor, Mr. Wisor-Engineer, Chief Miller-Public Safety, Don Squillario, and Michelle Claar-Secretary. Absent was Mr. Slanoc.

VISITORS: Mr. Vic Miller, Sarah Myers, Erin Boyles, and Ashley Watt-Dispatch.

Mr. Miller informed Council that he is dissatisfied with the Public Works Department for not cleaning out the storm drains before any bad weather. Mr. Miller commented that he has cleaned out his storm drain in front of his residence several times. Mr. Koban remarked back to Mr. Miller that the complaint is not accurate. Mr. Koban advised Council that he talks with the Public Works Department prior to major storms to question the storm drains. Mayor Fox commented that there is no major issue with Mr. Miller's complaint.

Sarah Myers and Erin Boyles were in attendance to observe. Sarah was a Junior Council and Ms. Boyles was here to observe for her political science class.

Reports:

Managers Report:

Mr. Koban furnished a written report prior to the meeting. Mr. Koban recapped several items in his report. Mr. Koban was welcomed back from vacation and advised that he has been in the process of preparing for the 2011 proposed budget. The budget will be presented to Council at the November committee of the whole meeting. Mr. Koban commented that he will have two scenarios on the budget for 2011; one for the borough itself and one including the shared police services with Portage Township. Mr. Koban acknowledged the participation of Chief Miller and Ms. Claar on the shared police services. Mr. Wozniak questioned the purchase order for a pro guard weapon holder. Chief Miller informed Mr. Wozniak that this piece of equipment holds two types of weapons; a flashlight and a laser light.

Solicitor's Report:

Mr. Emerick furnished a written report prior to the meeting. Mr. Emerick informed Council that the findings in fact were served on the Plummer's concerning the property at 1021 Caldwell Avenue. The Plummer's have thirty (30 days) to demolish the property. Mr. Emerick commented on the remaining process. Mr. Emerick informed Council that he responded to Attorney Sottile regarding the survey request from Mr. Kowalczyk. A discussion was held on the alley and the request was put on notice.

Engineers Report:

Mr. Wisor furnished a written report to Council. Mr. Wisor had nothing additional to report.

Police Report:

Chief Miller furnished a written report prior to the meeting. Ms. McCarthy questioned the assists to Roaring Springs and Cambria Township. Chief Miller advised they assisted in a burglary related incident.

Public Works Report:

Mr. Squillario was absent but furnished a written report prior to the meeting. Mr. Squillario informed Council that the Sewer Authority is in the process of drafting an ordinance pertaining to the inspections of sewer laterals once a property is sold. Mr. Squillario advised that the proposed ordinance is still being drafted and will be presented once it is completed for Council to review. A discussion was held on the infiltration, pressure testing and if any other municipalities have adopted the same ordinance. Mr. Wisor commented that he knows of several municipalities that have passed the similar ordinance. Mr. Emerick questioned if certifications are required for the inspections. Mayor Fox questioned the flooded basements and bridges concerning the infiltration and sewer laterals.

Treasurer's Report:

Ms. Claar furnished a written report prior to the meeting. Mrs. Chobany motioned, seconded by Mr. Wozniak to approve the Treasurer's report, motion carried 6-0.

Correspondence:

Cambria County Emergency Management sent a brochure for public energy assistance for the upcoming winter season.

The Portage Area School District sent notice the Berkhimer Tax Administrator was unanimously appointed as the Cambria County Tax Collection Committee.

Comcast sent notice of the digital starter level of services that will include a converter and a remote. A monthly rental charge of \$0.50 per outlet will apply.

Minutes of the Previous Meeting:

The minutes from October 4th, 2010 regular and October 18th, 2010 committee meeting were distributed prior to the meeting. Mrs. Chobany motioned, seconded by Mr. Wozniak to approve the minutes from October 4th, 2010 regular and October 18th, 2010 committee meeting motion carried 6-0.

Paying of Bills:

The bills were distributed prior to the meeting. Mrs. Chobany motioned, seconded by Mr. Wozniak to pay the unpaid bills and additional bills in the amount of \$24,188.23, motion carried 6-0.

Other Reports

Mrs. Chobany motioned, seconded by Mr. Wozniak to approve the monthly reports as presented, motion carried 6-0.

Unfinished Business:

There was no update on the Mainline Heritage Association.

The grant funding for Gillespie Avenue Bridge is currently waiting on a response from the PA Department of Environmental Protections Growing Greener program.

The Harpo's Building is scheduled for demolition in the fall. Remaining on agenda until it is demolished.

There was no update on the Rails to Trails grant funding.

There is no update on the Main Street Streetscape project.

Mr. Emerick commented on the Plummer property earlier in the meeting.

Chief Miller advised that the Police Department will be sending a ten day notice for the structure located at 619 Main Street.

The Mainline National Bank and Attorney McGlynn are in the process of preparing the paperwork for the transfer to the Borough and Fire Department.

New Business:

The proposed ordinance for an intermunicipal agreement with the Cambria County SERT division and the Portage Police Department was properly advertised in the Dispatch. Mr. Kissell motioned, seconded by Mr. Wozniak to approve Ordinance 6-2010 by entering into an Intermunicipal Agreement between the Cambria County SERT and Portage Borough Police Department. Ms. McCarthy polled and motion carried 6-0.

The proposed ordinance for municipal electric energy aggregation was properly advertised. Mr. Kissell motioned, seconded by Mrs. Chobany to approve Ordinance 7-2010 by entering into an Agreement with First Energy for municipal energy aggregation with opt out provisions. Ms. McCarthy polled and motion carried 6-0.

The Portage Volunteer Fire Department submitted the 2010/2011 list of activities for workers compensation approval by Council. Ms. Claar advised that there was no list in 2010. Mr. Kissell motioned, seconded by Mrs. Chobany to approve the 2010/2011 list of activities. Mr. Vandzura questioned the competitive sports and social events activities on the list and commented that it was vague. Mr. Vandzura also questioned if any of the events including alcoholic beverages. After further discussion, Mr. Kissell and Mrs. Chobany rescinded their motion. Mr. Wozniak motioned, seconded by Mr. Kissell to table the list of activities until Mr. Koban has an opportunity to review the list with Fire Department, motion carried 6-0. The issue will be on the committee of the whole agenda.

Mayor Fox prepared a letter to the Eagle Scouts for Council to review. Council was in agreement with the letter and Ms. Claar will print the letter on special paper. Mayor Fox will sign the letter.

The Cambria County Planning Commission submitted a community survey for Council to complete. Mr. Vandzura commented that the survey should be completed as a joint effort by each Council member. Some of the questions would require input by each member of Council as to their opinions. Mr. Vandzura and Mr. Koban suggested having each member of Council complete the survey and bring back at the committee of the whole meeting for discussion and completion.

Mr. Koban informed Council that he spoke with Mr. Rice concerning the DCED long range plan. A special meeting is scheduled for November 9th at 1:00 p.m. in council chambers.

Good of the Borough:

Ms. McCarthy commented that the HarvestFest was a huge success. The committee is already planning for next years HarvestFest. Ms. McCarthy thanked everyone that participated in the event.

Mayor Fox questioned the interviewing process for the upcoming expired board seats. A display ad was placed in the Dispatch for letters of interest. Dates for interviewing will be discussed at the committee of the whole meeting.

Adjournment:

Mr. Kissell motioned, seconded by Mrs. Chobany to adjourn, motion carried 6-0. The meeting adjourned at 7:15 p.m.