

Call to Order:

The regular scheduled meeting of Tuesday, January, 2012, was called to order by Ms. McCarthy at 6:30 p.m. Members present were: Mr. Kissell, Mr. Vandzura, Mr. Slanoc, Mrs. Chobany, and Mayor Fox. Also present were Robert Koban-Borough Manager; Mr. Wisor-Engineer, Mr. Emerick-Solicitor, Chief Miller-Public Safety, and Michelle Claar-Borough Secretary. Absent was Mr. Squillario for the Public Works Department.

Mayor Fox motioned, seconded by Mr. Kissell to deviate from the agenda to recognize the visitors. Ms. McCarthy polled and motion carried 6-0.

VISITORS:

Present were Sarah Wolford with the Dispatch, Jerome Yetsko, and Polly Vandzura. There was no public comment.

Reports:

Managers Report:

Mr. Koban furnished a written report prior to the meeting. Mr. Koban elaborated on several issues in his report. Ms. McCarty commended Mr. Koban on the efforts and time spent on the 2012 budget message.

Mr. Kissell questioned the earned income letter residents received from Berkheimer reflecting the incorrect rate. Mr. Koban informed Council that Berkheimer Tax Agency used the figure that was published on the PADCED municipal stats website. The DCED website did not get updated until after December 15th, 2011 prior to the mailing. A second letter was sent out to all employers reflecting the new earned income tax rate at 1.5%. Mr. Kissell commented that residents and self-employed residents had the rate incorrect as well and inquired if Berkheimers will be sending out another letter to the residents reflecting the increase. Mr. Koban advised that he will follow up with Berkheimers to determine if another letter will be sent to the residents. Mr. Koban will report back at the committee of the whole meeting on January 16th, 2012.

Solicitor's Report:

Mr. Emerick furnished a written report prior to the meeting. Mr. Emerick advised that the Blair County Sheriff Department had attempted three times to serve the court papers on Mr. Bookhamer on the 619 Main Street property.

Mr. Emerick advised that the 1021 Caldwell Avenue (Plummer) property is moving forward. The Cambria County Tax Office had approved the exoneration of the real estate taxes. Mr. Vandzura questioned the local taxes being exonerated for proper documentation. The issue will be placed on the committee meeting agenda for further discussion.

Mr. Emerick advised Council that new legislation will be forthcoming on the public bid process increasing from \$10,000.00 to \$18,000.00. There is also new legislation for the

collection of interest on municipal liens at a rate of ten percent (10%). Mr. Emerick advised that a resolution will need to be adopted reflecting the rate.

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. Chief Miller had nothing additional to add. Ms. McCarthy questioned the increase of burglaries in town and surrounding community of Wilmore. Chief Miller advised Council that there was a potential lead on a person of interest and the police department is following up on all leads. Mr. Slanoc commented and commended the Police Department on the clearance percentages on incidents.

Public Works Report:

Mr. Squillario furnished a written report prior to the meeting. Mr. Squillario was absent but Mr. Koban had nothing additional to report.

Treasurer's Report:

Ms. Claar furnished a written report prior to the meeting. Mrs. Chobany motioned, seconded by Mr. Slanoc to approve the Treasurer's report in the amount of \$119,859.78. Ms. McCarthy polled and motion carried 6-0.

Correspondence:

None

Minutes of the Previous Meeting:

The minutes from the December 5th regular meeting and the December 16th special meeting were distributed prior to the meeting. Mr. Kissell motioned, seconded by Mayor Fox, to approve the December 5th regular meeting and the December 16th special meeting minutes, motion carried 6-0.

Paying of Bills:

The bills were distributed prior to the meeting. Mrs. Chobany motioned, seconded by Mr. Slanoc to approve paying the bills, including the additional bills in the amount of \$7,955.41. Ms. McCarthy polled and motion carried 6-0.

Reports

Reports were received from the various boards and commissions. Mr. Vandzura motioned, seconded by Mrs. Chobany to approve the monthly reports from the Municipal Water Authority and the Sewer Authority for November, Planning Commission for December,

Portage Library for November, and Cambria County Bldg Codes (LMIA) for November. Motion carried 6-0.

Unfinished Business:

There was no update on the Main Street Streetscape project.

Mr. Koban informed Council that there was no activity during the holidays for the Ten year Comprehensive Plan and Open Space and Recreation project. Mr. Koban informed Council that Rick Truscello with the Eads Group read an article in the Tribune concerning the Trail Feasibility plan that required a retraction concerning the grant monies that were received. There was no update on the progress of the steps and handrail by the PVFC.

The 619 Main Street Property was discussed earlier in the meeting under the Solicitor.

The 1021 Caldwell Avenue Property was discussed earlier in the meeting under the Solicitor.

Mr. Koban informed Council that he has attempted several times to contact Mr. Sekerak concerning the ten day notice for the property located at 816 Gillespie Avenue. The ten day notice has expired for Mr. Sekerak. Mr. Koban will discuss with Mr. Wisor; the next procedural step in the ordinance, by performing a structural study on the building.

Mr. Vandzura motioned, seconded by Mr. Slanoc to approve Ordinance 1-2012 concerning the amendment to the Police Pension fund window of deferred vested benefits that was property advertised. Ms. McCarthy polled and motion carried 6-0.

Good of the Borough:

Mr. Kissell commented on a complaint he received regarding dog walkers not cleaning up the defecation. Chief Miller advised Mr. Kissell to have the residents contact the Police when it occurs. Mrs. Chobany commended the Woman's Club for the decorating efforts at the Arch and by Dominic's.

Adjournment:

Mrs. Chobany motioned, seconded by Mr. Slanoc to adjourn the regular meeting at 6:43 p.m, motion carried 6-0. The re-organization meeting is scheduled for 8:00 p.m.