

A meeting of Portage Borough Council was held on December 19th, 2014, at 6:00 p.m., in Council Chambers.

Those in attendance were:

Sharon McCarthy, President	John Morgan
Rebecca Chobany	
Mayor James Kissell	Jerome Yetsko
Todd Learn	

Also present were: Robert Koban, Borough Manager; Ray Bowman, Public Works; and Michelle Claar-Secretary. Absent was George Wozniak.

I. CALL TO ORDER

Ms. McCarthy called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m., which was followed by a roll call.

II. REFLECTION/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mr. Kissell offered a reflection. The reflection was followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

III. RECOGNITION OF GUESTS

None

IV. BILLS TO BE PAID

Ms. Claar presented a list of bills and additional bills to be paid in written form.

ON MOTION OF MRS. CHOBANY, SECONDED BY MR. LEARN, COUNCIL UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED PAYING THE BILLS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$83,847.95. COUNCIL MEMBERS VOTING AFFIRMATIVELY INCLUDED MS. McCARTHY, MRS. CHOBANY, MR. LEARN, MR. MORGAN, MAYOR KISSELL, AND MR. YETSKO. MOTION CARRIED 6-0.

V. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. Mr. Koban presented the 2015 budget for the General Fund, State Liquid Fuels, and Capital Improvement Fund, and the 2015 budget message for Council approval. The proposed budget was properly advertised in the Dispatch.

ON MOTION OF MRS. CHOBANY, SECONDED BY MR. MORGAN, COUNCIL UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED ORDINANCE 5-2014 BY ADOPTING THE 2015 APPROVED OPERATING BUDGET FOR THE GENERAL FUND, STATE LIQUID FUELS FUNDS, AND THE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT FUND. COUNCIL MEMBERS VOTING AFFIRMATIVELY INCLUDED MS. McCARTHY, MRS. CHOBANY, MR. LEARN, MR. MORGAN, MAYOR KISSELL, AND MR. YETSKO. MOTION CARRIED 6-0.

B. Mr. Koban presented the compensation plan and salary projections for borough uniform and non-uniform employee's and Council meeting pay for 2015 for approval.

ON MOTION OF MRS. CHOBANY, SECONDED BY MR. LEARN, COUNCIL UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED ORDINANCE 6-2014 BY ADOPTING THE 2015 COMPENSATION PLAN AND SETTING THE WAGES FOR BOROUGH EMPLOYEES AND COUNCIL MEETING PAY. COUNCIL MEMBERS VOTING AFFIRMATIVELY INCLUDED MS. McCARTHY, MRS. CHOBANY, MR. LEARN, MR. MORGAN, MAYOR KISSELL, AND MR. YETSKO. MOTION CARRIED 6-0.

C. Mr. Koban presented Council with the 2015 millage rate and breakdown for approval.

ON MOTION OF MR. MORGAN, SECONDED BY MAYOR KISSELL, COUNCIL UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED ORDINANCE 7-2014 BY SETTING THE 2015 GENERAL PURPOSE MILLS AT 16.5 MILLS AND .5 MILLS FOR FIRE PROTECTION AT A TOTAL OF 17 MILLS. COUNCIL MEMBERS VOTING AFFIRMATIVELY INCLUDED MS. McCARTHY, MRS. CHOBANY, MR. LEARN, MR. MORGAN, MAYOR KISSELL, AND MR. YETSKO. MOTION CARRIED 6-0.

D. Mr. Bowman and Mr. Koban commenced with the bid opening for a truck, trailer, and tractor/loader that was properly advertised. There was only one bid received from a William Bonin. The bid amount submitted by Mr. Bonin was \$82,000.00. Mr. Koban explained that a resolution was required for any financial loan obligation; if the bid was awarded.

ON MOTION OF MAYOR KISSELL, SECONDED BY MR. LEARN, COUNCIL UNANIMOUSLY ACCEPTED AND AWARDED MR. WILLIAM BONIN THE TRUCK, TRAILER, AND EQUIPMENT BID IN THE AMOUNT OF \$82,000.00. COUNCIL MEMBERS VOTING AFFIRMATIVELY INCLUDED MS. McCARTHY, MRS. CHOBANY, MR. LEARN, MR. MORGAN, MAYOR KISSELL, AND MR. YETSKO. MOTION CARRIED 6-0.

E. The Portage Area Sewer Authority submitted a request for an exemption of road and driveway permit fees for the sanitary storm project in Ward 3 of the Borough.

ON MOTION OF MR. YETSKO, SECONDED BY MR. MORGAN, COUNCIL UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED THE REQUEST TO THE PORTAGE AREA SEWER AUTHORITY FOR THE SANITARY STORM PROJECT IN WARD 3 FOR THE EXEMPTION OF ROAD AND DRIVEWAY PERMIT FEES IN THE AMOUNT OF \$9,845.00. COUNCIL MEMBERS VOTING AFFIRMATIVELY INCLUDED MS. McCARTHY, MRS. CHOBANY, MR. LEARN, MR. MORGAN, MAYOR KISSELL, AND MR. YETSKO. MOTION CARRIED 6-0.

F. Mr. Koban apprised Council of the financing options for the truck, trailer, and equipment previously awarded to Mr. William Bonin. Mr. Koban presented a resolution for the financial loan obligation proposal submitted by First Summit Bank.

ON MOTION OF MR. LEARN, SECONDED BY MAYOR KISSELL, COUNCIL UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED RESOLUTION 18-2014 BY AUTHORIZING A FINANCIAL LOAN OBLIGATION WITH FIRST SUMMIT BANK FOR THE PURCHASE OF A 2008 TRUCK, 2008 KUBOTA TRACTOR, AND A CAM TILT TRAILER IN THE AMOUNT OF \$81,500.00 AT A INTEREST RATE OF 3.5% FOR 72 MONTHS. COUNCIL MEMBERS VOTING AFFIRMATIVELY INCLUDED MS. McCARTHY, MRS. CHOBANY, MR. LEARN, MR. MORGAN, MAYOR KISSELL, AND MR. YETSKO. MOTION CARRIED 6-0.

Mr. Koban also commented that he was advised by Mr. Emerick that according to the Local Unit Debt Act an ordinance would be required. Mr. Emerick will prepare a proposed draft ordinance for Council's review and advertising at the January 5th, 2015 regular meeting of Council.

G. Appointments to the various boards and commissions were discussed with the following:

A. One – Five year term for the Portage Municipal Water Authority Board with letters of interest received from Mr. Thomas Hodgkinson and Mr. John Gartland. Ms. McCarthy called for nominations. Mrs. Chobany nominated Mr. John Gartland and closed nominations.

ON MOTION OF MRS. CHOBANY, SECONDED BY MAYOR KISSELL, COUNCIL UNANIMOUSLY APPOINTED MR. JOHN GARTLAND TO THE PORTAGE MUNICIPAL WATER AUTHORITY BOARD FOR A FIVE YEAR TERM COMMENCING JANUARY 1ST, 2015 THROUGH DECEMBER 31ST, 2019. COUNCIL MEMBERS VOTING AFFIRMATIVELY INCLUDED MS. McCARTHY, MRS. CHOBANY, MR. LEARN, MR. MORGAN, MAYOR KISSELL, AND MR. YETSKO. MOTION CARRIED 6-0.

B. One-Five year term for the Portage Area Sewer Authority Board with one letter of interest received for re-appointment.

ON MOTION OF MR. MRS. CHOBANY, SECONDED BY MR. YETSKO, COUNCIL UNANIMOUSLY RE-APPOINTED MR. ROBERT HAZLETT TO THE PORTAGE AREA SEWER AUTHORITY BOARD FOR A FIVE YEAR TERM COMMENCING JANUARY 1ST, 2015 THROUGH DECEMBER 31ST, 2019. COUNCIL MEMBERS VOTING AFFIRMATIVELY INCLUDED MS. McCARTHY, MRS. CHOBANY, MR. LEARN, MR. MORGAN, MAYOR KISSELL, AND MR. YETSKO. MOTION CARRIED 6-0.

C. One-Five year term for the Portage Area Planning Commission with only one letter of interested received for re-appointment.

ON MOTION OF MR. MRS. CHOBANY, SECONDED BY MR. YETSKO, COUNCIL UNANIMOUSLY RE-APPOINTED MR. STEVEN LANE TO THE PORTAGE AREA PLANNING COMMISSION FOR A FIVE YEAR TERM COMMENCING JANUARY 1ST, 2015 THROUGH DECEMBER 31ST, 2019. COUNCIL MEMBERS VOTING AFFIRMATIVELY INCLUDED MS. McCARTHY, MRS. CHOBANY, MR. LEARN, MR. MORGAN, MAYOR KISSELL, AND MR. YETSKO. MOTION CARRIED 6-0.

D. One-three year term for the Portage Area Joint Recreation Commission with one letter of interest received for re-appointment.

ON MOTION OF MR. MRS. CHOBANY, SECONDED BY MR. MORGAN, COUNCIL UNANIMOUSLY RE-APPOINTED MR. DAVID SQUILLARIO TO THE PORTAGE AREA JOINT RECREATION COMMISSION FOR A THREE YEAR TERM COMMENCING JANUARY 1ST, 2015 THROUGH DECEMBER 31ST, 2017. COUNCIL MEMBERS VOTING AFFIRMATIVELY INCLUDED MS. McCARTHY, MRS. CHOBANY, MR. LEARN, MR. MORGAN, MAYOR KISSELL, AND MR. YETSKO. MOTION CARRIED 6-0.

E. A one year term for the Portage Municipal Water Authority Board due to the recent resignation of Mr. Thomas Kunko. One letter of interest was received from a Mr. Mark Stancovich.

ON MOTION OF MR. MRS. CHOBANY, SECONDED BY MR. MORGAN, COUNCIL UNANIMOUSLY APPOINTED MR. MARK STANCOVICH TO THE PORTAGE WATER AUTHORITY BOARD FOR A ONE YEAR REMAINING TERM UNTIL DECEMBER 31ST, 2015. COUNCIL MEMBERS VOTING AFFIRMATIVELY INCLUDED MS. McCARTHY, MRS. CHOBANY, MR. LEARN, MR. MORGAN, MAYOR KISSELL, AND MR. YETSKO. MOTION CARRIED 6-0.

IV. GOOD OF THE BOROUGH

Ms. McCarthy commended the Public Works Department and the Woman's Club for all their efforts and assistance for the decorating throughout the borough and requested a thank you card be sent to the Woman's Club.

Ms. McCarthy commended Mr. Koban and Ms. Claar for the annual preparation and dedication on the 2015 budget process.

Ms. McCarthy presented sample shirts for Council to choose from. A suggestion was made to have an arch effect of Portage Borough over the borough logo. Sizes were discussed and the shirts will be ordered from Carter Graphic Designs.

V. ADJOURNMENT

THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS, ON MOTION OF MR. YETSKO, SECONDED BY MRS. CHOBANY, THE MEETING WAS ADJOURNED AT 6:29 P.M. MOTION CARRIED 6-0.