

A meeting of Portage Borough Council Committee of the Whole was held on Monday, January 16th, 2017.

Those in attendance were:

Sharon McCarthy	David Hayes	James Kissell	George Wozniak
Jerome Yetsko	Todd Learn	John Morgan	

Also present were: Robert Koban, Borough Manager and Michelle Claar-Secretary.

Visitors:

In attendance were: Mr. Ron Portash with the Dispatch; Portage Fire Dept representatives; Jeremy Shuniak and Joe Stauski.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

A. Update on DCNR Recreation Director/Manager position grant

Mr. Koban advised Council that he reviewed an e-mail from the Planning Commission; Mr. Joe Byers, concerning the support letter for the recreation manager peer to peer grant. Mr. Byers was requesting additional information for the board members to consider their support. Mr. Koban also e-mailed Mr. Longwill to determine if there was a deadline for the grant application. Mr. Longwill responded back that the grant deadline is April 15th but under the impression there was no deadline for the peer to peer grant. Mr. Longwill will verify the dates. Ms. Claar commented that letters of support were received from Summerhill and Lilly Boroughs, Washington Township, and the Cambria County Commissioners. We are still awaiting on Portage Township, Cassandra Borough, and the Portage Area School District. Ms. Claar advised that she also placed several phone calls to each with no success. The Portage Area Joint Recreation Commission will be meeting this evening to discuss the support letter.

Portage Fire Company update on 2017 Cambria County Convention

Ms. McCarthy deviated from the agenda to recognize the Portage Fire Dept at this time. Mr. Koban informed Council that he spoke with members of the Portage Fire Dept concerning the 2017 Cambria County Convention and requested they attend a meeting to update Council on their plans. Mr. Shuniak and Mr. Stauski were in attendance and provided Council with a google map reflecting the area where the tents will be placed, and a map showing Branch Alley with the church lot, Yetsko property and the Mountain House grounds. Mr. Stauski advised that they booked Josh Gallagher earlier in the year, prior to him trying out on "The Voice", for Thursday night. The main concerns were: parking, crowd control, and the location. Mr. Shuniak commented that he would like to have the stage area at the Mountain House Ground location for Thursday's entertainment only. Mr. Shuniak and Mr. Stauski commented to Mr. Yetsko that it would be right next to his property and understood his concerns with the noise, crowd, and parking. Mr. Shuniak asked Mr. Yetsko that if he was not in agreement to have the stage there, other suggestions and places would be considered. A lengthy discussion took place on each of the issues stated above. Mr. Stauski also commented that a security company will be hired for the Thursday entertainment. Other possible locations for the staging area were the old Silk Mill property and blocking off Main Street from Serenko's to Dollar General. Parking areas considered were to shuttle from the football stadium, the High School lot, and Sacred Heart Church. Mr. Shuniak also advised Mr. Yetsko that he would personally walk the areas he would want to have blocked off. Council agreed to have Mr. & Mrs. Yetsko discuss the issue first and then present it to Council and the Portage Fire Dept within the next two weeks.

B. Borough Roof Project-no update

Mr. Koban advised that Mr. Wisor had submitted email information to Mr. Emerick concerning the agreement, but had nothing additional to report. Ms. Claar commented that she included "booked invoices" for Stiffler, McGraw that were on the bills to be paid from 2016. Mr. Koban commented that he would like to review ALL the invoices to make sure they were not included in the agreement. Ms. Claar will contact Stiffler, McGraw and review the invoices. Council agreed to not include the invoices for payment.

C. CVA grant for Trout Run Flood Protection

Mr. Koban advised that the grant is not available at the current time. Mr. Wisor did however recommend scaling back the project and re-submit when the grant becomes available. A discussion took place on the timeframe for any repairs/plan of action that were required from the last inspection.

D. Promoting Tourism in Portage-Mr. Portash advised that he only needs a few more photos and will present the draft for Council to review.**BUILDINGS:****A. Gaunt Property-532 Dulancey Drive**

Mr. Emerick sent notice that a hearing is scheduled for Monday, February 6th, 2017 at District Magistrate Prebish's office.

B. Nicholson Property-517 Main Street-There was no update**C. Nicholson Property-Storage units at Sugar Alley-there was no update.****D. Kissell Property-1315 Jefferson Avenue-There was no update.**

Ms. McCarthy advised that she was approached by several residents concerning a dumpster at the intersection of Sherman and Mountain. Ms. Claar advised that she received a call as well and Chief Miller is investigating to determine if it is a sight issue.

3. Paying of the Bills

Ms. Claar presented a copy of the bills and additional bills to be paid in written form. Ms. Claar commented on the Stiffler, McGraw invoices relating to the Borough roof project.

ON MOTION OF MR. YETSKO, SECONDED BY MR. WOZNIAK, COUNCIL AGREED TO PAY THE BILLS; EXCLUDING THE STIFFLER, MCGRAW INVOICES, AS PRESENTED IN WRITTEN FORM IN THE AMOUNT OF \$4,341.55. VOTING AFFIRMATIVELY INCLUDED MR. LEARN, MR. MORGAN, MR. YETSKO, MR. HAYES, MR. WOZNIAK, MR. KISSELL AND MS. MCCARTHY, MOTION CARRIED 7-0.

GOOD OF THE BOROUGH

Mr. Kissell commented that he has a liner for ice rink that is 125X60 and the area was cleaned out.

Ms. Claar presented Council with the PA Dept of Revenue December, 2016 Monthly Revenue Report for their review.

Ms. Claar provided Council with Cambria County Tax Claim Bureau properties that will be available for the next tax sale. Also provided were judicial and private sale procedures for Council to review. A short discussion took place on several listed properties.

There being no further business

ADJOURNMENT

ON MOTION OF MR. MORGAN, SECONDED BY MR. LEARN, COUNCIL
UNANIMOUSLY ADJOURNED AT 7:10 P.M.