

A meeting of Portage Borough Council Committee of the Whole was held on Monday, May 15th, 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.

Ms. McCarthy went backwards on the agenda to address the motions and bills. Several members had to leave the meeting early.

1. Paying of the Bills

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

ON MOTION OF MR. KISSELL, SECONDED BY MR. HAYES, COUNCIL AGREED TO PAY THE BILLS AS PRESENTED IN WRITTEN FORM; IN THE AMOUNT OF \$8,565.33. VOTING AFFIRMATIVELY INCLUDED MR. LEARN, MR. MORGAN, MR. YETSKO, MR. HAYES, MR. WOZNIAK, MR. KISSELL AND MS. MCCARTHY, MOTION CARRIED 7-0.

2. New Business:

None

3. Buildings:

F. 933 Sonman Avenue-Greenawalt

Mr. Kissell questioned if Mr. Greenawalt was still incarcerated and if he was aware of the condition of the property. Mr. Koban stated he does not know the status of his incarceration. Mr. Emerick is researching for any liens, etc.

E. 907 Jefferson Avenue-Crum

There was no update. Mr. Emerick was to send a letter to the Crums from the last meeting.

D. 616 Dulancey Drive-Adams

Ms. Claar advised that she contacted Cambria County to determine if the property was ever sold/transferred. This property was not sold/transferred. The property taxes are still listed under Clair Adams. There was no update from Mr. Emerick, who is researching the property.

C. 1007 Conemaugh Avenue-Vivis

No update. The property was placed on the next judicial sale. Date to be determined.

B. 1315 Jefferson Avenue-Kissell

There was no update. The compliance demolition permit expired on March 19th, 2017. Mr. Emerick is in the process of researching.

A. 517 Main Street- Nicholson

In process of civil proceedings. No update

Mr. Koban informed Council that four (4) other property complaints were received during the last week.

Chief Miller provided Council a follow up memo regarding the storage trailers at the intersection of Orange Avenue and Grove Street. Mr. Koban requested the issue be placed on the agenda for June.

Mr. Kissell questioned the status of the PennDot Main Street SR 164 Project. Mr. Koban advised that he and Mr. Wisor attended the last meeting with PennDot and a joint project is being considered.

MOTIONS

D. Portage Fire Dept request to use old Stop N Go Property

The Portage Fire Dept submitted a request to utilize the old Stop N Go Property to erect a tent for a basket raffle during the Cambria County Firemen's Convention.

ON MOTION OF MR. KISSELL, SECONDED BY MR. MORGAN, COUNCIL UNANIMOUSLY AGREED TO APPROVE THE PVFC REQUEST TO UTILIZE THE OLD STOP N GO PROPERTY FOR THE CAMBRIA COUNTY FIREMEN'S CONVENTION FROM JULY 26TH, THROUGH AUGUST 5TH, 2017. VOTING AFFIRMATIVELY INCLUDED MR. LEARN, MR. MORGAN, MR. YETSKO, MR. HAYES, MR. WOZNIAK, MR. KISSELL AND MS. MCCARTHY, MOTION CARRIED 7-0.

C. Portage Fire Dept request to block Branch Street extension

The Portage Fire Dept submitted a request to block Branch Street extension from the home owners garage at 714 Farren Street to Central Alley during the Cambria County Firemen's Convention. Mr. Yetzko commented that the entire alley was to be blocked off during the convention. After a short discussion, Council amended their request to include the entire alley of Branch Street Extension.

ON MOTION OF MR. KISSELL, SECONDED BY MR. WOZNIAK, COUNCIL UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED THE PVFC REQUEST TO BLOCK OFF BRANCH STREET EXTENSION FROM FARREN STREET TO CENTRAL ALLEY FOR THE CAMBRIA COUNTY FIREMEN'S CONVENTION FROM JULY 26TH, THROUGH AUGUST 5TH, 2017. VOTING AFFIRMATIVELY INCLUDED MR. LEARN, MR. MORGAN, MR. YETSKO, MR. HAYES, MR. WOZNIAK, MR. KISSELL AND MS. MCCARTHY, MOTION CARRIED 7-0.

B. Portage Fire Dept request to block off Central Alley

The Portage Fire Dept submitted a request to block off Central Alley from Mountain Avenue to the end of the Municipal Building during the Cambria County Firemen's Convention.

ON MOTION OF MR. KISSELL, SECONDED BY MR. WOZNIAK, COUNCIL UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED THE PVFC REQUEST TO BLOCK OFF CENTRAL ALLEY FROM MOUNTAIN AVENUE TO THE END OF THE MUNICIPAL BUILDING FOR THE CAMBRIA COUNTY FIREMEN'S CONVENTION FROM JULY 26TH, THROUGH AUGUST 5TH, 2017. VOTING AFFIRMATIVELY INCLUDED MR. LEARN, MR. MORGAN, MR. YETSKO, MR. HAYES, MR. WOZNIAK, MR. KISSELL AND MS. MCCARTHY, MOTION CARRIED 7-0.

A. Portage Fire Dept request to block off Branch Street

The Portage Fire Dept submitted a request to block off Branch Street from Mountain Avenue to the end of the Municipal Building during the Cambria County Firemen's Convention.

ON MOTION OF MR. MORGAN, SECONDED BY MR. WOZNIAK, COUNCIL UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED THE PVFC REQUEST TO BLOCK OFF BRANCH STREET FROM MOUNTAIN AVENUE TO THE END OF THE MUNICIPAL BUILDING FOR THE CAMBRIA COUNTY FIREMEN'S CONVENTION FROM JULY 26TH, THROUGH AUGUST 5TH, 2017. VOTING AFFIRMATIVELY INCLUDED MR. LEARN, MR. MORGAN, MR. YETSKO, MR. HAYES, MR. WOZNIAK, MR. KISSELL AND MS. MCCARTHY, MOTION CARRIED 7-0.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

- F. Update on declaring a snow emergency on certain avenues and streets
Mr. Wozniak advised that the he is in the process of gathering information.
- E. Sacred Heart Church Exemption
Ms. Claar advised that the Cambria County Tax Office will soon be sending out an appeal hearing date.
- D. Promoting tourism
Mr. Kissell advised that he is working with Mr. Portash.
- C. Trout Run Flood Protection
The grant has been submitted. There was no update from Mr. Wisor prior to the meeting.
- B. Borough Building Roof
The was no update from Mr. Emerick prior to the meeting.
- A. Update on DCNR Recreation Director/Manager Peer to Peer Grant Study
Mr. Koban informed Council that there will be a conference call scheduled in May between Mr. Schreibman, Mr. Longwill and himself to discuss the Peer to Peer Grant submission.

GOOD OF THE BOROUGH

Ms. McCarthy reminded everyone to vote tomorrow.

Mr. Kissell commented on an article in the PA Borough News Magazine regarding EMS/Fire personnel receiving approximately 20% in tax credits. Mr. Koban sought council direction for gathering additional information. Ms. McCarthy pulled a straw vote with all 7 members and the issue will be placed on the June agenda for discussion.

There being no further business

ON MOTION OF MR. HAYES, SECONDED BY MR. WOZNIAK, COUNCIL UNANIMOUSLY ADJOURNED AT 6:45 P.M.