

A meeting of Portage Borough Council was held on Monday, January 2nd, 2018 at 8:00 p.m., in Council Chambers.

Those in attendance were:

Sharon McCarthy	James Kissell	David Hayes	Todd Learn
George Wozniak	Jerome Yetsko	John Morgan	Emily Canavan; Jr. Council

Also present were: Robert Koban, Borough Manager; Michael Emerick, Solicitor; Gary Wisor, Engineer; Officer Aaron Leyo, Public Safety; Scott Maul; Public Works, and Michelle Claar, Secretary. Absent was Councilor; Kaelyn Wozniak-Jr. Council.

Administer the oath of office:

Mayor Kissell administered the oath of office to Mr. Hayes; Mr. Learn, Mr. Wozniak, Mr. Yetsko, Mr. Morgan, and Joanne Redfern-Tax Collector.

Mayor Kissell convenes the Council by seeking nominations for Council President.

ON NOMINATION OF MR. MORGAN AND MR. WOZNIAK; MS. MCCARTHY WAS RETAINED AS COUNCIL PRESIDENT. NOMINATIONS CLOSED. ON MOTION OF MR. MORGAN, SECONDED BY MR. WOZNIAK, COUNCIL UNANIMOUSLY APPOINTED MS. MCCARTHY AS COUNCIL PRESIDENT. COUNCIL MEMBERS VOTING AFFIRMATIVELY INCLUDED MR. LEARN, MR. MORGAN, MR. YETSKO, MR. WOZNIAK, MR. HAYES, MR. KISSELL. MOTION CARRIED 6-0-1 WITH MS. MCCARTHY ABSTAINING. MS. MCCARTHY HAS SERVED AS COUNCIL PRESIDENT OVER 20 YEARS.

Ms. McCarthy presided over the remainder of the meeting seeking nominations for Council Vice-President.

ON NOMINATION OF MR. KISSELL AND MR. YETSKO; MR. WOZNIAK WAS NOMINATED AS COUNCIL VICE PRESIDENT. NOMINATIONS CLOSED. ON MOTION OF MR. KISSELL, SECONDED BY MR. YETSKO, COUNCIL UNANIMOUSLY APPOINTED MR. WOZNIAK AS COUNCIL VICE PRESIDENT. COUNCIL MEMBERS VOTING AFFIRMATIVELY INCLUDED MR. LEARN, MR. MORGAN, MR. YETSKO, MR. HAYES, MR. KISSELL AND MS. McCARTHY, MOTION CARRIED 6-0-1 WITH MR. WOZNIAK ABSTAINING.

Ms. McCarthy commenced with the following appointments:

Solicitor

- ON MOTION OF MR. KISSELL, SECONDED BY MR. HAYES; COUNCIL UNANIMOUSLY APPOINTED MR. MICHAEL EMERICK AS THE BOROUGH SOLICITOR FOR A 2 YEAR TERM (2018-2019). COUNCIL MEMBERS VOTING AFFIRMATIVELY INCLUDED MR. LEARN, MR. MORGAN, MR. WOZNIAK, MR. YETSKO, MR. HAYES, MR. KISSELL AND MS. McCARTHY, MOTION CARRIED 7-0.

Engineer

- ON MOTION OF MR. MORGAN, SECONDED BY MR. LEARN; COUNCIL UNANIMOUSLY APPOINTED MR. GARY WISOR WITH STIFFLER McGRAW AS THE BOROUGH ENGINEER FOR A 2 YEAR TERM (2018-2019). COUNCIL MEMBERS VOTING AFFIRMATIVELY INCLUDED MR. LEARN, MR. MORGAN, MR. WOZNIAK, MR. YETSKO, MR. HAYES, MR. KISSELL AND MS. McCARTHY, MOTION CARRIED 7-0.

Vacancy Board (1st member of Council)

- ON MOTION OF MR. WOZNIAK, SECONDED BY MR. KISSELL; COUNCIL UNANIMOUSLY APPOINTED MR. HAYES AS THE 1ST MEMBER OF COUNCIL TO THE VACANCY BOARD. COUNCIL MEMBERS VOTING AFFIRMATIVELY INCLUDED MR. LEARN, MR. MORGAN, MR. WOZNIAK, MR. YETSKO, MR. KISSELL AND MS. McCARTHY, MOTION CARRIED 6-0-1 WITH MR. HAYES ABSTAINING.

Vacancy Board (2nd member of Council)

- ON MOTION OF MR. KISSELL, SECONDED BY MR. HAYES; COUNCIL UNANIMOUSLY APPOINTED MR. MORGAN AS THE 2ND MEMBER OF COUNCIL TO THE VACANCY BOARD. COUNCIL MEMBERS VOTING AFFIRMATIVELY INCLUDED MR. LEARN, MR. YETSKO, MR. WOZNIAK, MR. HAYES, MR. KISSELL AND MS. McCARTHY, MOTION CARRIED 6-0-1 WITH MR. MORGAN ABSTAINING.

Vacancy Board (Elector at Large)

- ON MOTION OF MR. LEARN, SECONDED BY MR. MORGAN; COUNCIL UNANIMOUSLY APPOINTED MR. RONALD PORTASH AS THE ELECTOR AT LARGE TO SERVE ON THE VACANCY BOARD. COUNCIL MEMBERS VOTING AFFIRMATIVELY INCLUDED MR. LEARN, MR. MORGAN, MR. YETSKO, MR. WOZNIAK, MR. HAYES, MR. KISSELL AND MS. McCARTHY. MOTION CARRIED 7-0.

President Pro Tempore

- ON MOTION OF MR. MORGAN, SECONDED BY MR. WOZNIAK; COUNCIL UNANIMOUSLY APPOINTED MR. LEARN AS THE PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE. COUNCIL MEMBERS VOTING AFFIRMATIVELY INCLUDED MR. MORGAN, MR. YETSKO, MR. WOZNIAK, MR. HAYES, MR. KISSELL AND MS. McCARTHY. MOTION CARRIED 6-0-1 WITH MR. LEARN ABSTAINING.

Borough Manager recommended the following department heads for Council approval.

- ON MOTION OF MR. KISSELL, SECONDED BY MR. YETSKO; COUNCIL UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED THE DEPARTMENT HEADS:
 DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS – MR. SCOTT MAUL
 CHIEF OF PUBLIC SAFETY- CHIEF EDWARD MILLER
 SECRETARY/TREASURER- MS. MICHELLE CLAAR
 COUNCIL MEMBERS VOTING AFFIRMATIVELY INCLUDED MR. LEARN, MR. MORGAN, MR. YETSKO, MR. WOZNIAK, MR. HAYES, MR. KISSELL AND MS. McCARTHY. MOTION CARRIED 7-0.

Appointment of two delegates to the Cambria County Council of Governments

- ON MOTION OF MR. LEARN, SECONDED BY MR. YETSKO; COUNCIL UNANIMOUSLY APPOINTED MR. KOBAN AND MR. KISSELL AS THE DELEGATES TO REPRESENT THE BOROUGH FOR THE CAMBRIA COUNTY COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS. COUNCIL MEMBERS VOTING AFFIRMATIVELY INCLUDED MR. LEARN, MORGAN, MR. YETSKO, MR. WOZNIAK, MR. HAYES, AND MS. McCARTHY. MOTION CARRIED 6-0-1 WITH MR. KISSELL ABSTAINING.

Designation of depository for the General Fund, State Liquid Fuels, and Capital Improvement fund

- ON MOTION OF MR. WOZNIAK, SECONDED BY MR. KISSELL; COUNCIL UNANIMOUSLY DESIGNATED THE 1ST SUMMIT BANK AS THE BOROUGH FINANCIAL DEPOSITORY FOR THE GENERAL, STATE LIQUID FUELS, AND THE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT FUNDS. COUNCIL MEMBERS VOTING AFFIRMATIVELY INCLUDED MR. LEARN, MR. MORGAN, MR. YETSKO, MR. WOZNIAK, MR. HAYES, MR. KISSELL AND MS. McCARTHY. MOTION CARRIED 7-0.

Designation of general circulation for official legal and sunshine notices

- ON MOTION OF MR. LEARN, SECONDED BY MR. MORGAN; COUNCIL UNANIMOUSLY DESIGNATED THE DISPATCH AS THE FIRST AND THE TRIBUNE DEMOCRAT AS THE SECOND NEWSPAPER OF GENERAL CIRCULATION. COUNCIL MEMBERS VOTING AFFIRMATIVELY INCLUDED MR. LEARN, MR. MORGAN, MR. YETSKO, MR. WOZNIAK, MR. HAYES, MR. KISSELL AND MS. McCARTHY. MOTION CARRIED 7-0.

Designation of representative to the Laurel Municipal Inspection Agency (LMIA)

- ON MOTION OF MR. YETSKO, SECONDED BY MR. KISSELL; COUNCIL UNANIMOUSLY DESIGNATED MS. CLAAR AS THE REPRESENTATIVE FOR PORTAGE BOROUGH TO THE LAUREL MUNICIPAL INSPECTION AGENCY. COUNCIL MEMBERS VOTING AFFIRMATIVELY INCLUDED MR. LEARN, MR. MORGAN, MR. YETSKO, MR. WOZNIAK, MR. HAYES, MR. KISSELL AND MS. McCARTHY. MOTION CARRIED 7-0.

Appointments to the Building Committee

- ON MOTION OF MR. LEARN, SECONDED BY MR. YETSKO; COUNCIL UNANIMOUSLY APPOINTED MR. WOZNIAK AND MR. KISSELL TO SERVE ON THE BUILDING COMMITTEE. COUNCIL MEMBERS VOTING AFFIRMATIVELY INCLUDED MR. LEARN, MR. MORGAN, MR. YETSKO, MR. HAYES, AND MS. McCARTHY. MOTION CARRIED 5-0-2; WITH MR. WOZNIAK AND MR. KISSELL ABSTAINING.

Appointment of Deputy Tax Collector

- ON MOTION OF MR. YETSKO, SECONDED BY MR. MORGAN; COUNCIL UNANIMOUSLY APPOINTED MS. MILDRED CHAPPELL AS THE DEPTY TAX COLLECTOR FOR A 4 YEAR TERM (2018-2021). COUNCIL MEMBERS VOTING AFFIRMATIVELY INCLUDED MR. LEARN, MR. MORGAN, MR. YETSKO, MR. WOZNIAK, MR. HAYES, MR. KISSELL AND MS. McCARTHY. MOTION CARRIED 7-0.

NEW BUSINESS:

A. Review and approval to modify the 2018 Public Works Budget by increasing the capital machinery line item by \$5,000.00 for a snow plow.

- ON MOTION OF MR. KISSELL, SECONDED BY MR. MORGAN; COUNCIL UNANIMOUSLY APPROVBED RESOLUTION 1-2018 BY MODIFYING THE PUBLIC WORKS CAPITAL MACHINERY LINE ITEM BY \$5,000.00 FOR THE PURCHASE OF A SNOW PLOW. COUNCIL MEMBERS VOTING AFFIRMATIVELY INCLUDED MR. LEARN, MR. MORGAN, MR. YETSKO, MR. WOZNIAK, MR. HAYES, MR. KISSELL AND MS. McCARTHY. MOTION CARRIED 7-0.

B. Request from Mr. Paul Kulick to reduce the interest charges from a municipal lien located at 619 Johnson Avenue.

Council had a lengthy discussion on the request from Mr. Kulick to reduce the interest charges on the municipal lien that was placed on the property back in 1977. Mr. Emerick had calculated the interest, 5% attorney commission and lien satisfaction fee of \$10.00. Mr. Learn, Mr. Morgan, and Mr. Hayes were apprised of past practices regarding municipal lien satisfactions. Mr. Koban commented that each individual that has had previous liens had paid the lien in full, including the interest, commission, and satisfaction fees. Mr. Learn commented that since Mr. Kulick took ownership in 2008, he would suggest interest being charged from that point forward. After another lengthy discussion;

ON MOTION OF MR. LEARN, SECONDED BY MR. HAYES TO CHARGE INTEREST, ATTORNEY, AND SATISFACTION FEES FROM 2008 THROUGH 12/31/2017. COUNCIL MEMBERS VOTING AFFIRMATIVELY INCLUDED MR. LEARN AND MR.

HAYES. VOTING NEGATIVELY WERE MR. MORGAN, MR. YETSKO, MR. MR. WOZNIAK, MR. KISSELL AND MS. McCARTHY. MOTION FAILED 5-2.

There being no further business;

- ON MOTION OF MR. YETSKO, SECONDED BY MR. MORGAN; COUNCIL UNANIMOUSLY ADJOURNED. COUNCIL MEMBERS VOTING AFFIRMATIVELY INCLUDED MR. LEARN, MR. MORGAN, MR. YETSKO, MR. WOZNIAK, MR. HAYES, MR. KISSELL AND MS. McCARTHY. MOTION CARRIED 7-0.

The meeting adjourned at 8:27 p.m.