

A Portage Borough Council Committee of the Whole meeting was held on Monday, August 19th, 2019 at 6:30 p.m.

Those in attendance were:

Sharon McCarthy
David Hayes

George Wozniak
James Kissell
Todd Learn

Jerome Yetsko
John Morgan

Also present were: Robert Koban, Borough Manager; Mr. Emerick, Solicitor; and Michelle Claar, Borough Secretary

Visitors:

Ron Portash, Mainline Newspapers, Jean Kinley, Devonnie McCabe and Kaytlin Sumner-Portage Public Library.

Portage Library Rep; Devonnie McCabe presented Council with a notice for a benefit dinner to be sponsored by the Library featuring a Mustang Dinner for the first football game. Ms. McCabe also presented a letter to Council seeking an additional donation to re-hire/replace the eliminated librarian assistant position. The Library board would like to be placed on the agenda for the September 3rd meeting to discuss the issue further with Council.

Another short discussion took place on the liquor license transfer request for Sheetz, Inc.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. Update on Recreation Peer Consultant

Mr. Koban advised that we are waiting on the Portage School District, Township Supervisors, and also residents from both the borough and township to complete the Study Group Committee for the Peer Consultant. The School District will be having their monthly meeting in September to appoint an individual to the committee.

B. Update on Borough Roof-No update

C. Update on Trout Run Rehabilitation-No update.

D. Update on PennDot Project on SR 164—Mr. Emerick advised that he will be reviewing the contribution agreement with questions raised from the regular meeting.

E. Update on PennDot Multimodal for Main Street-There was no update

F. Update on Main Street Improvements Phase III-There was no update.

G. Update on Main Street Improvements Phase IIIA-Application was submitted for grant funding.

H. Update on restrooms and Crichton McCormick Park-There was some damage to the restroom door. A short discussion took place on the restrooms being locked/unlocked and at what times. Grading issues, paper products, trash cans, and maintenance of the restroom were also discussed. Mr. Kissell questioned if the Contractor has been paid. Mr. Koban advised that the retainer and last estimate have not been paid.

I. Update on Sonman Avenue Bridge-12-year plan- No update

J. Update on repairs to the creek walls at Johnson Avenue-The project is progressing.

- K. Mainline Trail Feasibility Study Phase
- L. Update on grant funding for Crichton McCormick park through DCNR and Frank Burns Office. There was no update.
- M. Update on welcome signs-There was no update.
- N. Update of request from Emil Squillario regarding fireworks at the Park-Ms. Claar informed Council that a letter was sent to Emil seeking answers to various questions. (Letter on file)

Buildings

- A. 933 Sonman Avenue Property (Greenawalt)-There was no update.
- B. 616 Dulancey Drive (Adams)-No update.
- C. Update on junk vehicles-work in progress.
- D. 828 North Railroad (Gaunts)-No update.
- E. 720 Orchard Street (Plummers)-There was no update.
- F. 406 Caldwell Avenue (Barclay)-There was no update.
- G. 925 Main Street (Lewis)-No update.
- H. 532 Dulancey Drive (Gaunts)-No update
- I. 1007 Conemaugh Avenue-scheduled demolition between 8/19/19 and 10/17/19.

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. HAYES, SECONDED BY MR. WOZNIAK, COUNCIL UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED TO PAY THE BILLS IN WRITTEN FORM, IN THE AMOUNT OF \$6,768.33. VOTING AFFIRMATIVELY INCLUDED MR. LEARN, MR. MORGAN, MR. YETSKO, MR. WOZNIAK, MR. HAYES, MR. KISSELL, AND MS. MCCARTHY, MOTION CARRIED 7-0.

GOOD OF THE BOROUGH

Mr. Kissell commented that he would like to have the ice rink installed at the park during the 1st week of November. (Weather permitting).

Ms. McCarthy commented on the number of vacant business and suggested contacting the Planning Commission for any ideas.

There being no further business;

ON MOTION OF MR. KISSELL, SECONDED BY MR. WOZNIAK, COUNCIL UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED TO GO INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION FOR LITIGATION PURPOSES. COUNCIL MEMBERS VOTING AFFIRMATIVELY INCLUDED MR. LEARN, MR. MORGAN, MR. YETSKO, MR. WOZNIAK, MR. HAYES, MR. KISSELL, AND MS. MCCARTHY. MOTION CARRIED 7-0.

ON MOTION OF MR. KISSELL, SECONDED BY MR. WOZNIAK, COUNCIL UNANIMOUSLY AGREED TO GO OUT OF EXECUTIVE SESSION FOR LITIGATION PURPOSES. COUNCIL MEMBERS VOTING AFFIRMATIVELY INCLUDED MR. LEARN, MR. MORGAN, MR. YETSKO, MR. WOZNIAK, MR. HAYES, MR. KISSELL, AND MS. MCCARTHY. MOTION CARRIED 7-0.

ON MOTION OF MR. WOZNIAK, SECONDED BY MR. HAYES, COUNCIL UNANIMOUSLY AGREED TO ADJOURN. 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 concluded at 8:30 P.M.