

A special meeting (teleconference) of Portage Borough Council was held on Friday, December 18th, 2020 at 6:00 p.m.

Those in attendance were:

George Wozniak	Todd Learn	Bruna Kissell
David Hayes	Ron Cadwallader	Bent Kinley

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

REFLECTION/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mr. Kinley offered a reflection and then proceeded with the Pledge of Allegiance.

RECOGNITION OF GUESTS

Mr. Wozniak called for anyone that dialed into the teleconferencing and there were none.

APPROVAL OF BILLS

Ms. Claar provided an itemized list of bills and additional bills for Council to review and approve through December 18th, 2020.

FOLLOWING A ROLL CALL VOTE, ON MOTION OF MR. HAYES, SECONDED BY MR. CADWALLADER, COUNCIL UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED THE BILLS AND ADDITIONAL BILLS TO BE PAID, AS PRESENTED IN WRITTEN FORM, IN THE AMOUNT OF \$2,487.94. COUNCIL MEMBERS VOTING AFFIRMATIVELY INCLUDED MR. CADWALLADER, MR. HAYES, MR. KINLEY, MR. LEARN, MS. KISSELL, AND MR. WOZNIAK. MOTION CARRIED 6-0.

NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Wozniak suggested moving forward with the new business/motions agenda items

A. Awarding of the Solid Waste Collection Contract for a three-year period (2021-2023)

ON MOTION OF MR. KINLEY, SECONDED BY MR. LEARN, COUNCIL UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED RESOLUTION 24-2020 BY AWARDING THE SOLID WASTE COLLECTION PROGRAM TO PRO DISPOSAL, INC. FOR A PERIOD OF 3 YEARS COMMENCING JANUARY 1ST, 2021 THROUGH DECEMBER 31ST, 2023. COUNCIL MEMBERS VOTING AFFIRMATIVELY INCLUDED MR. CADWALLADER, MR. HAYES, MR. KINLEY, MR. LEARN, MS. KISSELL, AND MR. WOZNIAK. MOTION CARRIED 6-0.

B. Approval of the 2021 Approved Budget for the General Fund, State Liquid Fuels, and the Capital Improvement Funds.

ON MOTION OF MR. LEARN, SECONDED BY MR. KINLEY, COUNCIL UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED ORDINANCE 8-2020 BY ADOPTING THE 2021 BUDGET FOR THE GENERAL FUND, STATE LIQUIDS FUELS, AND THE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT FUNDS. COUNCIL MEMBERS VOTING AFFIRMATIVELY INCLUDED MR. CADWALLADER, MR. HAYES, MR. KINLEY, MR. LEARN, MS. KISSELL, AND MR. WOZNIAK. MOTION CARRIED 6-0.

C. Approval of setting the 2021 tax millage rates for borough residents

ON MOTION OF MS. KISSELL, SECONDED BY MR. CADWALLADER, COUNCIL UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED ORDINANCE 9-2020 BY SETTING THE 2021 TAX MILLAGE RATES AT 16.5 MILLS FOR GENERAL PURPOSES AND .5 MILLS FOR FIRE PROTECTION FOR A TOTAL OF 17 MILLS. COUNCIL MEMBERS VOTING AFFIRMATIVELY INCLUDED MR. CADWALLADER, MR. HAYES, MR. KINLEY, MR. LEARN, MS. KISSELL, AND MR. WOZNIAK. MOTION CARRIED 6-0.

D. Approval of setting the 2021 Compensation Plan and fixing the wage rates of borough employees.

ON MOTION OF MR. LEARN, SECONDED BY MR. KINLEY, COUNCIL UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED ORDINANCE 10-2020 BY SETTING THE 2021 COMPENSATION PLAN WITH A 2% TWO-PERCENT COST OF LIVING ADJUSTMENT AND SETTING THE 2021 WAGE RATES FOR BOROUGH UNIFORM AND NON-UNIFORM EMPLOYEES. COUNCIL MEMBERS VOTING AFFIRMATIVELY INCLUDED MR. CADWALLADER, MR. HAYES, MR. KINLEY, MR. LEARN, MS. KISSELL, AND MR. WOZNIAK. MOTION CARRIED 6-0.

E. Approval of amending an ordinance to the Administrative Code Personnel Policy concerning personal leave for uniform employees.

ON MOTION OF MR. CADWALLADER, SECONDED BY MS. KISSELL, COUNCIL UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED ORDINANCE 7-2020 BY AMENDING CHAPTER 1, PART 1H, SECTION 154F BY ACCRUING 8 HOURS PER MONTH OF PERSONAL LEAVE FOR UNIFORM EMPLOYEES. COUNCIL MEMBERS VOTING AFFIRMATIVELY INCLUDED MR. CADWALLADER, MR. HAYES, MR. KINLEY, MR. LEARN, MS. KISSELL, AND MR. WOZNIAK. MOTION CARRIED 6-0.

F. Review of the 2021 garbage collection rates for Borough Residents

Mr. Koban provided three options for Council to review and approve for the collection rates in 2021. Mr. Koban advised Council that the Borough has not increase the garage rates for borough residents since 2009. He provided fiscal impacts of the options with the following;

Proposed for 2021 was calculated at \$15.97 per month for curbside service

Option A for 2021 was calculated at \$ \$16.32 per month for curbside service and

Option B for 2021 was calculated at \$16.47 per month for curbside service

After a discussion on the fiscal impact of each option and not raising the rates since 2009;

ON MOTION OF MR. KINLEY, SECONDED BY MR. LEARN, COUNCIL UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED RESOLUTION 25-2020 BY SETTING THE 2021 GARBAGE COLLECTION RATES AT \$16.47 PER MONTH FOR CURBSIDE SERVICE AND \$31.50 PER PACK (10) FOR PRE-PAID BAGS. COUNCIL MEMBERS VOTING AFFIRMATIVELY INCLUDED MR. CADWALLADER, MR. HAYES, MR. KINLEY, MR. LEARN, MS. KISSELL, AND MR. WOZNIAK. MOTION CARRIED 6-0.

Buildings:

Mr. Wozniak questioned if there were any updates on the buildings:

Item A – Mark Greenwalt/Rebecca Windsor, 922 Sonman Avenue (penalty dated 4/8/19):

Mr. Koban informed Council that he spoke with Mr. Frank Lombardo concerning the property at 922 Sonman Avenue that was posted for demolition. Mr. Lombardo informed Mr. Koban that there is an interested buyer for the property and requested assistance for any liens that were placed on the property. Mr. Koban informed Mr. Lombardo to have the prospective buyer contact

an attorney to submit a contract or an offer on the property with the intentions of demolition. Mr. Hayes also commented that he spoke with Mr. Lombardo and the individual is very interested in purchasing the property for demolition. After a short discussion, Mr. Koban will inform Council if anything is received from the prospective buyer and discuss at the next regular meeting.

G. Meet and Greet of candidates

Mr. Wozniak convened the regular meeting to address the meet and greet for the Water Authority applicants and the Portage Area Joint Recreation Association.

After the meeting of all candidates, Council resumed the meeting with one appointment for the Portage Area Joint Recreation Commission.

ON MOTION OF MR. LEARN, SECONDED BY MR. CADWALLADER, COUNCIL UNANIMOUSLY APPOINTED MR. DAVID SQUILLARIO TO THE PORTAGE AREA JOINT RECREATION COMMISSION FOR A THREE (3) YEAR TERM COMMENCING JANUARY 1ST, 2021 THROUGH DECEMBER 31ST, 2023. COUNCIL MEMBERS VOTING AFFIRMATIVELY INCLUDED MR. CADWALLADER, MR. HAYES, MR. KINLEY, MR. LEARN, MS. KISSELL, AND MR. WOZNIAK. MOTION CARRIED 6-0.

Mr. Koban and Council suggested delaying the appointment of three Portage Municipal Water Authority Board members until the January 4th, 2021 regular meeting.

H. Approval to advertise for the Portage Area Regional Planning Commission.

Ms. Claar informed Council that there were no letters of interest received for the 5 five-year term on the PARPC board and suggested re-advertising the position.

ON MOTION OF MS. KISSELL, SECONDED BY MR. CADWALLADER, COUNCIL UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED THE ADVERTISING FOR LETTERS OF INTEREST TO SERVE A FIVE (5) YEAR TERM ON THE PORTAGE AREA REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION FOR A THREE (5) YEAR TERM COMMENCING JANUARY 1ST, 2021 THROUGH DECEMBER 31ST, 2025. COUNCIL MEMBERS VOTING AFFIRMATIVELY INCLUDED MR. CADWALLADER, MR. HAYES, MR. KINLEY, MR. LEARN, MS. KISSELL, AND MR. WOZNIAK. MOTION CARRIED 6-0.

There being no further business,

ON MOTION OF MR. LEARN, SECONDED BY MR. CADWALLADER, COUNCIL UNANIMOUSLY ADJOURNED THE MEETING. COUNCIL MEMBERS VOTING AFFIRMATIVELY INCLUDED MR. CADWALLADER, MR. HAYES, MR. KINLEY, MR. LEARN, MS. KISSELL, AND MR. WOZNIAK. MOTION CARRIED 6-0.

The meeting adjourned at 9:12 p.m.