

**BOROUGH OF MORTON
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
APRIL 10, 2013**

The regular meeting of April 2013, began at 7:30 p.m. with a call to order by Council President Cimino. The Pledge was recited and roll was called with the following being present: Mr. Bissell, Mr. Blunt, Mr. Cimino, Mr. Dickerson, Ms. Roberts, Mr. Stubbs, and Mayor Piselli. Arrived after roll call: Mr. Akins.

Also present: Sgt. LaSpina and Solicitor Wills.

COUNCIL COMMENTS

Mr. Bissell noticed work being done in Meter 5 area.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS

No comments

APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES

Mr. Bissell made a Motion to approve the meeting minutes for March 2013. Mr. Dickerson seconded the Motion. All council voted in favor with verbal approval. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF MONTHLY BILLS

Mr. Bissell made a Motion to approve the payment of the bills for the month of March. Mr. Stubbs seconded the Motion. Roll call: Mr. Akins-yes, Mr. Bissell-yes, Mr. Blunt-Abstain, Mr. Cimino-yes, Mr. Dickerson-yes, Ms. Roberts-yes, Mr. Stubbs-yes. Motion carried.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

PUBLIC FACILITIES

Mr. Bissell reported that there were 6 building permits, 2 Use and Occupancy certificates, and 3 contractor licenses issued. Mr. Bissell had a request for a waiver of the plans for the 200 block of Newell Street, the sidewalk. The reasons are low traffic movement, would be disjointed, and we did waive it for 715 N. Morton Avenue in 1997. He does not see a problem; and referred to the solicitor and Mr. Catania. Mr. Catania stated he did visit the site; did not feel it was out of order, but possibly the plan could be modified from the plan that shows a grass plot that the sidewalk would be then adjacent to the curb. Mr. Wills stated that the Land Development ordinance does require sidewalks adjacent to residential development. This is strictly borough council's decision to deviate from the Land Development ordinance. Mr. Bissell then made the Motion to approve the request for omitting the sidewalk for 200 block of Newell Street, new construction, property of Aldridge and Sabrina Fox. Mr. Stubbs seconded the Motion. Roll call: Jeff Akins-yes, Bill Bissell-yes, Sheldon Blunt-yes, Mario Cimino-yes, George Dickerson-yes, Michele Roberts-yes, Walter Stubbs-yes. Motion carried.

60-DAY EXTENSION-MORTON CLUB

Mr. Bissell suggested a 30 day extension so that we could receive a report from Catania after an inspection is done. He would like to have more information to see if they have completed items. Mr. Bissell made a Motion to grant a 30 day extension. Mr. Wills commented that this is agreeable to make sure that they have adhered to their schedule. Mr. Dickerson seconded the Motion. Roll call: Mr. Akins-yes, Mr. Bissell-yes, Mr. Blunt-No, Mr. Cimino-yes, Mr. Dickerson-yes, Ms. Roberts-No, MR. Stubbs-questioned the fine of \$1000 and where does it fall now? He was answered that for a minimum of 30 days this would be deferred, until we have an inspection from Mr. Catania. Mr. Stubbs-yes. Motion carried.

FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION

Mr. Cimino read the tax collection report. Balance collectible at the beginning of March was \$835,939.46. Face collections were \$652,352.38, balance collectible of \$183,587.08. The face amount of collections and discounts were subtracted was \$13,046.98. Total cash collected for March 2013 at \$639,305.40. There was also adjustments of \$3787, which increased the total cash collected of \$643,092.41.

Mr. Cimino read the Sewer and Trash Collection for March 2013. Sewer – current collections were month to date \$113,828.06. Year to date - \$115,088.23. Prior rents month to date was \$400.59 bringing year to date to \$17,358.29. Rubbish-current rents month to date \$21,120.00; year to date – we brought in \$103,261.42. Prior rents month to date \$367.36. Year to date - \$8,923.15.

Mr. Wills gave an update on the capital improvement loan for street paving.. The borough auditor is addressing some questions from Delaware Valley Regional Finance Authority. The second application was through Penn dot. This application is much further along as far as the approval process. We have received approval from PADCED. Mr. Bissell questioned if we could obtain a current list of delinquencies. That can be done with Portnoff. Mr. Dickerson is in contact with the representative from Portnoff. Ms. Roberts made a Motion to approve a borough credit card, with a \$5000 limit. Mr. Bissell seconded the Motion. Roll call: Mr. Akins-yes, Mr. Bissell-yes, Mr. Blunt-yes, Mr. Cimino-yes, Mr. Dickerson-yes, Ms. Roberts-yes, Mr. Stubbs-yes. Motion carried.

PUBLIC SAFETY

Mr. Dickerson gave the police department report for the month of March.

Mr. Connelly was present and gave the fire department report for February and March. They obtained a new fire truck and he did invite council to come and see after the meeting. Mr. Connelly also reported that Morton-Rutledge does intend to attend the funeral for fireman Goodwin.

Mr. Cimino then made a determination that the Morton –Rutledge fire department should receive their 1st of the appropriations for capital improvements. Ms. Roberts then made the Motion to approve the amount of \$15,675.00. Mr. Dickerson seconded the Motion. Roll call: Mr. Akins-yes, Mr. Bissell-yes, Mr. Blunt-yes, Mr. Cimino-yes, Mr. Dickerson-yes, Ms. Roberts-yes, Mr. Stubbs. Motion carried.

HEALTH SAFETY SANITATION

Mr. Stubbs reported that there has been an odor in the police station. Mr. Johnson was notified and responded and will be in touch with a contractor to see what can be done. Mr. Cimino asked him to coordinate discussions with the public facilities department.

Mr. Catania had some information regarding flow data from Meter 5. General sewer was down in the area and routed the pipe. Up until March 31 it was running about 900 gallons, until April 5 –running 200 gallons. Since this repair has taken place, we were 700 less. We will monitor this to see if this is a fix. Mr. Cimino questioned how does the borough and CDCA request a re-measurement of the EDU count. MR. Catania stated that this is picked up by them immediately.

LAW & ORDINANCE

Mr. Blunt reported that there would be a hearing on Monday, April 29, to discuss liquor license transfer for 23 Woodland Avenue. The solicitor did explain that the owner is currently located in Ridley Township.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Ms. Roberts introduced Mr. Bill Heffner, (address 571 S. Old Middletown Road, Media PA 19063) owner of 200 N. Morton Avenue – FEA Industries to address some problems that were brought up regarding his property. Mr. Stubbs had some personal problems with Mr. Heffner, cars, drums, etc, that were adjacent from his front yard. He requested that Mr. Heffner should put up slats. Mr. Blunt suggested that he and Ms. Roberts would visit the property.

PARK AND RECREATION

Mayor Piselli reported that the next meeting is scheduled for April 17, 2013 at 7:30 p.m. CDCA – Mr. Lillcraapp reported that at the April meeting they had an update on Act 537. He did give an update on a long-term capital improvement costs. Also discussed was model private lateral ordinances.

OPEN DISCUSSION

Mr. Jack Pisani – complained of tree that came down on the property adjacent to his; owned by the borough. Mr. Catania would address this.

Mr. Heffner – 200 N. Morton – addressed council that he donated funds for a swing-set. He questioned where the swingset was and what the progress was. Mayor piselli answered that a swingset has been chosen, and she is obtaining prices from contractors;

and is awaiting a callback. He also discussed putting barriers up on his property at 1 N. Morton, cars are driving over his grassy area of the parking lot.

Mr. Cimino stated a letter would have to be done to see if there was any ordinance against this barrier idea.

The zoning officer with Catania's office would take a look and review and make a recommendation to borough council.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Bissell made a Motion to adjourn at 9:07 p.m.

Respectfully,

Martha Preston
Secretary