

**BOROUGH OF MORTON
REGULAR PUBLIC MEETING
OCTOBER 9TH, 2013**

The regular public meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m. by Council President Cimino. The pledge of Allegiance was recited and roll was called; the following being the response: Mr. Bissell-present, Mr. Blunt-present, Mr. Cimino-present, Mr. Dickerson-present, Michele Roberts-present, Walter Stubbs-present, and Mayor Piselli-present. Also present: Solicitor Wills, Mr. Rodriguez from Catania Engineering, and Tax Collector Nelson-Ruley. Absent: Jeff Akins.

COUNCIL COMMENTS:

Mr. Cimino made some changes to the agenda prior to comments. Mr. Cimino comments regarding the recent government shut-down. We take our jobs seriously, he implored the congress to do what needs to be done to get the federal government up and running.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS

MICHAEL FIORENTINO - 32 PROVIDENCE ROAD spoke regarding the manner in which traffic moves on Providence Road. There have been attempts by the borough to address the traffic, such as the flashing yellow light warning of the curve, and signage. He felt that for the purposes of protecting the children, we are not where we should be satisfied. We have observed a number of accidents. There have also been accidents coming up the hill, as going down. People come up onto the curbs and crash into poles on the uphill side.

The speed limit is 25 mph, and we regularly see people driving 45 miles per hour up and down. The curb is probably only 2 or 3 inches, so if a pedestrian was walking they are extremely vulnerable. He thanked council for fixing the road by paving, and this is very nice, however, this was the traffic calming that we had previously; as it seems people are going faster now than before. He also had pictures with him and presented to council of the curb that he was speaking about. He questioned what other tools or signs could be used to address the problems. He suggested a speed watch zone sign, which he found on Norwinden Road, in Springfield. He understands that the Borough of Morton is responsible for the road; as we have the right of way. Mr. Bissell did confirm this as well. Mr. Fiorentino spoke about some other types of traffic calming devices such as speed humps, according to the handbook. They are advisable for local arterial roadways. The municipality itself has the authority to act, based on general police powers and vehicle code. He also suggested that the borough had the authority to impart double yellow lines on the road.

Mr. Bissell questioned Sgt LaSpina of a place to put the timing device. Sgt.. LaSpina stated that there are; and he has paced vehicles doing 40 mph. Mr. Bissell suggested that we put a timing device up for the time being. Springfield Township has a trailer that they could put in place.

Mr. Fiorentino also suggested the yellow bollards be spread beyond the curb to protect pedestrians. He has also seen other situations on curbs, where the steel barrier such as a small guardrail would be appreciated. Mr. Blunt stated that the public would have to be made aware.

There was some question if this road was a state road. Mr. Rodriguez stated if this is a state road, then PennDOT would have to give approval.

Mr. Stubbs questioned if Mr. Fiorentino or the people have addressed Springfield side? Mr. Fiorentino stated he has met with some of the residents and urged them to attend their meetings as well.

MARIA BOUKIDIS – 112 PROVIDENCE ROAD – had issues that people do not stop at stop signs, and the danger for the children.

ERICA. LLEWYN – 963 PROVIDENCE – from Springfield – nerve-wracking for children going to the bus stop. Cars whiz around the curve, and has witnessed accidents, and feels it has been more dangerous since the paving.

BARBARA. MCCUSKEY – 114 PROVIDENCE ROAD – been here for 20 years, and has noticed more children in the neighborhood. The bus stop is very unsafe; due to the traffic and speeding vehicles. She has witnessed the police there on Sundays; and stated that possibly they could be there during the week as well. Mr. Bissell did agree with her statement that people were speeding. He suggested the police put some extra time in the area. Sgt LaSpina stated he would try and place the police there as requested.

MS. FIORENTINO – MR. FIORENTINO’S wife, brought her three children, and re-iterated the speeding problems, and the danger for the children. Thanked council for hearing all the residents.

CANDACE CARUSO –1001 PROVIDENCE - same issues as other residents and the problems with backing out of her driveway, and any action taken could be an improvement. Is willing to become part of a committee to help.

KATHY GUALTERI – 4 PROVIDENCE - lives on the corner, and stated that there are very fast cars, and the morning seems to be the worse time of the day.

PAUL MOSENSEN 24 PROVIDENCE ROAD – lives at the accident curve area, and he is worried about cars tailgating, and stated his daughter is 16; and worries for her.

Mr. Bissell suggested a separate meeting be held Tuesday October 29, at 7:00 p.m. to further discuss this issue and answers to the problems.

Mr. Stubbs questioned whether having some sort of meeting with Kohl's on this issue. Mr. Cimino suggested we meet as well with Penn Dot and the local Springfield representative. We cannot do anything beyond enforcement; until we get Penn Dot on board.

APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES

Mr. Blunt made a Motion to approve the meeting minutes. Mr. Dickerson seconded the Motion. All voiced approval with 'aye' vote. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF MONTHLY BILLS SEPTEMBER

Mr. Cimino did question the J-Tech emergency lighting bill. It was explained that this was the lights on the new police car. Mr. Blunt made a Motion to approve the payment of the bills. Mr. Stubbs seconded the Motion. Roll call: Mr. Bissell-yes, Mr. Cimino-yes, Mr. Blunt-yes, Mr. Dickerson-yes, Ms. Roberts-yes, and Mr. Stubbs-yes.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

PUBLIC FACILITIES

Mr. Bissell reported that 15 building permits were issued, 0 Use and Occupancy certificates, and 2 Contractor licenses were issued.

Mr. Bissell reported that the paving project has been complete and he noted that there are no more puddles at the corner of Waverly and Providence behind Kohl's.

FINANCE, ADMINISTRATION, AND LAW

Ms. Nelson-Rule gave the Tax collection report for September. The beginning balance for September was \$85,658.46; face collections were \$2063.18; leaving a balance collectible at the end of the month of \$83,595.28. The penalties for the month were \$206.32, with 0 discounts leaving a total cash collected for the end of the month of \$2,269.50.

Mr. Cimino read the Sewer and Trash collection report for September 2013. Sewer – month to date \$49,407.12 – year to date \$324,539.75. For prior – month to date \$3995.14; total \$42,432.27; for rubbish-month to date \$779.46, year to date \$111,857.48. Prior collections-Rubbish – month to date \$208.67; year to date \$19,577.34.

Mr. Bissell made a motion to approve Payment Certificate 41 in the amount of \$308,481.03 to Joseph E. Sucher and Sons, Inc. This represents the work completed, less the usual retainage. Mr. Dickerson seconded the Motion. Roll call: Mr. Bissell-yes,

Mr. Blunt-yes, Mr. Cimino-yes, Mr. Dickerson-yes, Ms. Roberts-yes, Mr. Stubbs-yes.
Motion carried.

Mr. Bissell made a Motion to approve payment of 2013 MMO in the amount of \$69,396.00; this is for both uniformed employees and civilian employees. Mr. Stubbs seconded the Motion. Roll call: Mr. Bissell-yes, Mr. Blunt-yes, Mr. Cimino-yes, Mr. Dickerson-yes, Ms. Roberts-yes, Mr. Stubbs-yes. Motion carried.

Mr. Bissell made a Motion to advertise ordinance 721, an ordinance amending Ordinance 656, modifying fees charged to taxpayers for checks tendered to the borough for the payment of taxes, fees, and fines which are returned unpaid. Prior to the second, the tax collector suggested it be amended to “maker of the check” as all who pay to the borough are not taxpayers. This was agreed upon, and Mr. Bissell amended the Motion. This modification will be taken care of. Mr. Dickerson seconded the amended Motion to tenderer of the check’. Roll call: Mr. Bissell-yes, Mr. Blunt-yes, Mr. Cimino-yes, Mr. Dickerson-yes, Ms. Roberts-yes, Mr. Stubbs-yes. Motion carried

Mr. Dickerson made a Motion to transfer \$6000 from the General fund to the Police Car Escrow Fund. Mr. Stubbs seconded the Motion. Roll call: Mr. Bissell-yes, Mr. Blunt-yes, Mr. Cimino-yes, Mr. Dickerson-yes, Ms. Roberts-yes, Mr. Stubbs-yes. Motion carried.

PUBLIC SAFETY

Mr. Dickerson read the Police Report for the month of September.

Mr. Dickerson announced that we are in need of members for the Youth Aid Panel. He did explain what the Youth Aid Panel was to the audience members, this Panel must consist of Morton residents. Any interested party can drop off letter to the borough secretary or reply by email.

No Fire Department Report was submitted.

Mr. Dickerson announced that he and Sgt. LaSpina would be speaking with Springfield about the Providence Road traffic issue.

HEALTH/SAFETY/SANITATION

Mr. Stubbs discussed briefly the Motion to establish a Storm water Management ad hoc committee. This is for people who are interested in cleaning up the creek areas, and can be community members. Mr. Stubbs made the Motion to establish the Storm water Management committee. Ms. Roberts seconded the Motion. All voiced “aye” approval Motion carried. Anyone interested can submit a letter to the borough office.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Ms. Roberts read the Red Ribbon Week Proclamation. She made a Motion to approve the Proclamation 2013-01. Mr. Dickerson seconded the Motion. All voiced approval. Motion carried.

Cable Commission met this week; and Ms. Miller discussed the protocols, to call if there is an issue to call. She also requested keys to the room to have access in the event of a hall rental. Mr. Bissell stated he would see about the availability of the keys, and would take care of this situation, and will have information prior to the budget meeting. In the meantime, it was suggested to Ms. Miller that she contact Ms. Roberts if she needs access to the room.

Ms. Miller stated that the Comcast contract is due again in December. We are asking them to add in a paragraph regarding service, as well as other details. The committee will be meeting again and will provide further information to the Solicitor. The solicitor stated that we would need to see that what they memorialize in writing jives with what they have agreed to provide to the borough. This can be a separate addendum. One other thing is that Comcast will provide Internet service for 4 locations. We would like a secure police connection, administration connection, and a guest connection that would be password protected. Ms. Roberts made a Motion to add a password protected guest wireless internet connection to the building so that authorized persons can use internet. Mr. Dickerson seconded the Motion. All voted in favor by saying "aye". Motion carried. Ms. Roberts indicated that the gym would be included as well.

Ms. Roberts added that there would be a Cable Committee meeting on October 21, 2013 at 7:00 p.m.

PARK AND RECREATION

The next meeting of the Park and Recreation is October 16, 2013.

PLANNING

No applicants for the scheduled meeting.

ZONING

No hearing

CDCA

Mr. Lillicrapp gave his monthly report. The CDCA met on October 8th. Opened bids for right a way mowing, which is a 3 year bid. One for \$50,400 and one for \$24,399. The other was line cleaning and video inspection – bids ranged from \$84,132.58, and \$54,000. There is a communication to DELCORA that we need to respond as to what year CDCA should be budgeting for Philadelphia long-term control plan. Year to date is 90 million gallons and 5% has been shifted to Philadelphia for treatment (4.5 million gallons).

OLD BUSINESS

The fence at the Lee property has been repaired.

The borough hall drain issue brought up by Mrs. Witte from 27 Sycamore, we are looking at a fix for this situation. The possible alternatives are running a pipe to the drain we have in the driveway, and also a 90-degree T on the edge of the property now, running behind the garage. Mr. Bissell stated the only solution he feels is to run in into the drain in our parking lot, which may be too late at this time. We have let Mrs. Witte know that we are working on a solution.

OPEN DISCUSSION

DAISHYA NICHOLAS- 100 N. MORTON- read a letter to council; she is interested in becoming a Junior Council member.

LISA LOCKLEY –114 HARDING – commends Daishya for her accomplishments, and recommend her for the Jr. Council member position. Mr. Cimino asked her to turn her letter in to council members and she would return to the November council meetings. November 6 and or the 13th. Council would then vote on her membership on the November 13th meeting, and she was thanked for attending. Mrs. Lockley told the Cable Committee she has 3 young men that are interested in being on the Cable Committee.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Bissell made a Motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:16.

Respectfully,

Martha Preston
Secretary