

BOROUGH OF MORTON
REGULAR PUBLIC MEETING
December 12, 2018

The public meeting of December was called to order at 7:03 p.m. by Council President Cimino. The pledge of allegiance was recited and roll was called. The following was roll call response: Mario Cimino -present, Michele Roberts-present, Michelle Miller-present, Bernice Dickerson-present, Robert McGrath-present, John Miller-present, Mayor Blunt-present. Also present – Solicitor Ewald, Chief LaSpina, Engineer Catania, Fire Chief Reiff. Present after roll call: Natalie Young.

Council Comments – None

Public Comment on agenda Items-none

CDBG HEARING – 7:05 P.M.

Council discussed items to apply for the CDBG grant for 2019. Those items were prioritized to Park areas of the woods, field at Alfa Terrace and the Tot Lot, and also the Comprehensive Plan and Zoning Ordinance updates. Mr. McGrath made a Motion authorizing the Borough Manager, Mr Poole to submit application for those items. Ms. Roberts seconded the Motion. All voiced approval with the exception of Ms. Dickerson who abstained. Motion carried.

State Representative Elect- Jennifer O'Mara

Our newly elected State Representative, Jennifer O'Mara was in attendance. She addressed council and explained that she would like to be available to visit the borough on a regular basis. She stated her priority as State Rep will be education funding and gun safety in schools. She is also concerned with the climate issues and go greener. Mr. Heffner asked her about the bill for small business owners. She explained that right now the legislature is in 'lame duck' status and she will look to see if any small business bills will be forthcoming. She stated her address is still 905 W. Sproul road, Springfield, however they do not have a phone at this time. Her assistant is Amanda Hammock, and gave her information to the borough manager.

APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES

Mr. McGrath made a Motion to approve the minutes of November. Mrs. Miller seconded the Motion. All council voiced approval. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF PAYMENT OF MONTHLY BILLS-NOVEMBER

Ms. Dickerson made the Motion to approve the payment of bills for November. Ms. Miller seconded the Motion. Roll call: Mr. Cimino-yes, Ms. Miller-yes, Ms. Roberts-yes, Ms. Dickerson-yes, Ms. Young-yes, Mr. Miller-yes, Mr. McGrath-yes, Ms. Young-yes. Motion carried

COMMITTEE REPORTS

PUBLIC FACILITIES

Ms. Miller reported that for the month of November, there were 15 building permits, 3 Use and Occupancies, and 3 Contractor Licenses issued.

John the Painter-Invoice

Ms. Miller had a copy of a second invoice for work that John the Painter claimed he had done and was not paid. Mr. McGrath admitted that this was due to a change in the scope of work that he and the committee had approved. After discussion council decided to vote on the approval of this invoice.

Mr. McGrath made a Motion to approve the \$425.00 extra payment. Ms. Miller seconded the Motion. All council voiced approval with the exception of Ms. Dickerson who voted No. Motion carried. Mr. Cimino did announce that in the future, we will have to set policy regarding discretionary spending and change orders.

2018 Road Program and Pothole program invoice

Mr. Miller presented council with two invoices – one from AF Damon on the remainder of the road program - \$115,973. The other was in the amount of \$1276.85. Ms. Miller made a Motion to approve both of these invoices. Mr. McGrath seconded the Motion. All council voiced approval, Motion carried.

Ms. Miller also noted to council that the old Santa Claus figure that is in the borough hall was donated by former Councilman, Jack Pisani.

FINANCE & ADMINISTRATION

Tax Report-November

Mr. Poole read the tax report in the tax collector's absence. The beginning balance for November was \$103,204.68. Face collections were \$4401.71 with a balance at the end of the month of \$98,763.97. Total cash collected was \$4884.79.

Ms. Dickerson read the Sewer and Rubbish Collection report for November. The report is kept on file.

2019 BUDGET

Ms. Miller made a Motion to approve the preliminary 2019 budget. There will be no millage increase, however Sewer and Refuse will be increased. Mr. McGrath seconded the Motion. All voiced approval. Motion carried. Final budget vote will be Thursday, December 27th at 7:00.

RFP's-Banking

Mr. Poole reported that the RFP's for new banking services would be sent next week.

PUBLIC SAFETY

Police Report

Mr. Miller read the police report for the month of November. This report is on file.

Fire Department

Chief Reiff submitted the fire department report for November. There were 27 incidents, total man hours-15, and 127 personnel in response. Chief Reiff reported that the fire department did help with Christmas Tree sales with Swarthmore. Santa Claus would be coming around the borough on December 22nd at 4:30 p.m.

Resolution 2018-08-police records to be destroyed -applications of individuals not hired for Police officer December 1985 to December 2016. Mr. Miller made a Motion to approve this resolution. Mr. McGrath seconded the Motion. Voice vote – all council voiced approval – Motion carried.

PUBLIC HEALTH, SANITATION, RECYCLING

CDCA Appointment

Ms. Roberts stated that she would like to approve Mr. Charles Lillicrapp for another 5 year term on the CDCA Board to represent Morton. She did make the Motion to appoint Mr. Lillicrapp. Mr. McGrath seconded the Motion. All council voiced agreement. Motion carried.

Ms. Roberts announced the invoices that were received from B&L Disposal and also Republic, and the DCSWA. These invoices were already approved by council.

LAW & ORDINANCE

Ordinances 755, 756, 757

Ms. Young had several ordinances up for adoption by council this month. The first was Ordinance 755 – the Handicapped Parking Ordinance. Ms. Young made a Motion to approve. Mr. Miller seconded the Motion. Roll call: Mr. Cimino-yes, Ms. Miller-yes, Ms. Roberts-yes, Ms. Young-yes, Ms. Dickerson-yes, Mr. McGrath-yes, Mr. Miller-yes. Motion carried.

Second ordinance up for adoption was the Snow emergency Routes – Ordinance 756. Ms. Young made the Motion to adopt this ordinance. Mr. Miller -seconded the Motion. Roll call: Mr. Cimino-yes, Ms. Miller-yes, Ms. Roberts-yes, Ms. Dickerson-yes, Ms. Young-yes, Mr. McGrath-yes, Mr. Miller-yes. Motion carried. Ms. Young made a Motion to adopt the third ordinance – Ordinance 757-Zoning Relief Ordinance. Mr. Miller seconded the Motion. Roll call: Mr. Cimino-yes, Ms. Miller-yes, Ms. Roberts-es, Ms. Dickerson-yes, Ms. Young-yes, Mr. McGrath-yes, Mr. Miller-yes. Motion carried.

COMMUNITY & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Mr. McGrath announced that the holiday tree is lit, with real lights. Mr. McGrath thanked all those who attended the tree lighting ceremony, as it was a nice turnout. He thanked the Fire Department and Santa.

PARKS & RECREATION

No report

ZONING

Extension of Zoning – relief request - 4-6 N Morton. Mr. Miller made a Motion to approve the extension of Mr. William Heffner (MRH Real Estate) for the properties of 4-6-8 N Morton Avenue. Mr. Heffner did explain the reason he was asking for this relief as his architectural drawings were delayed. He did receive the plans in August 2018. Mr. Miller made a Motion to approve. Ms. Miller seconded the Motion. All council voiced approval. Motion carried.

Hearing – 1-3-19 regarding 44 Providence – concrete pad and garage – variances required -exceeds impervious coverage.

OLD BUSINESS

Mr. Cimino wanted a written notice to be drafted codifying discretionary spending, and a formal policy for change orders form, for next month's agenda.

OPEN DISCUSSION

Michael Lee – 123 W Sylvan Avenue – attended the school board meeting on 12/6; and handed council the agendas.

John Miller – council – thanked everyone on council and in the public for their support and friendship this year.

Announcement

Christmas holiday would be noon 12/24 and all day 12/25/18.

ADJOURNEMENT

Ms. Roberts made a Motion to adjourn at 8:33 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Martha Preston, Secretary