

BOROUGH OF MORTON
REGULAR PUBLIC MEETING
MARCH 11, 2020

The regular public meeting for the month of March was called to order at 7:05 p.m. by Council President, Michelle Miller. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited and roll was called. The following was roll call response: Michelle Miller-present, John Miller-present, Michele Roberts-present, Robert McGrath-present, Hiele Hodnett-present, Joseph Boylan-present, Douglass Eagar-present, Mayor App-present. Also Present: Solicitor Ewald, Engineer Catania, Police Chief LaSpina, Sgt. Rodstein, Tax Collector Kristin Acquarola, and Junior Councilman-Josh Fiorentino.

Recognition

Special Recognition and award was given to Officer Michael Flanagan, who will be leaving the police department at the end of March. He has been on the force since 1998.

Council Comments

Mayor App – spoke briefly about the Coronavirus, what we do here at the borough is our responsibility. Right now, we have to use common sense, and wash hands as much as possible.

John Miller – echoed the Mayor by reiterating the washing of your hands.

Jackie Guy – on behalf of the school district – spoke about the importance of washing your hands and stated this Covid19 is a global pandemic – the school district got together to made a plan, to be closed on Monday. She stated that no one should panic, but keep practicing hand washing and sanitizing.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

-none

APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES

Ms. Roberts stated that Mrs. Miller 's name was used in place of her on the February 5th minutes. And Mr. Boylan pointed out that when the two flags were issued last month, it was reported that they both went to the Police department instead of stating that one went to the fire department. After corrections were made, Ms. Roberts made a Motion to approve the minutes, and Ms. Hodnett seconded. All voiced approval. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF MONTHLY BILLS

Mr. McGrath made a Motion to approve the payment of the monthly bills for February. Mr. Miller seconded the Motion. Roll call: Ms. Miller-yes, Mr. Miller-yes, Ms. Roberts-yes, Mr. McGrath-yes, Ms. Hodnett-yes, Mr. Boylan -yes, Mr. Eagar-yes. Motion carried.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

PUBLIC BUILDINGS AND INFRASTRUCTURE

Mr. McGrath reported that in the month of February there were 24 building permits, 3 use and occupancy certificates issued, and 14 Contractors licenses issued.

Oil Spill

Recently there had been an oil spill in the area of Sycamore, near the UTC plant. A barrel of oil apparently fell from the back of a truck and spilled over on to the street and surrounding grass. Mr. Ursone and his staff handled this professionally and cleaned up the entire area.

OCHD-HVAC-Gym

A meeting will be held on Friday morning in regard to the HVAC work in the gymnasium. We will report back to council the construction schedule and pertinent information on the project.

FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION

Resolution for Fair Districting

Ms. Miller gave Mr. Chris Jackson the floor at this time, - he was a resident of 2 Locust Road who was here to discuss Fair Districts PA. He had a sample resolution with him and explained that this is legislative and congressional re-districting. He is with the Reform Citizens commission. He had with him, Mr. Harold Floyd, who is the chairman. They did explain gerrymandering and fair districting.

Some members of council did ask questions, and council did state they would look into this matter and reply at a later time.

Sewer and Trash report

Mr. Poole had prepared the sewer and trash income report for February, but it was not read aloud, instead will be on file.

Tax Collector Report- Ms. Acquarola also gave the February report which is also on file.

Motion to add Mr. Miller on account

Ms. Miller made a Motion to add Mr. John Miller as a signer on the accounts. Mr. McGrath seconded the Motion. All council voiced approval.

Mr. Boylan announced that he would like to hold finance meetings in April, July, and October, however gave no dates yet.

PUBLIC SAFETY

Police Report

Mr. Miller read the police report – there were 189 incidents this month, and the remainder of the report is on file.

2020-06

Fire Department

No report was given by or received from the fire department this month.

Meeting

Mr. Miller announced that the next committee meeting would be held March 23 at 7:00 p.m.

Mr. McGrath announced that the next public facilities committee meeting would be held on March 25 at 7:00 p.m.

Fire Marshal -Equipment purchase Approval

Mr. Miller made a motion to approve the purchase of fire equipment for the Fire Marshal, not to exceed \$4500. Ms. Roberts seconded that Motion. All council voiced approval. Motion carried.

PUBLIC HEALTH SANITATION, AND RECYCLING

Ms. Roberts reported that the next Yard Waste Pick-up would-be Tuesday April 7, 2020, and urged all to have their waste out by 7:00 a.m.

Ms. Roberts reported that trash pick up for Republic was 60.81 tons and there were 6 pickups in February. B& L Recycling picked up 17.35 tons at 4 pick-ups.

LAW AND ORDINANCE

Mr. Eagar spoke briefly on the update of the Zoning Ordinance for the R3 District provisions. Mr. Ewald reported that the county is scheduled to meet on 3/19 to discuss this matter, and will have a report sent to the Borough.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Ms. Hodnett reported that her committee met on 2/26 and discussed that there will be no Morton Day, and also discussed the importance of responding to the Census. She stated that no one from the 4th of July committee came to the meeting or has been in contact.

PARKS AND RECREATION

Mayor App reported that the 2020 5k run is scheduled for June 6. \$1000 has been raised so far, and the goal is \$3000.

Grant project

Mayor reported that the park grant project is moving forward – a preconstruction meeting will be held. The next Park and Recreation meeting will be on June 8, 2020.

PLANNING

The Planning Commission went over the proposed changes to Zoning and they will issue a report to give to the Solicitor.

OLD BUSINESS – NONE

2020-06

NEW BUSINESS – Mr. Roberts reported that E-recycling will be held May 2, 2020 at the State Representative’s office 905 W Sproul Road. No TV’s will be accepted, and limit is 4 large boxes.

OPEN DISCUSSION

Michael Lee – 123 W Sylvan Ave – announced that a production of Hello Dolly will be given at the Springfield High School.

Bill Heffner – owner of FEA – 200 N Morton (resides at 571 S Old Middletown Road, Media) reported that his Trump signs have been vandalized numerous times.

ADJOURNMENT

Ms. Roberts made a Motion to adjourn at 8:45.

Respectfully submitted,

Martha Preston, Secretary