

**BOROUGH OF MORTON
REGULAR PUBLIC MEETING**

JUNE 24, 2020

ZOOM MEETING

The Regular council meeting 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, and Mayor App-present. Also present – Solicitor Ewald, Chief LaSpina, Sgt Rodstein, Engineer Catania. Present after roll call: Mayor App.

Solicitor Ewald -announced that prior to this meeting, an executive session was held regarding a personnel issue.

COUNCIL COMMENTS – none

HEARING – ORDINANCE 765 – Towing of vehicles without owner’s consent. Solicitor Ewald explained that this caps fees and regulates. There were no comments on this ordinance from council.

HEARING – Ordinance 766 – Zoning Ordinance – Solicitor Ewald explained the necessity of this ordinance. There were no comments from council.

The hearing on both ordinances closed at 7:08 p.m. They will be up for vote at the end of this meeting during the Law and Ordinance portion.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS – there were no public comments

APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES

Ms. Miller made a Motion to approve the minutes for May. Ms. Roberts seconded the Motion. Roll call: Michelle Miler-yes, John Miller-yes, Michele Roberts-yes, Robert McGrath-yes, Hiele Hodnett-yes, Joseph Boylan-yes, Douglass Eagar-yes. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF MONTHLY BILLS

Mr. Boylan made a motion to approve the bills for May. Ms. Miller seconded the Motion. Roll call: Ms. Miller-yes, Mr. John Miller-yes, Ms. Roberts-yes, Mr. McGrath-yes, Ms. Hodnett-yes, Mr. Boylan-yes, Mr. Eagar-yes. Motion carried.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

PUBLIC FACILITIES

Mr. McGrath reported that there were 10 building permits, one use and occupancy certificate issued, and 1 Contractor’s license issued.

Update on HVAC

Mr. Catania stated that the work in the gym is to be finished in mid-July, PECO must come and do some finishing work.

2019 Street Repaving Contract

This paving contract was delayed last year due to weather, and Penndot. This is also to be done by Sucher and Sons, and to begin within the next two weeks. We may be able to push back 2019 until 2020 program is ready and have Sucher do both work at the same time.

Motion to award 2020 Road Program

Ms. Miller made the Motion to award the 2020 Road program to Joseph E. Sucher and Sons in the amount of \$35,940. Mr. Miller seconded the Motion. Roll call: Ms. Miller-yes, Mr. J. Miller-yes, Ms. Roberts-yes, Mr. McGrath-yes, Ms. Hodnett-yes, Mr. Boylan-yes, Mr. Eagar-yes. Motion carried.

CDBG Recreation Improvements

Mr. Catania reported that the contractor, Mr. Cipolloni will be here for the playground equipment in about two weeks, he will get this done and then come back to finish the remainder of the project.

Mr. McGrath was asked by Ms. Hodnett if there will be lighting in the woods area, and the answer was no, but he did recommend a gazebo and possibly some chairs.

FINANCE & ADMINISTRATION

Mr. Boylan reminded all council that a copy of the May tax collectors' report and the sewer and trash collection reports will be one file in the borough office for anyone to review.

PUBLIC SAFETY

Police Report

Mr. Miller read the police report. There was a total of 181 incidents this month.

Chief LaSpina thanked council for their support. He plans to meet with the police chief's association, the NAACP, and the Black Caucus, and spread the work on what the police departments are doing. Mr. Poole mentioned the Chief is very modest, he has worked very hard and should be commended. Mr. Miller agreed and thanked the chief for doing a good job. Members of council and Mayor then agreed and also commended the Mayor on job well done.

Fire Report

There was no fire report, and no one from the fire department was present at the meeting. Mr. Miller stated he would reach out to Chief Holstein.

Fire Marshal

Mr. Miller made a Motion to immediately dismiss the Fire Marshal/Emergency Management coordinator. Ms. Hodnett seconded the Motion and included that Mr. Poole was directed to take the immediate action of sending him a certified letter with this notification. Roll call: Mr. Miller-yes, Mr.

Miller-yes, Ms. Roberts-yes, Mr. McGrath-yes, Ms. Hodnett-yes, Mr. Boylan-yes, Mr. Eagar-yes. Motion carried.

HEALTH & SANITATION

Ms. Roberts reported that The Republic trash services had 16pick ups at 93.57 tons. B& L Recycling had 4 pickups and 11.80 tons. She is planning a Recycling committee meeting on July 13th at 7:00 p.m.

LAW & ORDINANCE

Ord. 765

Mr. Boylan made a Motion to adopt ordinance 765, an ordinance enacting regulation to control the towing of vehicles without the owner’s consent. Ms. Miller seconded the Motion. All council voiced approval. Motion carried.

Resolution 2020-07

Mr. Miller made a Motion to adopt Resolution 2020-07 -which sets the towing fees. Mr. Boylan seconded the Motion. All voiced approval. Motion carried.

Ord. 766

Ms. Miller made a Motion to adopt ordinance 766, an ordinance correcting typo on codified ordinance correcting ‘maximum’ to ‘minimum in regard to 10’ setbacks in R-3 district. Mr. Eagar seconded the Motion. All council voiced approval. Motion carried.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Ms. Hodnett reported that she would like to have a Red Cross Blood drive in the future. She will be bringing this up at her July committee meeting.

PARK AND RECREATION

Mayor app reported that as of June 26, we would be in the Green Phase, so we can re-open with restricitons. He reported that the borough parks would stay closed as we cannot keep people safe. We will re-visit this decision in July.

OLD BUSINESS

Ms. Miller brought up two issues – one was the demolition of 105 Baker street would be taking place soon. Mr. Catania confirmed that the company will be giving the borough 24 hours notice before doing so. The other issue was 238 Pennington – Ms. Miller understood that someone was interested in building townhouses. Mr. Catania stated this was just part of a conversation with the new owner, and nothing has been presented at this time.

NEW BUSINESS

Meeting times/dates

Council discussed the new meeting dates for the remainder of the summer to be the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays going forward. The next public meeting would be July 8th, with the agenda meeting being July 22nd. Solicitor Ewald would place the ad.

OPEN DISCUSSION – none

ADJOURNMENT

Ms. Miller made a Motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:21 a.m.