

**REGULAR SESSION \*\* ECONOMY BOROUGH COUNCIL \*\* JANUARY 24, 2012**

Council President Larry J. Googins called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM in Council Chambers of the Economy Municipal Building to conduct business of general purposes.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**ROLL CALL**

**PRESENT:** RJ Burns, Courtney B. Barthelemy, Esq., Gary Bucuren, Michelle Sovich-Lapinski, Larry J. Googins

**ABSENT:** Donald Sivy-Prior Medical, Dr. Gregory T. Trecha-Working

**ALSO PRESENT:** Mayor David N. Poling, Dale M. Fouse, Esq., Randy S. Kunkle, Borough Manager

William Vescio, President, Vescio Asset Management, LLC gave an update and a market commentary of the Police Pension Fund and the Non Uniformed Pension Fund for the Year 2011.

**HEAR THE PUBLIC:**

Mr. Googins opened the meeting to the public; give name and address for the record; restricted to borough business; try to be 3-5 minutes.

Mike Lucia, 416 Golden Grove Road, commented against the Ambridge Area School District proposed budget; provided information on Pennsylvania Taxpayers Cyber Coalition and proposed HB 1776, the Property Tax Independence Act.

Jo Ann Borato, 2001 Conway Wallrose Road, verified there would be a Hear the Public opportunity at the end of the meeting.

**MINUTES:**

***MOTION by Mrs. Sovich-Lapinski, seconded by Mr. Bucuren – to approve the Minutes of the January 10, 2012, Regular Session of Council, as written. CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY***

**COMMITTEE REPORTS and OTHER BUSINESS:**

**PARKS and RECREATION:**

Mr. Bucuren reported the Recreation Board discussed a 5K Race, Basketball and Volleyball Camps, Golf Outing and a CPR Class/Blood Drive; no dates to report yet.

**PUBLIC UTILITIES:**

Mr. Burns reported meeting with Mary W. Hrotic, General Manager of Ambridge Water Authority (AWA), regarding the Hydrant Maintenance Agreement renewal; Ms. Hrotic would like the Public Utilities Committee to meet during the day with the AWA Board, AWA Engineer and AWA Solicitor. Council asked Mr. Fouse to also attend due to current litigation.

**PROPERTY and BUILDING:** No Report

**PUBLIC SAFETY:**

***MOTION by Mrs. Barthelemy, seconded by Mrs. Sovich-Lapinski – to authorize Chief Harrington to order two (2) police vehicles previously budgeted through State Contracts or the COG process, with the understanding that two (2) vehicles will be traded in. CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY***

**FINANCE COMMITTEE:**

Mrs. Sovich-Lapinski reported Finance met with Officer O’Brien and Officer Farah regarding the DROP Plan; she will draft a memo for review by Council and Mr. Fouse.

**ROAD DEPARTMENT:** No Report

**MAYOR’S REPORT:**

Mayor Poling will draft a letter to the Ambridge Area School Board for review by Council and Mr. Fouse opposing any tax increase in the proposed budget.

**MANAGER’S REPORT:**

**1. Resolution No. 434-Hazard Mitigation Plan:** Mr. Kunkle reported in order to receive post disaster aid from FEMA Economy Borough is required to have a hazard mitigation plan; we have participated in and are part of Beaver County’s plan, which Resolution No. 434 adopts.

***MOTION by Mrs. Sovich-Lapinski seconded by Mrs. Barthelemy – to adopt Resolution No. 434 regarding the Hazard Mitigation Plan with Beaver County. CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY***

**2. Beaver County Regional Council of Governments (COG):** Mr. Kunkle reported as a member of the COG all elected officials are encouraged and welcome to attend their monthly meetings; we are also required to appoint primary and alternate representatives from Council.

***MOTION by Mrs. Sovich-Lapinski, seconded by Mrs. Barthelemy – to appoint Larry J. Googins as Primary Representative from Economy Borough to Beaver County Regional COG. CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY***

***MOTION by Mrs. Sovich-Lapinski, seconded by Mrs. Barthelemy – to appoint Donald Sivy as Alternate Representative from Economy Borough to Beaver County Regional COG. CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY***

**3. Appointments:** Mr. Googins reported Mr. Sivy and Dr. Trecha have requested to be present for the appointments for the Planning Commission and Recreation Board; discussion of reducing the Planning Commission from 9 to 7 members will be at the next meeting with all members of Council present.

***MOTION by Mrs. Sovich-Lapinski, seconded by Mrs. Barthelemy – to appoint David A. Carlson to another five (5) year term to the Economy Borough Municipal Authority, term ending 2016. CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY***

***MOTION by Mrs. Sovich-Lapinski, seconded by Mrs. Barthelemy – to appoint Thomas W. Deter to another three (3) year term to the Economy Borough Zoning Hearing Board, term ending 2014. CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY***

**4. Marcellus Shale:** Mr. Kunkle reported Roberta J. Sarraf, AICP and Planning Commission Chairman, James Blumling have been tentatively invited to the next meeting, Tuesday, February 14<sup>th</sup> to discuss a proposed drilling ordinance with regards to proposed State legislation.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

Mr. Googins reported a representative of the Economy Borough Municipal Authority (EBMA) will be at the March 13, 2012 meeting to give an update on the EBMA.

Mr. Googins reported the Beaver County Regional COG, Lawrence County Regional COG and Butler County COG have partnered to form COG Care for group health insurance; UPMC is the provider; directed Mr. Kunkle to set up an informational meeting with the COG Care director.

**REPORTS:**

**SOLICITOR:**

Mr. Fouse reported pre trial for the AWA litigation will begin in February.

**ENGINEER:** No Report

**SECRETARY:** No Report

**HEAR THE PUBLIC II:**

Mr. Googins reported he would open up the Hear the Public Part II at this time for only items discussed during this meeting.

JoAnn Borato, 2001 Conway Wallrose Road, reported she supports HB 1776 and verified the Planning Commission with their consultant draft and recommend proposed ordinances to Council for enactment.

Matt Morrone, 208 Foxglove Drive, asked when Council will terminate Joe Luff. Mr. Googins reported what is to be discussed at this portion of Hear the Public is business that was discussed at this meeting; the Hear the Public at the beginning of the meeting is for any subject.

Elizabeth Burns, 100 Stange Road, reported her concern of the expenditures on the proposed AASD budget.

Sal Boboth, 105 Timberridge Drive, reported on the last AASD meeting regarding the senior class members; discussed the AWA Hydrant Maintenance schedule.

Bill Raymer, 2844 Ridge Road Extension, reported water pressure fluctuation at his house.

George Fitzgerald, 189 Walnut Heights Road, discussed the AWA water supply agreement.

Dennis A. Biega, 98 Celestial Drive, suggested starting our own school district.

Bill Raymer, 2844 Ridge Road Extension, reported Economy Borough was forced into the Ambridge School District years ago.

Sal Boboth, 105 Timberridge Drive, reported the road department did a great job on snow removal this year.

Elizabeth Burns, 100 Stange Road, suggested applying for grants for the police cars and if they are bid out. Mrs. Sovich-Lapinski reported Chief Harrington applies for every grant available to him and would have if it was available. Mr. Googins reported the cars are purchased through the bid process of the Westmoreland COG.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

***MOTION by Mrs. Sovich-Lapinski, seconded by Mrs. Barthelemy – to adjourn the meeting. Time: 8:35 PM  
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY***

Respectfully submitted,

Susan A. Blum  
Borough Secretary  
January 31, 2012