

REGULAR SESSION ** ECONOMY BOROUGH COUNCIL ** MARCH 12, 2013

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, Donald Sivy, Michelle Sovich-Lapinski, Larry Googins

ABSENT: Dr. Gregory T. Trecha, Excused

ALSO PRESENT: Mayor David N. Poling, Dale M. Fouse, Esq., Scott Shoup, P.E., P.L.S., Randy S. Kunkle, Borough Manager

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; directed to Council.

Glen Sylvester, 350 Orchard Lane, came before Council regarding how his concrete driveway and sidewalk were not repaired after Economy Borough resurfaced Orchard Lane; has been asking for something to be done to correct this since the paving years ago. Mr. Shoup reported he will review his file and visit the site again with Mr. Fitzgerald tomorrow; will call Mr. Sylvester if he is not home.

MINUTES:

MOTION by Mrs. Sovich-Lapinski, seconded by Mr. Sivy – to approve the Minutes of the February 26, 2013, Regular Session of Council, as written. CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

COMMITTEE REPORTS and OTHER BUSINESS:

PUBLIC SAFETY:

Mrs. Barthelemy reported an arbitration date has been set regarding the police contract.

FINANCE COMMITTEE:

MOTION by Mrs. Sovich-Lapinski, seconded by Mrs. Barthelemy - to pay the list of bills as stated from February 13, 2013 to March 12, 2013 - CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Mrs. Sovich-Lapinski reported the Memorial Committee has not reimbursed to Economy Borough the overspent \$226.05 on top of the \$500 allocated for the 2012 Memorial Day activities and Economy Borough has not yet been reimbursed by the Memorial Committee or Beaver County Foundation the \$456 charged on the borough charge card to Schweikerts for flowers. Mayor Poling reported the figures seem high. Mrs. Sovich-Lapinski will provide Mayor Poling with copies of the bills for his review.

Mr. Googins verified with Mayor Poling that due to weather issues, flags will not be up at the Veterans Memorial for about 3 more weeks.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT: No Report

PARKS & RECREATION:

Mr. Bucuren reported the Recreation Board is sponsoring:

Visit with the Easter Bunny, Saturday, March 23, 2013

Community Day will be Saturday, June 15, 2013.

PUBLIC UTILITIES: No Report

PROPERTY and BUILDING:

Mr. Sivy reported attending the February 28, 2013, Beaver County Regional COG meeting in Monaca; animal control is a big concern for every municipality since Triangle Pet is out of business; Monaca Borough's CEO doubles as animal control and takes the animal to the Humane Society. Mrs. Barthelemy reported talking to the City of Pittsburgh Animal Control and has a call into the Beaver County Commissioners for a meeting about this issue; suggests adding \$1.00 to each dog license to pay for a full time position to handle Beaver County 24/7; Butler County has the same issue. Mr. Googins suggested Bob Callen, Executive Director, BCR COG, be included with the meeting with the BC Commissioners; the COG has 42 member municipalities. Mrs. Barthelemy reported she would get dates to select from. Mr. Kunkle reported a potential short term fix came from a letter sent to the police department; that company would collect the animals and help place them, but can't keep them; New Sewickley Township has a husband and wife who will take the animals, but they are going out of business 12/31/2013; will get more information to see if Council wants to consider this. Mr. Burns suggested contacting Animal Friends on Camp Horn Road for recommendations. Mrs. Barthelemy reported Pittsburgh Animal Control referred her to a Pittsburgh councilwoman who has not returned her call. Mr. Googins reported Council will keep on this.

Mr. Sivy reported Public Works have cut down dead trees on Economy Borough property; asked if the fire wood can be offered to residents. Mr. Kunkle reported some of the trees are Ash and can not be transported out of Beaver County; in prior years cut wood was offered to residents by permit with a release; will report at the next meeting.

MAYOR'S REPORT:

Mayor Poling read the Mayor's Report for the Police Department for the month of February, 2013, as prepared by Chief Harrington, which will be on file for review in the borough secretary's office.

Mayor Poling asked the status of the letter from Economy Borough Council and Mayor to the Ambridge Area School District (AASD) opposing tax increases as it is a hardship on residents. Mr. Fouse reported Council would be voicing their opinion; Council has no legal authority over the AASD; can work with Mayor Poling on a draft letter. Mr. Sivy reported a letter would put Economy Borough on record.

MANAGER'S REPORT:

1. Office Assistant: Mr. Kunkle reported this position is vacant; provided the job description; this has been a flexible 15 hour per week position that he would like to advertise for. Mr. Bucuren asked how many days the ad will be in the paper and suggested the internet. Mr. Kunkle will run the ad for 2 Sundays. Mr. Burns suggested putting the ad on the sign out front.

MOTION by Mr. Sivy, seconded by Mrs. Barthelemy – to advertise for the Office Assistant, 15 hour per week, salary commensurate with experience. CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

2. Summer Grass Cutting: Mr. Kunkle reported he is obtaining prices for a third party to cut both parks along with the abandoned houses to compare the price with cutting in house. Mr. Googins reported Council is looking at several scenarios; i.e. continue driving the John Deere on the road to the sites; purchase a trailer for the current equipment and use a Road Department truck; purchase commercial lawn mower and transport on current trailer; hire a third party and outsource; compare the cost to outsource vs. in house. Mr. Burns feels it would be cost effective to have Public Works do the work. Mayor Poling suggested with the amount of grass to look into a Kubota zero 72" mower for about \$12,000; could have the grass cut in 4 hours. Mr. Googins reported Mr. Kunkle is getting the numbers and figures for the scenarios. Mr. Bucuren reported Franklin Park has a Parks Department that works together with the Public Works transporting equipment, etc. Mr. Googins asked that any data be given to Mr. Kunkle.

REPORTS:

SOLICITOR:

Mr. Fouse requested an Executive Session to update Council on the NLSC Litigation; Police Chief Contract, Police Secretary Contract; and Tax Collector Litigation; may be a vote.

Mr. Fouse reported he provided Mr. Kunkle with a draft ordinance providing for the regulation of geophysical/seismic testing and application for permission to conduct seismic testing within Economy Borough.

ENGINEER:

Mr. Shoup reported meeting with Earl Fitzgerald regarding streets for the 2013 Paving Program and will provide recommendations to the Public Works Committee.

Mr. Shoup reported attending a meeting at the Walmart site; work will begin on the retaining wall and drainage on SR65 for the HOP in 2-3 weeks; may reduce lanes from 2 to 1 for a short period.

SECRETARY: No Report

NEW BUSINESS: No New Business

HEAR THE PUBLIC II:

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

Steve Borato, 2001 Conway Wallrose Road, asked how many animal calls the police get. Mayor Poling reported there were 11 in February. Mr. Kunkle reported animal calls are on a regular basis. Mr. Sivy suggested putting lost dog information on the website. Mr. Borato reported there is a dealer in downtown Coraopolis that sells commercial diesel zero mowers; will get a brochure and price.

MOTION by Mrs. Sovich-Lapinski, seconded by Mr. Bucuren – to enter into Executive Session to discuss the NLSC Litigation; Police Chief Contract, Police Secretary Contract; and Tax Collector Litigation; may be a vote a tonight. Time: 7:57 PM CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

MOTION by Mr. Sivy, seconded by Mrs. Sovich-Lapinski – to return to the regular order of business. Time: 8:31 PM CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

ADJOURNMENT:

MOTION by Mr. Sivy, seconded by Mrs. Sovich-Lapinski – to adjourn the meeting. Time: 8:31 PM CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Respectfully submitted,

Susan A. Blum
Borough Secretary
March 18, 2013

List of Bills attached to the Minute Book.