

Economy Borough Council
Special Council Meeting Minutes
December 13, 2018

MEETING was called to order at 5:30 p.m. with Mr. Brian Westrom presiding and the following members of Council and officials of the Borough present: Mr. Brian Westrom, Mr. Gary Bucuren, Mr. Tom Fetkovich, Mr. Frank Morrone, Mrs. Audrey Mutschler, Mrs. Pat Skonieczny Mayor Jo Ann Borato, Borough Manager Randy Kunkle, Borough Secretary Margie Nelko, and representing the Borough Solicitor Mr. Joshua Kail, Esq.

ABSENT: Mr. R.J. Burns (Excused)

MOMENT OF SILENCE

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

RECOGNITION OF VISITORS: Mr. Westrom welcomed everyone to the meeting and requested the discussion(s) regarding Borough business be kept to 3 – 5 minutes in length.

HEAR THE PUBLIC: None.

2019 FINAL BUDGET: The 2019 Budget, as advertised, was presented to Council for review and discussion. **After some review and discussion, the motion of Mrs. Mutschler, seconded by Mr. Bucuren to approve the 2019 Borough Budget as presented was unanimously carried.**

Mr. Fetkovich expressed concerns regarding a seventy percent (70%) reduction in the Recreation Board Budget for 2019 and not having received any dialog from the Finance Committee regarding the reduction. Mrs Mutschler stated the Finance Committee felt that certain items requested on the wish list of the Rec Board were items that fell within the boundaries of the Property and Buildings Committee and handled as such. Mrs Mutschler also stated there was discussion of the Borough over all having a 3 to 5 year plan that was never indicated on the wish list of the Rec Board. Members of Council discussed the proposed “wish list”, the monies being moved in the budget with the thoughts of Council having more control over how the monies are spent, spending procedure(s) of budgeted monies being followed including going to Council for approval when needed, this reduction restricting the nicer things the Recreation Board was proposing, the “wish list” being a proposed three to five year (3 – 5 yr.) plan, the need to look at other items that the Borough needs done, fundraising and/or possible grants, and that taxes have not been raised but will need to be sooner or later.

There was also discussion regarding the Recreation Board being a minuscule percentage of the overall budget spending, and the frivolous spending that had occurred this year. The Recreation Board is here for the community and especially the children. There was phenomenal feedback received from the Borough Residents for this year. Mr. Fetkovich stated that we need to make sure we don't ever get away from really knowing why we are here, which is for the people.

Mr. Bucuren recommended moving forward with the ordering of the new public works truck(s) because it takes longer to build the systems for the truck(s), which will prolong the delivery date(s). This will be placed on the agenda for the next regular scheduled meeting of Council.

The Borough Solicitor stated that, for informational purposes only, a grievance has been received and it will be reviewed prior to a recommendation to Council.

There being no further business, the motion of Mrs. Skonieczny, seconded by Mrs. Mutschler to adjourn the meeting at 5:44 p.m. was unanimously carried.

Margie L. Nelko
Borough Secretary

Randy Kunkle
Borough Manager

Motion(s) made and/or Council consensus decision(s):

1. Approval of the 2019 Budget.