

**Economy Borough Council
Meeting Minutes
23 June 2020**

MEETING: Mr Morrone called the meeting to order at 7:00, also present were Mr Gary Bucuren, Mr Roger Kowal, Mr Jeffrey Ruckert, Mr Don Sivy, Mrs Pat Skonieczny via Zoom and Mr Glen Sylvester. Others present included Mayor Jo Ann Borato, Borough Manager Randy Kunkle and Solicitor Joseph Askar.

MOMENT OF SILENCE.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

Hear the Public none

Mayor Borato introduced Officer Zachary Potts, who was sworn in last week. He was welcomed by everyone.

Minutes 26 May 2020 – not prepared
9 June 2020 – not prepared

Committee Reports

Finance Mr Kowal asked who receives the money budgeted in line item 414.100 – it goes to MDIA for building inspections. Mayor Borato asked why line item 414.110 was so far over budget – the entire workers comp bill was inadvertently charged to that line item and will be corrected. Mr Kowal asked if the money that has not been spent yet by the Public Works Department is still available for road work – it is. And can we use liquid fuels money toward a new high lift – yes, the amount available will have to be looked into.

Public Works Mr Sivy said 6 bids came in for the Park Hill Culvert replacement project and Youngblood Paving is the low bidder. **Motion by Mr Sivy to award this project to Youngblood Paving in the amount of \$32,650, seconded by Mr Kowal, all voted aye.**

Three bids were received for a new front-end loader. A Volvo, which is larger than the one we have for \$119,291 (including trade-in) with a 3-year warranty. Cleveland Brothers bid a Caterpillar, a little lighter in size compared to the one we have at \$110,598 also with a 3-year warranty. John Deere bid the same machine as we currently have at \$125,150 with a 7-year, 4000-hour warranty. Discussion of how it will be paid for followed. **Motion by Mr Sylvester to purchase the John Deere for \$125,150 contingent upon there being at least \$90,000 available**

to use out of Liquid Fuels money, seconded by Mr Morrone, all voted aye. Mr Cavanaugh offered to talk with John Deere about the price.

Parks and Recreation – Mr Bucuren has nothing to report

Ordinance Mrs Skonieczny reported we have an engagement letter with Attorney Robb to prepare a proposed replacement Oil and Gas Ordinance. She will setup a meeting with the attorney. It was agreed everyone on Council will review the proposal and coordinate any changes before it is sent back to hold down the cost.

Mr Kowal feels the current Firearms Ordinance should be reviewed and possibly updated because we have more people in the borough and unrestricted shooting is going on regularly.

Public Safety – nothing to report except Mr Ruckert will meet with Mr Bucuren and Mr Sivy to talk about the upcoming Police Contract negotiations.

Property and Buildings – Mr Morrone has nothing to report

Mayor's Report

Mayor Borato requested an Executive Session for personnel with a possible vote.

The Veteran's Association have requested Council's approval to use the \$5,116.94 to upgrade the Memorial. It was questioned why there is a line item when the Borough was only going to pay for electricity and nothing else. This will be held off until the financial background is checked into.

Mr Kowal questioned overweight vehicles on Compton Road from Conway Wallrose Road to the Semonik driveway. Mr Bucuren wants something done about it. Discussion followed. Mayor Borato will talk with Chief O'Brien about this and will see what can be done.

Mr Sivy received complaints about the sleek hi-speed motorcycles going across SR 989.

Solicitor's Report Solicitor Askar asked Council to determine how they want to conduct their meetings in light of going into the "green phase" of the COVID-19 pandemic. Discussion followed. If Council limits the number of public attendees it will have to maintain a virtual means for people to participate, with the current setup using Zoom it is hard for residents to hear Council. Mr Cavanaugh will see what equipment is available.

Motion by Mr Sivy to allow residents to attend Council meetings on a first come first serve basis following CDC guidelines and continuing with Zoom, seconded by Mr Morrone, all voted aye.

Discussion took place on ways to enhance the audio-visual portion of the meeting so that those using it feel they are a part of the meeting. **Motion by Mr Ruckert to obtain prices on better audio-visual equipment.**

Old Business Mr Kowal would like to see the Personnel Committee propose a dress code for employees and Council.

New Business Check signers: the President and Vice President can sign checks as well as the Manager

Pension Trustees: the President and Vice President normally do this.

COG Commodity Bids: These are items used by the Public Works Department during the summer and salt in the winter.; **Motion by Mr Morrone to approve the 2020 COG bids, seconded by Mr Bucuren, all voted aye.**

Records Destruction Request (Tax Collector). The Tax Collector furnished a list of records she would like to have destroyed in compliance with the Records Retention Law. **Motion by Mr Ruckert to approve the records destruction, seconded by Mr Bucuren, all voted aye.**

Mr Sivy welcomed the new Secretary/Assistant Manager, Travis Cavanaugh.

Executive Session

Motion by Mr Sivy to suspend the regular session of Council and go into Executive Session for a personnel issue with a possible vote, seconded by Mr Ruckert, all voted aye at 8:40.

Motion by Mr Sivy to return to regular session, seconded by Mr Ruckert, all voted aye.

Mayor Borato asked Council to make a motion to pay officer Derek Arnhem's pension payments to make him current in the amount of \$534.07. **Motion by Mr Ruckert to double check the figures and pay the appropriate amount, seconded by Mr Morrone, all voted aye.**

Motion by Mr Sivy to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Mr Ruckert, all voted aye at 8:54.

Submitted by

Randy S Kunkle
Borough Manager