

Economy Borough Council  
Council Minutes  
July 28, 2020

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**MEETING** was called to order at 7:00 p.m. with Mr. Frank Morrone presiding and the following members of Council and officials of the Borough present: Mr. Gary Bucuren, Mr. Roger Kowal, Mr. Jeffrey Ruckert, Mr. Don Sivy, Mr. Glenn Sylvester and Mrs. Pat Skonieczny (via Zoom). Mayor Jo Ann Borato, Borough Manager Randy Kunkle, Borough Assistant Manager/Secretary Travis Cavanaugh, representing the Borough Solicitor Mr. Joseph Askar, Esq. There were also 12 participants via Zoom.

**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 in length.

John Hrinko of 222 Park Hill Road, Baden  
Thomas Fetkovich of 375 Rolling Hills Road, Freedom  
Valerie Poulos of 213 Park Hill Road, Baden  
Dave Ascherman of 216 Park Hill Road, Baden

**HEAR THE PUBLIC** –

John Hrinko expressed concerns to Council pertaining to removing the speed humps on Park Hill Road. Mr. Hrinko also mentioned that he had 30 out of 38 signatures from other neighbors along Park Hill Road that are concerned about the speed hump removal. Mr. Ruckert said that they are paving in August and will look more into the speed humps.

Mr. Fetkovich mentioned when he was on Council that the Borough adopted an ordinance and or study pertaining to the speed humps and was not sure if that would help Council to make their decision to either remove or replace them. Mr. Sivy mentioned that the Borough is going to replace a culvert along Park Hill Road and was going to use the speed hump money to go towards the replacement of the culvert. He also said that Council will look into the speed humps.

Ms. Poulos expressed her concern to Council pertaining to the speed humps and does not want them removed.

Mr. Ascherman expressed his concerns to Council pertaining to the speed humps and does not want them removed.

**MINUTES** – Minutes of the Regular Meeting held on June 9, 2020, were presented to Council. **On a motion by Mr. Sylvester; seconded by Mr. Sivy** to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes of

June 9, 2020, with the corrections pertaining to Mr. Sivy's corrections only. There was a discussion that occurred pertaining to Mrs. Skonieczny corrections to the minutes with page no. 3, paragraph no. 3, and page no. 3, paragraph no. 4, and the consensus was to not include her corrections in the minutes.

Mrs. Skonieczny wanted the minutes to show that the June 9<sup>th</sup> minutes did not reflect on page three (3) , paragraph No. 3 after Mr. Moore pointed out the plan is a PRD which allows for modifications, that Mrs. Skonieczny pointed out the Plan did not meet the criteria required under the Ordinance that allowed for modifications.

In addition, on page three (3), paragraph No.4, after Mr. Askar asked if Council feels comfortable with this development moving forward based on what they have been hearing, etc., a poll of Council took place indicating four (4) view it favorably, two (2) oppose and one (1) abstains at this time. Mrs. Skonieczny requested that the minutes reflect the names of the council members relative to the unofficial poll and the reason for the abstention for the sake of transparency for those who did not attend the June 9<sup>th</sup> meeting.

A roll call vote was taken.

<b>Mr. Morrone</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Mr. Bucuren</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Mr. Kowal</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Mr. Ruckert</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Mr. Sivy</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Mr. Sylvester</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Mrs. Skonieczny</b>	<b>Yes, provided that the conversation during this meeting is provided in the minutes.</b>

Motion was unanimously approved.

**On a motion by Mr. Kowal; seconded by Mr. Ruckert** to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes of June 23, 2020, as presented. Motion was unanimously approved.

**On a motion by Mr. Bucuren; seconded by Mr. Kowal** to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes of July 14, 2020, as presented. Motion was unanimously approved.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION** – Mr. Askar requested Council go into Executive Session regarding personnel and potential litigation at 7:28 p.m., as per the **motion of Mr. Ruckert; seconded by Mr. Morrone**. There will be no motions after the Executive Session.

**On a motion of Mr. Sivy; seconded by Mr. Sylvester** to reconvene regular meeting at 8:42 p.m. Motion was unanimously approved. Mr. Ruckert had to leave the regular meeting at this time and therefore did not participate in any of the votes that were taken during the rest of the meeting.

**PROPERTY and BUILDING COMMITTEE** – No agenda item at this time.

**FINANCE COMMITTEE** – No agenda item at this time.

**PUBLIC WORKS (PW) COMMITTEE** – Mr. Sivy, Chairperson of the Public Works Committee, mentioned that Council will look into the speed humps along Park Hill Road.

**PARKS and RECREATION COMMITTEE** – No agenda item at this time.

**ORDINANCE COMMITTEE** – Reorganization of the Ordinance Committee pertaining to the Oil and Gas ordinance only.

**On a motion by Mr. Sylvester; seconded by Mr. Sivy** to reorganize the ordinance committee pertaining only to the Oil and Gas ordinance to include Mr. Morrone as the Chairperson with Mr. Bucuren and Mr. Sylvester as the other two (2) members of the committee for only the Oil and Gas ordinance. Motion was unanimously approved.

**On a motion by Mr. Sylvester; seconded by Mr. Morrone** to allow Solicitor Mr. Askar and the appointed ordinance committee for the Oil and Gas ordinance to talk with Penn Energy pertaining to the revised draft ordinance. Motion was unanimously approved.

**PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE** – No agenda item at this time.

**MAYOR'S REPORT** – No agenda item at this time.

**SOLICITOR'S REPORT** – Nothing to report at this time.

Mr. Bucuren asked Mr. Askar if he spoke with Mr. Dornish pertaining to the BLS Transit and Supply business. Mr. Askar mentioned to Council that he did not speak with Mr. Dornish but he did review the file and that he was going to speak with Mr. Dornish this week. Also, mentioned that under title 75, Council has the right to prohibit the operation of vehicles and may impose restrictions as to the weight or size of vehicles whenever they are determine hazardous conditions or other safety factors require such restrictions and/or prohibitions.

**ENGINEER'S REPORT** – No agenda item at this time.

**OLD BUSINESS** –

1. **Comcast Franchise Agreement** – Mr. Kunkle mentioned that the lady who he was working with on this matter was on vacation.
2. **Baden Police Request** – Council advised Mr. Kunkle to send a letter to Baden Borough Council and advising them that they thank them for the offer but have to respectfully decline.
3. **Mobile Food Vending Ordinance** – **On a motion by Mr. Sylvester; seconded by Mr. Kowal** to advertise the notice of public hearing and intent to adopt zoning ordinance amendment to establish regulations regarding mobile food vending. Motion was unanimously approved.

## NEW BUSINESS –

1. Recreation Board – **On a motion by Mr. Sivy; seconded by Mr. Sylvester** to appoint Ms. Olga Sorkina to the Economy Borough Recreation Board. Motion was unanimously approved.
2. New Phone System – **On a motion by Mr. Morrone; seconded by Mr. Kowal** to purchase the new phone system from R.J. Davis Communications Inc. in the amount of \$ 3,175.00. Motion was unanimously approved.

Mr. Sivy mentioned about concerns/possible code violations for the northern lights shopping center. Mr. Sylvester wanted to see about establishing a Committee to try and work with the northern lights shopping center owners to try and clean up their property. Mr. Asker mentioned that the Public Safety Committee could handle the concerns/possible code violations. Mr. Thomas brought up that he has been working with the owners from the northern lights shopping center the last couple weeks and they mentioned to him that they will be working on getting the property straightened up. The Committee and Mr. Thomas will work together with the northern lights shopping center owners.

3. Mayor's Role During the Council Meetings – Mr. Kowal mentioned that the President of Council needs to run the meetings without interruption from the Mayor. The President needs to run the meetings in a better fashion. Mr. Sylvester asked Mr. Askar if Council could vote on items that are not on the agenda. Mr. Askar answered with yes, you can vote on items that are not on the agenda. Mr. Kowal wants the agendas to be more detailed. Mayor Borato spoke about the history of agendas. Mr. Askar brought up about going back to the first meeting of the month being utilized as the Work Session Meeting and the second meeting of the month to be the Regular Meeting. Discussion occurred on the possibility of a Work Session Meeting and the Regular Meeting, but no motions or official action was made.

OTHER BUSINESS – No agenda item at this time.

## Motion to Adjourn

**Motion by Sivy; seconded by Sylvester** to adjourn the Regular Meeting. Motion was unanimously approved.

The Regular Meeting adjourned at 9:25 p.m.



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Travis Cavanaugh  
Asst. Borough Manager/Secretary