

Economy Borough Council
Council Minutes
September 8, 2020

Council president Mr. Frank Morrone called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM in Council Chambers of the Economy Municipal Building.

MOMENT OF SILENCE

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ROLL CALL – Mr. Frank Morrone, Mr. Gary Bucuren, Mr. Jeffrey Ruckert, Mr. Don Sivy, Mr. Glenn Sylvester, Mr. Roger Kowal and Mrs. Pat Skonieczny (via teleconference) and Mayor Jo Ann Borato. There were also 8 participants via teleconference.

STAFF PRESENT – Borough Manager Randy Kunkle, Borough Assistant Manager/Secretary Travis Cavanaugh, representing the Borough Solicitor Mr. Joseph Askar, Esq.(via teleconference) and Borough Engineer Mr. Scott Shoup.

PUBLIC HEARING – No agenda item at this time.

PENSION UPDATE – Mr. Bill Vescio of Vescio Asset Management reviewed the current year first six months performance of the police and non-uniform pension plans. Both did very well with the police earning 5.39% and the non-uniform at 5.94%.

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.

Laurel Beitsinger of 554 Pioneer Lane, Freedom

HEAR THE PUBLIC –

Ms. Beitsinger mentioned about a correction in the minutes pertaining to her comments from last meeting and about her concerns with Energy Transfer working in the Borough. She presented Council with letters pertaining to Energy Transfer. Ms. Beitsinger also, asked questions pertaining to the Energy Transfer's slide mediation at the B-15, well pad, drainage work near Neeley Road and an update on the Oil and Gas ordinance.

Mr. Kowal asked a question pertaining to the oil and gas ordinance and if the ordinance committee met to discuss the draft oil and gas ordinance. Borough Solicitor mentioned that the committee did not meet yet pertaining to the oil and gas ordinance.

Discussion continued on the oil and gas ordinance. After further discussion, **on a motion by Mr. Sylvester; seconded by Mr. Sivy** to have each Council members concerns and/or thoughts pertaining to the oil and gas ordinance be sent by email to all of Council and Borough Solicitor by September 28, 2020. Motion was unanimously approved.

MINUTES –

Minutes of the Regular Meeting held on August 11, 2020, were presented to Council. **On a motion by Mr. Sivy; seconded by Mr. Morrone** to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes of August 11, 2020, with the correction to the Engineer’s comments pertaining to Energy Transfer. Motion was unanimously approved.

Minutes of the Regular Meeting held on August 25, 2020, were presented to Council. **On a motion by Mr. Sivy; seconded by Mr. Morrone** to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes of August 25, 2020, with the correction to the Ms. Beitsinger comment in the minutes. Motion carried – 6-1, with Mrs. Skonieczny voting not in favor.

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE – No agenda item at this time.

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

FINANCE COMMITTEE –

1. Bills Payable for the period of August 26, 2020, through September 3, 2020, in the amount of \$ 79,587.21, from the General Fund with Check No. 28977 to 29021, and in the amount of \$ 141.76, from the Highway Aid (Liquid Fuels) Fund with the Check No. 192 to 193, were presented to Council for review. After some review and discussion, **on a motion by Mr. Kowal; seconded by Mr. Morrone** to approve the list of Bills Payable that have been reviewed and signed off by the department heads was unanimously carried, with the exception of Mr. Bucuren regarding the Public Works bills, due to his brother works in the department.
2. Budget Report for the month of August 2020, was presented to Council. After some review and discussion this report was ordered received and filed.
3. Treasurer’s Report for the month of August 2020, was presented to Council. After some review, this report was ordered received and filed.

PUBLIC WORKS (PW) COMMITTEE –

Mr. Sivy, Chairperson of the Public Works Committee, presented Council with PW Report for August 2020. After some review and discussion this report was ordered received and filed.

Mr. Sivy mentioned that Executive Session will follow after the Regular Meeting to discuss personnel, with no vote.

Mr. Sivy mentioned that the emergency generator needs serviced. After some review and discussion, **on a motion by Mr. Sivy; seconded by Mr. Ruckert** to have Cummins Bridgeway come and service the emergency generator as well as have them start a service program to service the unit twice a year. Motion was unanimously approved.

Assistant Borough Manager mentioned that Youngblood Paving was going to be starting to replace the culvert on Park Hill Road on Thursday and after the completion of the culvert, they would start to pave the streets pertaining to this year's road program.

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

ORDINANCE COMMITTEE – No agenda item at this time.

MAYOR'S REPORT –

The Mayor's Monthly Police Department Report for August 2020, was presented to Council. After some review and discussion this report was ordered received and filed.

Mayor Borato mentioned to Council, if they still wanted an ID badge to stop at the police station.

Mayor Borato mentioned about the detailing of the cars service contract is expiring on September 30, 2020 and would like to renew the contract with Glat Auto Detailing. After some review and discussion, **on a motion by Mr. Ruckert; seconded by Mr. Morrone** to renew the contract with Glat Auto detailing in the amount of \$ 3,375.00 (nine (9) vehicles at a rate of \$375.00 per vehicle), with the contract date from October 1, 2020 to September 30, 2021. Motion was unanimously approved.

Mayor Borato mentioned about the radar speed machine does not work anymore and would like to purchase two (2) portable radar speed signs from Elan City. After some review and discussion, **on a motion by Mr. Sivy; seconded by Mr. Ruckert** to purchase two (2) portable radar speed signs from Elan City through COSTARS pricing the amount of \$ 5,499.00. Motion was unanimously approved.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT – No agenda item at this time.

ENGINEER'S REPORT –

1. Compton Road – Borough Engineer mentioned that he is still working on this study.

Borough Engineer mentioned that the line stripping at Economy Way was going to be completed soon.

Borough Engineer mentioned that the Garvin Boward Beitko Engineering, Inc. report was completed. Discussion occurred about the report.

Mr. Kowal asked if the borough would be in trouble for letting Energy Transfer complete the work needed for the B-15, well pad slide mediation. Borough Solicitor responded with no concerns letting Energy Transfer complete the work.

OLD BUSINESS –

1. Huey Claim – No agenda item at this time.
2. Cable Franchise Agreement – No agenda item at this time.

NEW BUSINESS –

1. Elizabeth Petalino's Resignation – **On a motion by Mr. Sylvester; seconded by Mr. Kowal** to accept the resignation letter from Elizabeth Petalino effective on September 2, 2020. Motion was unanimously approved.

Mrs. Skonieczny wanted to thank Ms. Petalino on her service to the Borough.

Mr. Kowal asked about going after grants, an update for the Officer Heitzenrater/Officer Hartsell plaques, Code Enforcement reports and dress code policy. Mayor Borato mentioned that the Officers of the department purchases the retirement plaques and was never purchased by the Borough. Also, Officer Heitzenrater did receive his retirement badge and ID.

OTHER BUSINESS –

1. 2021 Minimum Municipal Obligation (MMO) – The Borough Manager presented Council with an overview of the 2021 MMO as submitted by Findley and how the state aid received is applied. The MMO outlines the required funding amounts due to the pension plans in order to remain qualified for state aid. The obligation due for the Police Pension Plan is in the amount of \$ 275,670.00, and the obligation due for the Non-Uniform Pension Plan is in the amount of \$ 125,687.00. After some review and discussion, **on a motion by Mr. Ruckert; seconded by Mr. Kowal** to accept the 2021 Minimum Municipal Obligation as submitted by Findley. Motion was unanimously carried.

EXECUTIVE SESSION –

On a motion by Mr. Sivy; seconded by Mr. Sylvester requested Council go into Executive Session regarding public works personnel. Motion was unanimously approved. There will be no motions after the Executive Session therefore the Regular Meeting can adjourn before going into the Executive Session.

MOTION TO ADJOURN –

On a motion by Mr. Sivy; seconded by Mr. Sylvester to adjourn the Regular Meeting and enter into Executive Session. Motion was unanimously approved.

The Regular Meeting adjourned at 8:21 p.m.



Travis Cavanaugh
Asst. Borough Manager/Secretary