

Economy Borough Council
Council Minutes
January 26, 2021

Council Vice-President Mr. Jeffrey Ruckert 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. 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.

ABSENT –

Mr. Frank Morrone (Excused)

STAFF PRESENT –

Borough Manager Randy Kunkle, Assistant Borough Manager/Secretary Travis Cavanaugh, representing the Borough Solicitor Mr. Joseph Askar, Esq. and Borough Engineer Mr. Scott Shoup (Public Hearing Only).

PUBLIC HEARING –

Tentative Approval/Conditional Use for Economy Landings PRD

Consider Tentative and Conditional Use approval for Economy Landings PRD located on Wallrose Heights Road, Tax Parcel ID No. 60-185-0183.010 in the Suburban Residential (R-2) Zoning District, to develop approximately 69.14 acres and would consist of 138 Single Family dwelling units and a Clubhouse.

Motion to grant Tentative Approval of the Economy Landings PRD and the conditional use application to approve the Findings of Fact, Conclusions and Additional Conditions prepared by the Borough Solicitor.

A roll call vote was taken.

Mr. Bucuren	No
Mr. Kowal	Yes
Mr. Ruckert	No
Mr. Sivy	Yes
Mrs. Skonieczny	No

Mr. Sylvester **Yes**

Motion carried – 3-3.

Mayor Borato asked to break the tie.

Mayor Borato **Yes**

Motion carried – 4-3.

RECOGNITION OF VISITORS –

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

Sheila Dattilo of 408 Independence Lane, Freedom
Mike Andrews of 200 Patriot Lane, Freedom

There were also 4 participants via teleconference.

HEAR THE PUBLIC –

Ms. Dattilo expressed her concerns with the teleconference aspect of the meeting. She also acknowledged that Liberty Hills residents and the Cafe Group donated 500 N95 face masks to Economy Ambulance Service.

Mr. Andrews asked questions pertaining to the commercial overlay, budget items and 1701 Conway Wallrose Road, Freedom. Also mentioned, that he received two more petitions for going back to Zoom meetings.

MINUTES –

Minutes of the Regular Meeting held on January 12, 2021, were presented to Council. After some review and discussion, **on a motion by Mr. Sivy; seconded by Mr. Kowal** to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes of January 12, 2021, as presented. Motion was unanimously approved.

FINANCE COMMITTEE – No agenda item at this time.

PUBLIC WORKS (PW) COMMITTEE – No agenda item at this time.

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

ORDINANCE COMMITTEE – No agenda item at this time.

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE –

Mr. Ruckert wanted to personally thank the Liberty Hills residents for the donations of the face masks and the support for Economy Ambulance Service.

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

MAYOR'S REPORT –

Mayor Borato mentioned that the Police Department is looking to purchase a new police cruiser.

A. Police Cruiser –

After some review and discussion, **on a motion by Mr. Kowal; seconded by Mr. Sylvester** to purchase a new 2020 Ford Explorer from McCandless Ford in the amount of \$ 33,844.00 with the upfit from IVS in the amount of \$ 10,430.00. Motion was unanimously carried.

Police Chief O'Brien presented to Council his YE report for 2020 and also discussion occurred about Part-Time vs Full-Time Police Patrolman possible hiring.

Mr. Sivy thanked Police Chief O'Brien for his end of the year report.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT –

A. Cable Franchise Agreement –

Borough Solicitor mentioned that he is working with Comcast on a non-disclosure agreement for the cable franchise agreement.

Borough Solicitor mentioned he filled the municipal liens for properties that the Borough cut the grass during the year 2020.

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

OLD BUSINESS – No agenda item at this time.

NEW BUSINESS –

A. Koehler Plan No. 1 –

Mr. Kunkle mentioned that Economy Borough Planning Commission, Beaver County Planning Commission, Shoup Engineering and consultant Michael Baker International all approved the subdivision for recommendation of approval by Council.

On a motion by Mr. Sylvester; seconded by Mr. Kowal granting both Preliminary and Final Subdivision Approval to the Koehler Plan No. 1 Subdivision. Motion was unanimously approved.

B. Purchasing Laptops –

Discussion occurred on purchasing laptops for Zoom meetings. Council would like the Assistant Borough Manager to review the quotes for an AV system that were received last year.

C. Employee Performance Evaluations –

Mr. Kowal would like the Personnel Committee to look into doing Employee performance evaluations.

Discussion occurred on Employee performance evaluations.

OTHER BUSINESS – No agenda item at this time.

EXECUTIVE SESSION –

On a motion by Mr. Sylvester; seconded by Mr. Sivy requested Council go into Executive Session regarding personnel and Tax Collector, following which a vote will be needed. Motion was unanimously approved at 9:34 p.m.

On a motion by Mr. Sylvester; seconded by Mr. Sivy requested Council go into Regular Session. Motion was unanimously approved at 9:56 p.m.

On a motion by Mr. Kowal; seconded by Mr. Sylvester to approve the new agreement with the Police Secretary that will expire on December 31, 2021. Motion was unanimously approved.

MOTION TO ADJOURN –

On a motion by Mr. Sivy; seconded by Mr. Bucuren to adjourn the Regular Meeting. Motion was unanimously approved.

The Regular Meeting adjourned at 9:57 p.m.



Travis Cavanaugh
Asst. Borough Manager/Secretary