

Economy Borough Council
Council Minutes
March 9, 2021

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.

STAFF PRESENT –

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

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.

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

There were also 7 participants via teleconference.

HEAR THE PUBLIC –

Mr. Andrews asked questions pertaining to the teleconference setup. He also mentioned that Borough Council needs to go with the Zoom Meetings.

Ms. Dattilo mentioned about the Oil and Gas ordinance with comments from the CAFE group.

MINUTES –

Minutes of the Regular Meeting held on February 23, 2021, were presented to Borough Council. After some review and discussion, **on a motion by Mr. Kowal; seconded by Mr. Sivy** to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes of February 23, 2021, as presented. Motion was unanimously approved.

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE – No agenda item at this time.

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

FINANCE COMMITTEE –

Mr. Kowal asked a question pertaining to the budget.

- A. Bills Payable for the period of February 5, 2021, through March 4, 2021, in the amount of \$ 223,619.16, from the General Fund with Check No. 29590 to 29674, and in the amount of \$ 50,133.35, from the Highway Aid (Liquid Fuels) Fund with the Check No. 210 to 214, were presented to Council for review. After some review and discussion, **on a motion by Mr. Sylvester; seconded by Mr. Ruckert** 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.
- B. Budget Report for the month of February 2021, was presented to Council. After some review and discussion this report was ordered received and filed.
- C. Treasurer's Report for the month of February 2021, 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 Borough Council with PW Report for February 2021. 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 a vote.

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 February 2021, was presented to Borough Council. After some review and discussion this report was ordered received and filed.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT –

- A. BLS Transit and Supply vs. Economy Borough –
Borough Solicitor gave an update pertaining to the complaint.

B. Ambridge Sportsman's Association Request Letter –

Borough Solicitor gave an update on the letter that was received by the Ambridge Sportsman's Association.

Discussion occurred on the letter received by the Ambridge Sportsman's Association.

ENGINEER'S REPORT –

A. Chapter 160 – Streets & Sidewalks –

Borough Engineer gave an update pertaining to the ordinance.

B. 2021 Road Paving Program –

Borough Engineer met with the Road Foreman and have selected the following roads for the 2021 Road Paving Program.

Base Bid

Woodcroft Road

Ridge Avenue (Wood Croft Road to Evans City Road)

Sproat Avenue

Sunridge Drive

Alternate Bids

Satellite Drive

Constellation Drive

After some review and discussion, **on a motion by Mr. Kowal; seconded by Mr. Ruckert** to authorize the Borough Manager to advertise for bids for the 2021 Road Paving Program. Motion was unanimously approved.

OLD BUSINESS –

A. Audio/Visual Systems and Quotes –

Assistant Borough Manager presented Borough Council with the updated quotes for an audio/visual system.

Discussion occurred on the audio/visual systems versus the teleconference setup.

B. Anne Street Zoning Map Change – No agenda item at this time.

C. Oil and Gas Ordinance –

Borough Solicitor gave an update on the Oil and Gas Ordinance.

Discussion occurred on the Oil and Gas Ordinance.

Mr. Sylvester mentioned that Executive Session will follow after the Regular Meeting to discuss invoices received from Tucker & Arensberg Attorneys, with no vote.

Mr. Kowal asked a question pertaining to the speed bumps along Park Hill Road.

Discussion occurred on the speed bumps along Park Hill Road.

NEW BUSINESS –

A. Ralph Musi Plan of Lots No. 2 –

Discussion occurred on the Ralph Musi Plan of Lots No. 2.

B. Staff Review and Development Plan –

Discussion occurred on the staff review and development plan.

C. Police Department Association Request Letter – Hartsell Life Insurance –

Discussion occurred on the Police Department Association request letter.

OTHER BUSINESS – No agenda item at this time.

EXECUTIVE SESSION –

On a motion by Mr. Sivy; seconded by Mr. Ruckert requested Borough Council go into Executive Session regarding personnel and invoices from Tucker & Arensberg Attorneys following which a possible vote may be needed. Motion was unanimously approved at 8:11 p.m.

On a motion by Mr. Sylvester; seconded by Mr. Ruckert requested Borough Council go into Regular Session. Motion was unanimously approved at 8:42 p.m.

On a motion by Mr. Ruckert; seconded by Mr. Bucuren to hire Mr. Randy Schooley with a ninety (90) day probation period to the Public Works Department with a start date of March 22, 2021, contingent upon the completion of the requirements in the CBA. Motion was unanimously carried.

A roll call vote was taken.

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

Motion carried – 5-2.

On a motion by Mr. Ruckert; seconded by Mr. Bucuren to hire Mr. Brian Murray contingent upon Mr. Randy Schooley not accepting the offer that was made to Mr. Randy Schooley first. Motion was unanimously carried.

MOTION TO ADJOURN –

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

The Regular Meeting adjourned at 8:46 p.m.



Travis Cavanaugh
Asst. Borough Manager/Secretary