

**BOROUGH OF PATTERSON HEIGHTS
COUNCIL MINUTES
NOVEMBER 20, 2019**

The meeting was called to order by President Bill Starn at 7:00 p.m., and opened with the Pledge of Allegiance. It was announced that the meeting was being recorded, and the roll was called.

Attendance -- Council Members present included President Bill Starn, Vice-President Jim Turnbull, Andy Briggs, Bryan Landman, Fran Levinger, and Sue Pokego. Other officers present were Mayor Ron Tyger, Solicitor Frank Paganie, Tax Collector Nadine Galbreath, Police Chief Dave Stanislawski, and Secretary/Treasurer Jack Doyle.

Minutes – Bryan Landman moved that Council approve the minutes of the October 16, 2019 meeting. The motion was seconded by Jim Turnbull, and approved by voice vote.

Police Report – Chief Stanislawski presented the monthly report for October, 2019. There were 14 calls for service. Officer Nick Bathgate patrolled Patterson Heights on Halloween.

Fire Report – Chief Jason Medlin’s report listed 9 calls in October. Two of the calls were in Patterson Heights, both due to problems with water. The Firefighters have two upcoming trainings, and will be escorting Santa Claus around the borough on December 14, from 5-6 pm. Afterward, the Ladies’ Auxiliary will be serving cookies and hot chocolate in the Firehall.

Presentation – Denise Germanowski, from Building Inspection Underwriters, made a presentation to Council regarding the services offered by her company, including UCC inspections, rental inspections, and municipal code enforcement, and zoning.

Visitors – (1) Regis Luger, of 311 7th Street Extension, spoke about rainwater backing up in the manhole at 4th Avenue and 7th Street, as well as in his basement. After a long period without problems, he has had water in his basement three times this year. It was agreed that Bryan Landman would contact Tri-State Maintenance to have the line “jetted,” and then council will explore installing flowmeters to find out exactly how much water is being pumped into our system by Patterson Township. (2) Sherrie Nichols, of 608 6th Avenue, commended Bryan for repairing her alley so that she can now access her garage, and making it safe enough for people to walk in the area of the repair.

Solicitor -- Mr. Paganie presented a notice for the Beaver County Times announcing a proposed budget for 2020. The budget itself will be approved at the December Council Meeting. Bryan Landman moved that we advertise the proposed budget, and Fran Levinger seconded. Jim Turnbull asked if \$5,000 for part-time labor would be sufficient for next year, and Bryan Landman answered that he believed it would be. The Secretary added that the revenue projections in the budget were conservative, and the expense projections were at least equal to 2019 in most cases. \$2,500 was added for equipment repair or renewal on the playground. Also in the recreation budget are \$1,100 to replace the fence, and \$1,900 for Community Day. Storm Sewer Maintenance was increased to \$8,000 to allow for the cleaning of the catch basins in the Spring. Jim Turnbull asked about money for street maintenance, and

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\$46,000 has been budgeted so that we can complete the sealcoating project. Additional funding was added for road salt, because at this time we are unsure of the price or quantity required. After this discussion, the motion to advertise the budget was passed. Frank then presented proposed Resolution 19-12-1, which establishes our tax rate at 24 mills for 2020. He explained that an ordinance was not needed, because the tax rate was not being increased. Voting on the resolution will be done at the December meeting. Frank then presented a proposed ordinance addressing waste and storm water discharge. Jim Turnbull recommended that downspouts be removed as a source of water to be dealt with, as rain water is different from the ground water flowing from sump pumps. After a great deal of discussion regarding enforcement and the necessity of issuing a new ordinance, it was decided to table the issue, and ask for some guidance from the code enforcement officer.

Bill Starn read a letter from Ralph Mitchell of 801 7th Street regarding water flowing from a sump pump at 815 7th Street. Water from the pump is damaging the adjacent alley, and freezes in front of his house in the winter. Council discussed the matter, and until more research is done, decided to send a letter to the owner of the sump pump regarding regulations in the International Property Maintenance Code.

Code Enforcement – (1) 612 7th Avenue – owner in Rochester Manor, work in progress. There has been no response to a letter to Attorney Colavincenzo asking for payment for brush removal. Frank asked for a copy of the letter, and he will contact Mr. Colavincenzo. (2) 756 7th Avenue has been sold. (3) 705 5th Street – the owner has been cited by Ms. Pella, and fined by the Magistrate. (4) 403 9th Avenue – The owner did as he was asked regarding mud washing into the street. The situation should improve as his lawn thickens. (5) Rental inspections continue.

Communications – The letter from Ralph Mitchell was read previously.

Tax Collector -- Nadine Galbreath made real estate tax deposits of \$1,623.06 in October. \$8,916 is still collectible.

Secretary/Treasurer -- Jack Doyle reported that since the last Council meeting the Borough received \$7,625.84 in earned income tax, \$1,623.06 in real estate tax, \$156.35 in District Court fines, \$69.30 in per capita tax, \$68.25 in delinquent per capita tax, \$75.00 in zoning permits, \$140.00 in dye test and lien letter fees, \$0.60 in insurance interest, \$271.57 in Public Utility Realty Tax, \$14,319.53 in sewer fees, and \$1,243.84 in interest on the five money market accounts.

Jack also announced the submission of a grant application to State Farm Insurance, his attendance at a DCNR grant writing workshop, and attendance at meeting regarding Geographical Information Systems (GIS).

Public Safety Committee – Already covered.

Buildings and Grounds Committee – Council agreed to meet with the Firefighters again to ask them to live up to their agreement to maintain the building, particularly the restrooms. Jim Turnbull said he would speak with Bob Tate regarding the siding project, asking him not to do it, and next year he, Bryan, and Pat Korol would do the job. Jim moved that Bob Tate be sent a letter canceling the contract for the project, Bryan seconded, and the motion carried.

Streets and Sewers Committee – Already discussed.

**BOROUGH OF PATTERSON HEIGHTS
COUNCIL MINUTES
NOVEMBER 20, 2019**

Recreation Committee – Nothing to report.

Recycling and Refuse Committee – No report yet about our application for a recycling grant.

Rental Property and Maintenance Inspection Committee – Inspections by Dawna Pella are continuing.

New Business – (1) The Reorganization Meeting is mandated to be held on January 6. The meeting will begin at 7pm. (2) Newly elected officials, including those re-elected, will receive Certificates of Election from the Courthouse. They are to bring them, with notarized Affidavits of Residency to the Reorganization Meeting. (3) If council members desire particular committee assignments, they should let Jack or Bill know ahead of time. (4) The calendar of regular council meetings in 2020 will be the same as it was in 2019 (third Wednesday of the month, 7pm), and will be so advertised.

Old Business – After discussing positive references for Building Inspection Underwriters, Jim Turnbull moved that we go forward with hiring them to do our code and building inspections and enforcement, pending solicitor's approval, and having a start date of January 6, 2020. Bryan Landman seconded, and the motion carried.

Mayor – Make sure solicitors have permits, and call the police if they do not.

COG -- Nothing to report.

Emergency Management – Bryan has quarterly training next week.

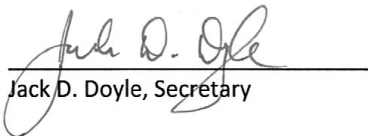
Announcements – The reorganization Meeting is scheduled for January 6, 2020, at 7pm.

Fiscal and Contractual – Bryan Landman moved that the current bills be approved or ratified as presented. Jim Turnbull seconded, and the motion carried.

Adjournment -- Moved by Bryan Landman, seconded by Jim Turnbull, the meeting adjourned at 8:36p.m. The next regular meeting will be Wednesday, December 18, 2019.



William Starn, President



Jack D. Doyle, Secretary