

**BOROUGH OF PATTERSON HEIGHTS
COUNCIL MINUTES
APRIL 15, 2020**

This meeting was held in the regular meeting room in the Municipal Building, with attendees maintaining space between them due to the coronavirus outbreak. 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, Bryan Landman, Andy Briggs, Laura Trehar, and Jan Livingston. Other officials present were Mayor Ron Tyger, Police Chief David Stanislawski, Fire Chief Jason Medlin, and Secretary/Treasurer Jack Doyle. Tax Collector Nadine Galbreath was present at the start of the meeting, and Solicitor Frank Paganie was available by phone.

Minutes – Bryan Landman moved that Council approve the minutes of the February 19, 2020 meeting. The motion was seconded by Jim Turnbull, and approved by voice vote. Bryan Landman moved that Council approve the minutes of the March 18, 2020 meeting. The motion was seconded by Jim Turnbull, and approved by voice vote. Bryan Landman moved that Council approve the minutes of the April 3, 2020 emergency meeting. The motion was seconded by Jim Turnbull, and approved by voice vote.

Police Report – Chief Stanislawski presented the monthly report for March, 2020. There were 10 calls for service. Bill Starn remarked that he had seen a number of children riding battery-operated vehicles on the streets without parental supervision. Chief Stanislawski reported very few instances of people on the playground since it was closed. In response to a question, he said that after a warning, the next offense could bring a charge of criminal trespass.

Fire Report – Chief Medlin listed 16 calls in March. All trainings have been cancelled until further notice. He also submitted a letter co-written with Philip Graeser, Patterson Township Fire Chief, outlining changes in procedure due to the pandemic. He told Council that he believed the Council had enough personal protective equipment for now.

Visitors – Phil and Debbie Fatula, 403 7th Avenue; a police officer came to their house on Easter Sunday and asked about his taking photographs along Hillside Avenue. Mr. Fatula stated that he was not sure why someone called the police, whether they were concerned for his safety, or whether he was taking pictures of eagles in their nest near the road. The patrolman told him that he could no longer go down the road. He went on to say that he had not taken pictures of the eagles, but was studying them as a retirement project to provide information through a friend to the Pennsylvania Game Commission. Mr. Fatula stated that he had two issues, first, that he intended to continue his project until the eaglets fledged, which he expected to be between the end of May and the second week of June. The second issue was that there are great resources along Hillside Avenue available to the community in terms of wildlife and wildflowers. While the area has deteriorated since he was a boy, he hoped that the area could be developed and be enjoyed by the community. Mr. Fatula summarized by saying that he intended to keep walking down the road until his project was completed.

President Starn responded that it was his understanding that Hillside Avenue had been posted for several years at the direction of the insurance company because the road is abandoned and not maintained. There are no guard rails, and it is definitely not safe, hence the “No Trespassing” signs. The Game Commission had also required “No Trespassing” signs due to the presence of a pair of eagles. Mr. Starn went on to say that he had spoken to a Game Commission official who had photographed Mr. Fatula on Hillside Avenue near the nest. Chief Stanislawski pointed out that Mr. Fatula admitted that he planned to continue breaking the law by circumventing the signs. After more discussion, it was determined that the police would enforce the regulations, and Mr. Fatula will possibly explore means of convincing the Borough to provide him with permission to finish his project.

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Code Enforcement – BIU is still furloughed, but hopes to be back in business soon. Letters have been sent to people with abandoned cars. Two other property maintenance complaints can be handled by BIU once they return.

Correspondence – We received a letter from the Community Development Program of Beaver County about a grant for which we would not qualify. Bill Starn noted that the USDA website may have grants in which we would have interest.

Tax Collector – Jack Doyle reported for Nadine Galbreath that she had made deposits of \$19,258.32 in real estate taxes since the last meeting.

Secretary/Treasurer – A report was provided to Council, no questions or comments.

Public Safety Committee – Nothing to report. Jim Turnbull moved to adopt Resolution 20-04-2, agreeing to share an Emergency Management Coordinator with White Township and Patterson Township. Bryan Landman seconded, and the resolution was passed. Jim Turnbull commended Bryan for the work he does in this voluntary position.

Buildings and Grounds Committee – Nothing to report.

Streets and Sewers Committee – Council agreed to continue with plans to have our sewage flow metered, with the cost anticipated to be in the range of \$50,000.

Recreation Committee – Nothing to report.

Recycling and Refuse Committee – Nothing new to report.

Budget and Finance Committee – The 2019 Audit is being worked on with Tim Weisenburger.

Rental Property and Maintenance Inspection Committee – Nothing to report.

New Business – For Council Meetings under the coronavirus restrictions—printed materials will be emailed to each Council member prior to the meeting. There is no interest in trying to conduct meetings electronically.

Old Business – No old business to discuss.

Mayor – Mayor Tyger asked that people are encouraged on social media to cooperate with the census.


COG – No meetings are being held currently.

Emergency Management – Nothing new to report.

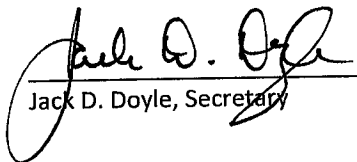
Announcements – None.

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

Adjournment – Bryan Landman moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:53pm. Jim Turnbull seconded, and the Council approved. The next regular meeting will be Wednesday, May 20, 2020.



William Starn, President



Jack D. Doyle, Secretary