

**BOROUGH OF PATTERSON HEIGHTS
COUNCIL MINUTES
AUGUST 19, 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 Vice-President Jim Turnbull 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 Vice-President Jim Turnbull, Andy Briggs, Bryan Landman, Jan Livingston, and Laura Trehar. Other officials present were Mayor Ron Tyger, Solicitor Frank Paganie, Police Chief David Stanislawski, Fire Chief Jason Medlin, Tax Collector Nadine Galbreath, and Secretary/Treasurer Jack Doyle.

Minutes – Bryan Landman moved that Council approve the minutes of the July 15, 2020 meeting. The motion was seconded by Laura Trehar. The motion to approve the minutes was passed.

Police Report – Chief Stanislawski presented the monthly report for July, 2020. There were 15 calls for service. There were no questions about the report. Ron Tyger asked about progress on the police contract. The Chief reported that the labor contract was still being negotiated. The service contract with Patterson Heights will not be taken up until the labor contract is settled.

Fire Report – Chief Medlin’s report listed 13 calls in July.

Visitors – Jack Doyle asked to speak as a visitor regarding the upcoming election in November. He suggested that residents vote by mail, if possible. In-person voting will be held, as usual, in the Borough Building, but the safety of the poll workers will be the first priority on Election Day. If the turnout is high, there may be lines. In addition, if mail is delayed, and mail-in voters come in to vote without knowing if their ballot had been returned, they will need to file a Provisional Ballot, which is quite time-consuming. He also congratulated the Fire Department on the success of their recent “drive-by’s” for birthdays and other events.

Solicitor – Mr. Paganie had nothing to report.

Code Enforcement – Jack reported being pleasantly surprised by the positive responses to the sump pump letters sent out earlier. People with pumps have corrected the discharge, and people without have worked with us to determine the source of water coming from their property. Don has done four rental inspections. The biggest delay is in getting landlords to call to schedule the inspection.

Correspondence – Correspondence related to the Duquesne Light proposal regarding LED street lights, and will be discussed in New Business.

Tax Collector – Nadine Galbreath reported that she had made deposits of \$12,052.88 in real estate taxes in July, leaving about \$20,500 yet to be collected. Frank is still discussing Nadine’s bond with Blackhawk School District.

Secretary/Treasurer – A report showing receipts since the last meeting was presented.

Public Safety Committee – People need to start stopping at stop signs. Bryan has discussed the situation with Chief Stanislawski.

Buildings and Grounds Committee – Jim Turnbull has found a volunteer to paint the playground equipment. He will pick up the paint. Laura Trehar will try to get others to assist. Also, the elevator recently passed inspection.

Streets and Sewers Committee – Bryan Landman suggested we have the Engineer look at the BFMA repair on 5th Avenue. He also reported on trees located in residents' yards that have tree roots encroaching on catch basins and tree roots. Discussion centered on what the solution would be. It was thought that removing the tree was necessary, but would not solve the problem of the roots. Bryan felt that residents needed to be prevented from planting trees having the potential of sending roots into sewage systems. Some residents feel that trees existing on the Borough's right-of-way should be maintained by the borough, although some of the trees in question are located off the right-of-way. Other vegetation is ending up in the sewers, as well, taking the time of the road crew to clean out the storm sewers. Still other trees are planted along the edge of the roadway, causing damage to the pavement.

Road sealing has been temporarily delayed due to the inability of Sealmaster to get materials shipped in.

Recreation Committee – Gary Paumen has offered to organize a community yard sale again this year, and has set a date of October 3. There was discussion about whether the Borough should give Mr. Paumen a small amount to reimburse him for advertising and signs, and whether the Borough was "sponsoring" the event. Jim and Caren Turnbull donated \$50 to pass along to Mr. Paumen.

Recycling and Refuse Committee – Nothing to report.

Budget and Finance Committee – Nothing to report.

Rental Property and Maintenance Inspection Committee – Four have been completed.

New Business – (1) The Council discussed requiring Occupancy Permits for properties when they change hands. Members spoke out against the permits citing government intrusion into a private transaction, imposition of an additional tax, and conflict with private inspectors. There was no interest in requiring the permit. (2) Duquesne Light has offered to replace our street lights with LED. They proposed charging \$109/light for removal of the current fixtures. Some reduction in usage can be anticipated, but not guaranteed, and the payback period is substantial. Councilman Andrew Why has offered to discuss the proposal with Duquesne Light, and will report back at the next Council Meeting.

Old Business – (1) The Beaver County Humane Society has proposed doing animal control for the Borough for \$250/month. There was no interest among the Council to proceed. (2) There is one more scheduled Food Truck night, set for September 9, with Dogs on the Run, Oh My Grill, and Bruster's. Council expressed interest in extending the program another month. (3) GIS – nothing to report. (4) Evan Autenreith has been asked to provide a drawing or sketch regarding what he is proposing with the property along 6th Street Extension, and has not yet replied.

Mayor – Nothing to report.

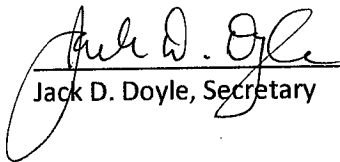
COG – Nothing to report.

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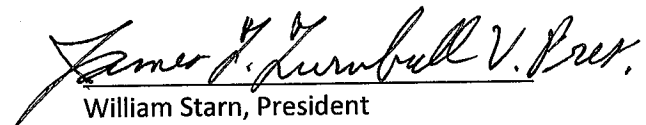
Announcements – Nothing.

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

Adjournment – Bryan Landman motioned for adjournment. Laura Trehar seconded, and the meeting ended at 7:14 p.m. The next regular meeting will be Wednesday, September 16, 2020.



Jack D. Doyle, Secretary



William Starn, President