

BOROUGH OF PATTERSON HEIGHTS
COUNCIL MINUTES
SEPTEMBER 16, 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, 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 August 19, 2020 meeting. The motion was seconded by Jan Livingston. The motion to approve the minutes was passed.

Police Report – Chief Stanislawski presented the monthly report for August, 2020. There were 3 calls for service. There were no questions about the report. Halloween will be held on October 29 this year, from 6 to 8 pm.

Fire Report – Chief Medlin’s report listed 19 calls in August. The Fire Department will be posted on Halloween at the corner of 4th Avenue and 5th Street, and at the corner of 7th Avenue and 5th Street. There is nothing new to report on the proposed merger with the Township VFD.

Visitors – (1) Pam Barsottini of 624 4th Street. The Borough has an ordinance against parking trailers on the streets, and she would like the one that is parked on 6th Avenue removed. (2) Bob Tate of 4th Street questioned the existence of a paper alley bordering his, and JoAnn Murray’s property. He and Mrs Murray were told that, since they were already represented by an attorney, any further communication must come through the Solicitor, Mr. Paganie. (3) Fran Levinger of 728 6th Avenue, President of the Firemen’s Ladies’ Auxiliary, announced that the Ladies’ Auxiliary will be holding a meatball sub sale on October 28, and that they will not be holding a bake sale on Election Day. Fran expects the price of the subs to remain at \$6.50, pickup will be from 4 to 6 pm, and the auxiliary will be placing signs in the Borough. She also asked for the permission of Council to plant a tree on Borough property, in memory of Rosemary Bellan. Council had no objection.

Solicitor – Mr. Paganie has given all the information to the Scholl District regarding the Tax Collector’s Bond, and has not heard anything back from them.

Code Enforcement – Four rental inspections were done today, two passed, two did not. Most of the failures have been due to houses not having ground fault interrupters or operating smoke detectors. Two violation letters have been sent out on other properties, and Council was made aware that one of the property owners was going to have difficulty complying due to finances. Council also discussed the fact that code enforcement is done on a complaint basis only.

Correspondence – (1) Bill Starn gave Jason Medlin information about a grant available through Columbia Gas. (2) The estimated Liquid Fuels amount for 2021 is \$19,930. (3) Council was advised of Moraine Dam, and the possibility of its breaking. (4) Bill Starn read a letter from Amy Autenreith Vallecorsa, who wrote in support of Charles Merritt. Mr. Merritt was cited by the Police Department for damaging one of the new signs posted at the entrance to Hillside Avenue.

Tax Collector – Nadine Galbreath reported that she had made deposits of \$1,145.54 in August.

Secretary/Treasurer – A report showing receipts since the last meeting was submitted, and an insurance refund of \$1,612.70 due to a low incidence of Workers' Comp claims. A recent webinar stressed the importance of communicating with residents, encouraging their communication, and taking advantage of people willing to volunteer.

Chief Stanislawski was asked about calling the police in the event of a stray dog. Due to the difficulty of taking an officer from his regular duties, it would be best if only done in the case of an animal perceived to be dangerous.

Public Safety Committee – Nothing that had not already been discussed.

Buildings and Grounds Committee – Jim Turnbull reported that the person who volunteered to paint the playground has started, but is working slowly due to school. Jim has also received a request from some residents about being able to donate to replace the "hoops" on the playground, and whether the Council would match their donation. Jim will get more information on what the people were proposing.

Mayor Tyger asked about getting more permanent structures like picnic tables that the residents could use on Food Truck Nights or Community Day. Some members of Council pointed out that in the past picnic tables were destroyed by kids, and they would also involve additional work in having to trim around them.

Streets and Sewers Committee – Bryan Landman reported that they were able to seal 5th Street, the rest of 6th Avenue, 5th Street, 6th Street, and 8th Avenue before they ran out of material. There are still catch basins that need repair, and a large section of the storm sewer on 4th Avenue needs to be completely replaced. Bill Starn explained to Council that the loan we are applying for should enable us to line most of our sewers without digging up the streets, in addition to replacing the catch basins and manholes.

Solicitor Paganie will check into Beaver Falls Municipal Authority's intention to fix the pavement on 5th Avenue, with the idea that we will demand a performance bond if they do not comply.

The new leaf vac should be delivered by the end of October.

Recreation Committee – The projection equipment, except for the screen, is in.

Recycling and Refuse Committee – Jim Turnbull reported that the County will provide a container for glass recycling. Discussion ensued as to whether we had a suitable place for it. Bryan will check on what size and type of containers are available.

Budget and Finance Committee – Nothing to report.

Rental Property and Maintenance Inspection Committee – Already covered.

New Business – Duquesne Light has proposed changing out our street lights to LED bulbs, with a cost of \$109 each to remove the existing lights. Council discussed ways to proceed if they determine it is in our interest to do so.

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Old Business – (1) Bryan Landman moved, and Jan Livingston seconded, a motion to approve Resolution 20-09-1, authorizing the Borough to apply for a loan to rehabilitate sewers. The motion was approved. (2) Bryan moved that Council approve an advertisement of the loan application. Jan seconded, and the motion was approved. (3) Council chose not to proceed with an Occupancy Permit requirement. (4) There is a meeting scheduled for September 25 with Larsen Design to go over the basics of the COG Geographical Interface System, if anyone from Council would like to attend. (5) The yard sale will be held from 8am to 2pm on Saturday, October 3. Early Bird sales will be included, and some residents from Patterson Township will be participating, as well.

Mayor – Nothing to report.

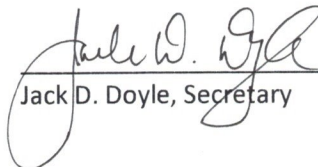
COG – Nothing to report.

Emergency Management – If the County decides to have a drill for the nuclear plant, it will be confined to the 9-1-1 Center, and not involve police or fire departments.

Announcements – Elections will be held at the Municipal Building on November 3, and people planning to vote in person should expect to have a wait. Bryan said he has purchased some anti-viral disinfectant, and Council discussed using some type of barrier like those we see in restaurants.

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

Adjournment – Bryan Landman motioned for adjournment. Laura Trehar seconded, and the meeting ended at 7:35 p.m. The next regular meeting will be Wednesday, October 21, 2020.



Jack D. Doyle, Secretary



William Starn, President