

MEETING OF THE MOUNT PENN BOROUGH COUNCIL August 31, 2021

The Mount Penn Borough Council met in regular session on August 31, 2021. President Goodman brought the meeting to order at 7:30 P.M. and led the Pledge of Allegiance. Responding to roll call were, President Troy Goodman and Council Members: James Cocuzza, John Fielding, Rick Lombardo, Ryan Maurer, and Roger Reto. Also in attendance were Solicitor Tom Klonis, Engineer Jim McCarthy, and Assistant Secretary Rochelle Gresh. Absent was Mayor Josh Nowotarski and Councilman Tom Staron. . Engineer Jim McCarthy left at 8:28 PM

I. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION:

Jason Bailey gave an update on the work done at the property and that he had received approval from the Berks County Conversation District. Solicitor commented that the borough's regular engineer was not going to be present at this meeting and the timing would be better for everyone for September's meeting. The solicitor also commented that the sign application was not addressed initially and currently does not coincide with our ordinance.

Resident Bob Delong of 2528 Glen Terrace spoke about his concerns of the hole and water issues on Glen Terrace and questioned when the road work would be completed. Bob also mentioned we need poll workers for the upcoming election and requested the Borough to put something on their website.

Tara Chambers of 2455 Fairview Avenue expressed her concerns over speeding on that street. The police department was made aware of this situation.

II. ENGINEERING

- Engineering Report July 21- August 20, 2021 submitted to Council.
- **2021 Road Projects**- Engineer McCarthy stated that we need a permit from the DEP. The permit package was determined complete on August 20, 2021. We are currently waiting for the permit to be issued. This permit typically takes approximately nine months to get from DEP. Once we receive the permit, we will put the project out to bid. We expect the project to be completed in Summer 2022. A grant was applied for and granted for the road project.
- **ADA Handicap Ramp Projects**- Resolution adopted and as Borough does road maintenance they will update the handicap ramps keeping in compliance with ADA regulations.
- **Handicap Ramp Center/Cumberland** – Work being done with DCED grant.
- **DEP Endlich Project**- Resubmitted revised permit to DEP and awaiting approval.
- **Roof Bid**- Work to begin on roof next week.
- **DCED Mulitmodal Grant**- Survey complete and proceeding with design and bidding and permitting process.
- **MS4**- Preparing for DEP inspection of program and annual report. A motion was made by John Fielding authorizing engineer to submit annual MS4 report with assistance for all the documents needed for the audit. Seconded by Roger Reto. The motion carried unanimously.
- **Code issues** –. Council to adjust fees for the upcoming year in permitting fees for cost of engineers to inspect the work prior to expiration of the permit. A motion was made by John Fielding for McCarthy engineering to follow up prior to

expiration of permit whether residents call or not when work is completed. Seconded by Rick Lombardo. The motion carried unanimously.

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Moved by Mr. Lombardo, seconded by Mr. Fielding, to approve the minutes of July 27, 2021. All Ayes.

IV. FINANCE REPORT

Moved by Mr. Fielding, and seconded by Mr. Maurer to table the Treasurer's report for July 2021 to next month. All Ayes.

V. COMMITTEE REPORTS:

A. STREETS: No report

B. PARKS & PUBLIC PROPERTY: No report

C. SOLID WASTE & PUBLIC UTILITIES: Issue with yard waste was resolved; residents are to place yard waste in yard waste bags according to agreement.

D. PERSONNEL: A motion was made by John Fielding to hire Denise Rankin as crossing guard at 11.64 an hour retroactive August 30, 2021. Seconded by Ryan Maurer. All Ayes. Personnel committee to interview for part-time leaf collection.

E. INSURANCE/PENSION: Committee looking into getting quotes.

VI: LIASION REPORTS:

A. Fire Company: Received a grant for a new utility truck and another grant for new fire gear for the firefighters.

B. MPBMA: No Report

C. AVMA: No Report

D. Planning Commission: No report

E. Police Commission: Next meeting Thursday, September 2, 2021 at 6:30PM.

F. MT. PENN PRESERVE: No report

VI. OTHER REPORTS:

A. Mayor: No report

B. Police Report: Had a DUI Checkpoint last month

C. Solicitor: Cash Escrow Agreement for 2000 Perkiomen has been reviewed and can be accepted. County of Berks EMS Dispatch Resolution is being reviewed.

D. Secretary: The borough website is being updated on a regular basis. Permits on the website have been updated with the updated fees. Payment of bills are being paid more frequently to not incur late payments. According to the new rules from the Office of Open Records, requiring the agenda to be posted 24 hours prior to the meeting, it has been determined by council that all agenda information must be submitted to the Secretary by the end of the business day on Friday before the Council meeting, so that the Secretary can prepare and post the agenda on the Monday before Council.

VII. ORDINANCES:

- a. **Occupancy and road cut ordinance**- A motion was made by Rick Lombardo to advertise the road cut ordinance and the use of occupancy ordinance. Seconded by John Fielding. The motion carried unanimously.

VIII. RESOLUTIONS

Resolution 31-21- A motion was made by John Fielding to approve the salary of Borough Secretary, Teresa A. Dietrich at \$18.00 an hour + \$50.00 per workshop + \$50.00 per meeting effective May 25, 2021. Seconded by Roger Reto. All Ayes.

Resolution 32-21 – A motion was made by John Fielding to appoint Rochelle M. Gresh as the Right-to-Know Officer for the Borough of Mt Penn for the remainder of the year 2021. Seconded by Roger Reto. All Ayes.

IX. UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None

X. CORRESPONDENCE: None

XI. NEW BUSINESS:

Updating bank signers- Signature forms are ready for signers to sign.

Letter from White House (1953) – John Fielding made a motion to get the letter professionally framed, but not to exceed \$150.00. Seconded by Roger Reto. 5 Ayes, 1 Nay (Maurer).

XII. ADJOURNMENT:

Mr. Lombardo made the motion for adjournment at 9:26 P.M. seconded by Mr. Maurer. The motion carried unanimously.

Workshop meeting scheduled for 7:30 P.M. Thursday, September 23, 2021.

The next regularly scheduled Council meeting will be held 7:30 P.M., Tuesday, September 28, 2021.

Respectfully Submitted,

Rochelle M. Gresh
Assistant Secretary