

MEETING OF THE MOUNT PENN BOROUGH COUNCIL

June 29, 2021

The Mount Penn Borough Council met in regular session on June 29, 2021.

President Goodman brought the meeting to order at 7:30 P.M. and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Responding to roll call were, Mayor Nowotarski, President Goodman, and Council Members:

Ryan Maurer, Roger Reto, and Tom Staron. Also in attendance were Chief Serafin, Solicitor

Tom Klonis, Engineer Jim McCarthy, and Assistant Secretary Rochelle Gresh.

Absent were James Cocuzza and John Fielding.

Rick Lombardo arrived late at 8:39PM

Engineer Jim McCarthy left at 8:59PM

I. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Discussion on personnel was held. Executive session began at 7:33PM and ended at 7:41PM. A motion was made by Roger Reto to hire Rochelle M. Gresh, who resides at 29 East Second Street of Boyertown as Assistant Treasurer and Assistant Secretary for \$18.00 an hour not to exceed 30 hours per week retroactive June 23, 2021 in a form of a resolution 29-21. Seconded by Ryan Maurer. The motion carried unanimously.

II. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION:

Discussion began with a letter read by Clark Bussey of Earle Gables Court on increased incidences of car traffic, pedestrians and dog walkers leaving excrement behind at Earle Gables Court. Resident George Saltzman of Earle Cables Court also spoke on the double parking on Filbert and Hollywood. George Saltzman also spoke about a gang of kids laying on the street, trying to open doors to Borough Hall and cars parked along the street. Saltzman talked about the weeds on the curb of a resident's property. Solicitor commented that the weed issues need to be brought to the attention to the code department. Resident Robert Miller of Earle Gables Court spoke on foul language of the gang of kids and using the Borough hall and school as a playground. Council President Goodman commented that he spoke to the kids and brought it to the attention of the Chief. Solicitor Klonis suggested to residents to call the police when these incidents occur. Chief Ray Serafin put an order out last week to his staff on the double parking and told residents to call the police department when these incidents are occurring.

Another discussion began with Attorney Gary R. Swavely, Jr., for Berks Commercial Renovation in regarding lack of parking in front of his business 45 North 23rd Street for his customers and deliveries. Attorney Swavely claims that the current limited parking sign is not being enforced in front of their business. Solicitor suggests a limited parking zone. Chief Serafin told Council that the last two days the owner was parked out front in that parking space. Councilman Tom Staron stated that he had no problem with parking space for your client, but your client cannot park there all day and it cannot be a private space for him. Mayor commented that another resident in the past had same concerns with their business with parking and we denied it. The Mayor's recommendation is to remain consistent and not provide a special spot at this location. Solicitor Klonis asked Attorney Swavely if a shorter time frame would work for his client. Attorney Swavely thinks the hour time limit would be fine. Attorney Swavely will talk to their client and bring up with them the Borough's concerns. The business owner was not present at the meeting.

Resident Kelly Townson of 40 N. 23rd Street spoke in regards to this and claims the owner Dean is parking in the space all day and illegally parks in front of a fire hydrant until the space becomes available. Kelly states that she only ever saw one delivery occur there. Attorney Swavely asked if there is parking problems on that street. Resident Donna Napoli of 35 North 23rd Street stated that everyone in their block respects that parking space and that there is a slight parking problem there, but the Borough gave them five additional spaces five years ago. President Goodman stated that there is an ordinance already in place for that sign and council may consider amending it if need be. Tom Staron stated that client would not be able to park their either.

III. ENGINEERING

- Engineering Report May 22- June 22, 2021 submitted to Council.
- Parking analysis on 270 Friedensburg Road, owner Tristan Smith and Jason Bailey from All County Associates. Bailey spoke on parking spaces for business Solicitor Klonis states this is not a zoning issue. Engineer McCarthy recommends this is a good use for property and it would be handled as a technical review when they submit the building permits and handle it as a site plan storm water review concurred with the building permit. McCarthy has no problem doing an expedited process as long as Council has no problem. Owner should submit a zoning permit and storm water management application so we can present to Council for action at July's council meeting.
- Endlich Avenue is still in process with DEP permitting.
- The Roof bids deadline was June 17. There were three bids. Council will not be taking any action until we hear from MPBMA and plan to award bid at next Council meeting. Councilman Reto had concerns over the roof specks and would like to review them.
- Occupancy permits-Fee needs to be determined to finalize the Ordinance No. 632. Solicitor Klonis will update the Ordinance 632.
- ARLE Grant we cannot meet deadline.
- PennDOT Multimodal Grant- PennDOT did not award.
- DCED Multitmodal Grant- Grant was awarded and signed.

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Moved by Mr. Staron, seconded by Mr. Maurer, to approve the minutes of May 25, 2021. The motion carried unanimously.

V. FINANCE REPORT

Moved by Mr. Maurer, and seconded by Mr. Staron to accept the Treasurer's Report for May 2021 as presented. The motion carried unanimously. The following balances were reported.

Checking	43,323.69
Savings	637,832.51
Liquid Fuels	131,764.39
PIB Loan	40,329.84
Fire Tax	92,453.84
Ambulance Tax	22,579.41
Petty Cash	50.00
Street Light Tax	30,967.62

Mr. Maurer made the motion, seconded by Mr. Staron, for ratification of checks that have been paid 18725-18738 with inclusive of (3) auto drafts and checks 18739-18758 with inclusive of (1) auto draft. The motion carried unanimously.

VI. COMMITTEE REPORTS:

A. STREETS:

The street sweeping was completed. Mr. Staron made the motion to accept the street report, seconded by Mr. Reto. The motion carried unanimously.

B. PARKS & PUBLIC PROPERTY:

Parking Lot- A motion was made by Mr. Maurer to list the parking lot at 23rd and Perkiomen on Municibid for a reserve price of \$160,000 and advertise in the Reading Eagle, subject to solicitor's approval. Mr. Staron seconded the motion. Mr. Maurer will prepare the ad for the newspaper. The motion carried unanimously.

C. SOLID WASTE & PUBLIC UTILITIES: Discussion was held on trash collection.

D. PERSONNEL:

President Goodman to call the applicant we received to inquire if they are interested in part-time street work.

Mr. Reto made a motion to amend resolution to allow up to 40 hours for the Assistant Secretary until the Secretary returns, then not to exceed 30 hours a week. Seconded by Lombardo. The motion carried unanimously.

E. INSURANCE/PENSION: No Report

F. CODES: No Report

VI. LIASION REPORTS:

A. Fire Company: No Report

B. MPBMA: - Next meeting is on July 14, 2021 and will discuss the roof repair. There was no meeting in June 2021.

C. AVMA:

Resignation letter was received from Claudia Hurwitz on June 24, 2021 from AVMA. Will need to advertise locally for an appointment.

D. Planning Commission:

President Goodman received a phone call from the developer at Mount Penn Townhomes and would like to start the process to develop the property.

E. Police Commission:

Next meeting Thursday, July 1, 2021. No Report.

F. RCAV: No Report

G. MT. PENN PRESERVE: Next meeting will be held on Wednesday, June 30, 2021.

VI. OTHER REPORTS:

A. Mayor: No Report

B. Solicitor: No Report

C. Secretary: No Report

VII. ORDINANCES:

No Report

VIII. RESOLUTIONS

No Report

IX. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Mr. Maurer discussed Aulenbach Cemetery and their lack of volunteers and will donate one day to help clean-up the Cemetery. Mayor commented how discussion was made with the Cemetery in order to help the Cemetery out financially, Council would need to see the financial reports of the cemetery.

X. CORRESPONDENCE:

None

XI. NEW BUSINESS:

Secretary commented on bonding needed for Treasurer and Assistant Treasurer and will inquire it in further. Discussion was made on getting tax collector bonded.

XII. ADJOURNMENT:

Mr. Staron made the motion for adjournment at 9:16 P.M. seconded by Mr. Reto. 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, August 31, 2021.

Respectfully Submitted,

Rochelle M. Gresh
Assistant Secretary