Hawley Borough Council Meeting

94 Main Avenue

January 13, 2021 7pm

Prior to the meeting there was a workshop regarding a proposed short-term rental

ordinance.

Present from Council were President Monaghan, Vice President Herzog, and Councilpersons Bartleson and Dougherty. Councilpersons present via zoom were Councilpersons Faubel, Ferrara, and Rojas. Also present were Mayor Hawk, Chief Drake, Public Works Director Mead, Property Maintenance Code Enforcer Bolinger, Junior Councilperson Sealy-Ortero-Dougherty,Solicitor Bernathy, and Secretary Racht. Peter Becker of the Tri County Independent was also present. Present from the public via zoom was the Myers family.

Motion: made by Vice President Herzog, seconded by Councilperson Bartleson, and passed unanimously to accept the minutes from the December meeting.

Correspondence: The County is requesting information about cemeteries, restaurants, etc. in the Borough. Park and Rec will follow up. Kiley Engineering sent a rate sheet. The Commonwealth sent notice regarding a broadband cable being installed near the Welwood railroad crossing. There was a complaint regarding noise during snow removal. Palmyra Township sent notice that effective January 1 Tafton Ambulance will be charging $500 per call responded to in the Borough and $300 if turned back before it reaches the site.

Motion: made by Vice President Herzog, seconded by Councilperson Dougherty, and passed unanimously to notify the communications center and Tafton Ambulance know that we don’t want Tafton Ambulance to respond to calls in the Borough. Motion: made by Vice President Herzog, seconded by Councilperson Faubel, to retain Commonwealth as primary responder and add White Mills as secondary. Motion amended by Vice president Herzog, seconded by Councilperson Faubel, and passed unanimously to retain Commonwealth as primary and add White Mills as secondary conditional on receiving the proper documentation. Solicitor Bernathy will notify all parties.

Motion: made by Vice President Herzog, seconded by Councilperson Faubel, and passed unanimously to accept the treasurer’s report.

Motion: made by Councilperson Dougherty, seconded by Vice President Herzog, and passed unanimously to pay the bills as on the bills list.

Rental: Inspector Corino emailed, on file.

Zoning: emailed by SFM, on file.

Code Enforcement: Code Enforcer Bolinger emailed the report, on file.

Hawley Area Authority: nothing to report.

Planning: There was no meeting.

Grants: Motion: made by Councilperson Rojas, seconded by Councilperson Dougherty, and passed unanimously to adopt the Operations Manual prepared by Aterra. Motion: made by Councilperson Rojas, seconded by Vice President Herzog, and passed unanimously to authorize President Monaghan to sign the minutes showing that Hawley Borough officially adopted the Operations, Maintenance, and Emergency Action Plan, prepared by Aterra Solutions, LLC and dated October 2020,for operation, maintenance, and emergency action planning for the Hawley Flood Risk Management Project.

Park and Rec: There was no meeting. Motion: made by Vice President Herzog, seconded by Councilperson Bartleson, and passed unanimously to notify the Chamber of Northern Poconos to pick an alternate for their September Craft Fair. They had requested September 11.

Emergency Management: Mayor Hawk had nothing to report.

Mayor: He performed three weddings in December.

Solicitor: The Tebbenhoff hearing has been continued to January 29 at 1:30pm.

Finance: Motion: made by Councilperson Faubel, seconded by vice President Herzog, and passed unanimously to appoint Tim Farrell to perform the 2020 audit.

Police: Vice President Herzog had nothing to report.

Chief’s Report: Chief Drake thanked the Carachillo family, Wayne County Ready Mix, First Baptist Church, and Settler’s who together helped 42 local families in December.

Streets: Director Mead had emailed, on file.

Building: Councilperson Bartleson is having Bill Delling paint the hallway.

Ambulance: Vice President Herzog noted Commonwealth responded to 22 calls. Report on file.

Health and Welfare: Vice President Herzog noted that Covid vaccines were coming out.

Landlord/Tenant: Motion: made by Councilperson Dougherty, seconded by Vice President Herzog, and passed unanimously to waive any inspections in 2021 due to health concerns with the ongoing virus as long as there are no new tenants and no complaints.

Personnel: Councilperson Dougherty asked for an executive session regarding personnel.

Fire Report: Chief Mead gave the report, on file.

At 8pm, Council went into executive session. At 8:03, Council went back into the regular meeting. Motion: made by Councilperson Dougherty, seconded by Vice President Herzog, and passed unanimously to hire Ronald Mead part time as needed for snow removal at $11.15 per hour conditional on all clearances and pre employment drug screening passed.

Motion: made by Vice President Herzog, seconded by Councilperson Ferrara, and passed unanimously to adjourn. The time was 8:05pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Andrea Racht , Hawley Borough Secretary