Hawley Borough Council Meeting

November 11, 2020 7pm

94 Main Avenue

Prior to the meeting there was an executive session regarding litigation.

Present from Council were Vice President Herzog and Councilpersons Bartleson, Dougherty, Faubel, and Rojas. Councilperson Ferrara was present via ZOOM. President Monaghan was absent for medical reasons. Also present were Mayor Hawk, Chief Drake, Junior Councilperson Sealey-Otero-Dougherty. Director of Public Works Mead, Solicitor Bernathy, and Secretary Racht. Peter Becker of Tri County Independent was also present. Present from the public via Zoom were Bob Myers and Robert Tebbenhoff.

Vice President Herzog began the meeting with a salute to the flag.

Motion: made by Councilperson Dougherty, seconded by Councilperson Faubel and passed unanimously to pass the minutes from the October meeting.

Correspondence had been emailed. Vice President Herzog acknowledged Hometown Heroes and Rex Brand for the banners commemorating local veterans.

Motion: made by Councilperson Faubel, seconded by Councilperson Bartleson, and passed unanimously to accept the Treasurer’s report. Motion: made by Councilperson Dougherty, seconded by Councilperson Rojas, and passed unanimously to pay the bills on the bills list with the addition of from General $60 to PA State Mayors Association, $148.33 to Highouse Energy for Police vehicle fuel, and to Cardmember Services $193.26 for street bags and paper towels and from PLIGIT $60.46 to Highouse Energy for Truck fuel, and from Park to Cardmember Services $149 for split rail fence and lights.

Rental: Inspector Corino emailed the report, on file.

Ambulance: Vice President received the report from Commonwealth Health; there were 24 calls in October. Report on file.

Fire: Chief Mead gave the report, on file.

Hawley Area Authority: President Monaghan emailed, on file.

Zoning: Emailed by Zoning Officer Manter, on file. Motion: made by Councilperson Dougherty, seconded by Councilperson Bartleson, and passed unanimously to ask Zoning Officer Manter to look at the Tigue property and send a notice of violation if the property is still in violation.

Code Enforcement: Code Enforcer Ralph Bollinger had emailed the report, on file.

Planning: Councilperson Rojas emailed the report, on file.

Grants: PA DEP gave notice that a conduit inspection will need to be done in 2021.

Park and Rec: Motion: made by Councilperson Dougherty, seconded by Councilperson Rojas, and passed unanimously to write letters in support of three river accesses.

Emergency Management: Mayor Hawk will attend training on November 18.

Mayor: Mayor Hawk performed eight weddings in October.

Solicitor: Motion: made by Councilperson Dougherty, seconded by Councilperson Faubel, to schedule a workshop regarding a short-term rental ordinance. Motion: made by Councilperson Dougherty, seconded by Councilperson Faubel, and passed unanimously to amend the motion to that this will take place on December 9 at 6pm. Motion: made by Councilperson Dougherty, seconded by Councilperson Bartleson, and passed unanimously to deny the request as set forth by Attorney Magnotta on behalf of the Tebbenhoffs to permit Mr. Tebbenhoff to operate his business pending the January 2021 hearing.

Finance: Councilperson Faubel reported the budget for 2021: General $462,800, PLIGIT $ 42,000, Park and Rec $9,000, Fire $19,000, and Ambulance $6,000. Motion: made by Councilperson Faubel, seconded by Councilperson Ferrara to increase millage by .5. Motion passed with votes as follows: Bartleson Y, Dougherty N, Faubel Y, Ferrara Y, Rojas N, Herzog Y. Motion: made by Councilperson Faubel, seconded by Councilperson Bartleson, and passed unanimously to advertise the budget summary. Motion: made by Councilperson Faubel, seconded by Councilperson Bartleson, and passed unanimously to repay the tax anticipation note. Motion: made by Councilperson Faubel, seconded by Councilperson Rojas, and passed unanimously to apply for a tax anticipation note for 2021 in the amount of $50,000.

Police: The Police Committee didn’t meet.

Chief’s Report: Chief Drake gave the report, on file.

Streets: Director Mead had emailed the report, on file. Council will visit retrofitting the streetlamps soon. Motion: made by Councilperson Dougherty, seconded by Councilperson Faubel, and passed unanimously to spend $412 out of General for full-length running boards for the new truck. Palmyra is planning to pave Garfield and would like to know if the Borough can pave its part.

Mayor Hawk swore in Officer Amanda Boyd.

Vice President Herzog opened the only snow removal bid received. It was from E. R. Linde and listed per hour $88.50 for tri axle dump truck, $86.50 for spreader and plow, and $103.50 for a loader. Motion: made by Councilperson Faubel, seconded by Councilperson Dougherty, and passed unanimously to accept the bid conditional upon clarifying what “permit, licenses, and fees” mean.

Building: Nothing.

Health and Welfare: the regional ambulance meeting was cancelled.

Landlord/tenant: Councilperson Ferrara gave a review.

Personnel: Discussion of uniforms was tabled. Motion: made by Councilperson Dougherty, seconded by Councilperson Ferrara, and passed unanimously to raise Austin Bates’ hourly rate to $15 per hour for plowing snow. Austin Bivens has resigned from the Street Department but has not written a letter.

Old business: leaf removal for next year was discussed.

Motion: made by Councilperson Dougherty, seconded by Councilperson Bartleson, and passed unanimously to adjourn. The time was 7:45 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Andrea Racht, Hawley Borough Secretary.