Hawley Borough Council Meeting

May 13, 2020 7pm

94 Main Avenue

Present from Council were President Monaghan, Vice President Herzog, and Councilpersons Bartleson, Dougherty, Faubel, Ferrara, and Rojas. Also present were Mayor Hawk, Chief Drake, Zoning Officer P. J. Dougherty, Solicitor Bernathy, and Secretary Racht. Present from the public was Peter Becker. President Monaghan began the meeting with a salute to the flag.

Motion: made by Vice President Herzog, seconded by Councilperson Bartleson, and passed unanimously to accept the minutes from the April 2, 2020 Special Meeting due to Covid 19.Motion: made by Vice President Herzog, seconded by Councilperson Faubel, and passed unanimously to accept the Treasurer’s report as emailed. Motion: made by Councilperson Bartleson, seconded by Vice President Herzog, and passed unimously to pay the bills as on the emailed bills list.

Rental: Inspections are on hold at this time due to Covid-19.

Ambulance: Vice President Herzog gave the report, 22 calls in April.

Fire: Chief Mead said there was nothing to report.

Hawley Area Authority: report on file from President Monaghan.

Zoning: P. J. Dougherty reported on the demolition of the house that burned onMaple Avenue.

Code Enforcement: The Borough is still looking to fill the position.

Planning: Due to Covid-19, the Planning committee didn’t meet.

 Grants: Motion: made by Councilperson Rojas, seconded by Vice President Herzog, and passed unanimously to authorize the submission to the bulletproof vest grant program with local share in the amount of $2,500. Councilperson Rojas requested an executive session on personnel.

Park and Rec: Councilperson Dougherty gave the report. The Farm Market will be reopening on May 22 and will be following USDA guidelines. Motion: made by Councilperson Dougherty, seconded by Vice President Herzog, and passed unanimously to reject the tennis court bids received at the March 11 meeting. Motion: made by Councilperson Dougherty, seconded by Councilperson Rojas, and passed unanimously to rebid for the tennis court.

Motion: made by Vice President Herzog, seconded by Councilperson Bartleson, and passed unanimously to spend $400 that had come in for the community garden to construct two new garden plots.

Emergency Management: Mayor Hawk had nothing to report.

Solicitor’s Report: Motion: made by Vice President Herzog, seconded by Councilperson Bartleson, and passed 6-1 with Councilperson Dougherty voting no, to authorize Solicitor Bernathy to send Sylvania Social a letter saying the Council does not have enough information from them but would be happy to meet with them and due to ordinance 1-1989 cannot at this time support a letter on their behalf to the Liquor Control Board in support of them having alcohol outside on the sidewalk.

Finance: Councilperson Faubel reported that the finances were in better shape now than this time last year. Motion: made by Vice President Herzog, seconded by Councilperson Rojas, and passed unanimously based on Act 15 to pass Resolution 2020-6 regarding accepting tax payments at a discounted rate through August 31, 2020 and face value through December 31, 2020 with the penalty waived during this time.

Police: Vice President Herzog said that the department has been exemplary to help the greater community.

Chief’s Report: On file. A decision needs to be made regarding the carnival and July 4th Parade.

Streets and Roads: Emailed and on file.

Building: Three bids were received for a new furnace for the building and garage including new zone controls. D&G: $19,380, Amberg:$28,002, and Olsen: $33,188. Motion: made by Councilperson Bartleson, seconded by Councilperson Ferrara, and passed unanimously to accept the lowest bid, D&G at $19,380 with a contract provided by Solicitor Bernathy.

Personnel: President Monaghan said the Code Enforcement position was still open.

Council went into executive session at 7:50pm. Council went back into the regular meeting at 8:01 pm. Motion: made by Councilperson Dougherty, seconded by Vice President Herzog, and passed unanimously to adjourn. The time was 8:02 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Andrea Racht, Hawley Borough Secretary