Hawley Borough Council Meeting

 September 14, 2022 7:00pm

94 Main Avenue

Present from Council were President Rojas, Vice President Faubel, and Councilpersons Bartleson, Dougherty, Herzog, Monaghan, and Sanders. Also present were Officer Rowan, Mayor Nichols, Solicitor Bernathy, Director of Public Works Scott Mead, and Secretary Racht. Present from the public were Bob Myers, Mike Novatnak, Will Wyckoff, Kay Wyckoff, Ed Ahern, Jerry Arnoul, Duane Austin, Barb Middaugh, Chris Crawford, Terry Fletcher, Noreen King, Debra Figueroa, Lucy DelBuono, Charlene Meyers, and Peter Becker of the Tri-County Independent.

President Rojas began the meeting with a salute to the flag.

Motion: made by Councilperson Herzog, seconded by Councilperson Dougherty, and passed unanimously to approve the agenda with flexibility.

Motion: made by Councilperson Herzog, seconded by Councilperson Monaghan, and passed unanimously to accept the minutes from the August 10 regular meeting. Motion: made by Councilperson Sanders, seconded by Councilperson Herzog, and passed unanimously to accept the minutes from the August 16 ordinance workshop meeting.

Pastor Mark Juengel of the First Presbyterian Church introduced himself.

Duane Austin asked about her driveway.

Meghan O’Rourke was not present to discuss how events affected merchants.

Ed Ahern of 509 Welwood spoke about bears getting into the dumpster of the restaurant next to him and leaving trash in his yard. The restaurant will put in a bear proof dumpster.

Kevin Interdonato spoke about a movie he proposes to make in Hawley. Solicitor Bernathy told him several requirements including providing dates, times, requested street closures, and naming the Borough as an additional insured.

Ed Merill asked about new homes that might be built off Fern Street so Councilperson Sanders covered Planning. KBA Engineering is looking to potentially build 20-24 single-family homes and about the same amount of two family homes.

Next, there was a long discussion regarding the quarry in Palmyra Township, Wayne. Alan Feinstein of Columbus Avenue, Michael Kudrich**,** Barb Middaugh, Will Wyckoff, Charlene Feinstein of Columbus Avenue, Chris Crawford of Columbus Avenue, Jeff Sidle of Wangum, Steve Wanamaker, and Terry Fletcher of Columbus Avenue spoke about the quarry.

Noreen King asked when zoning was last updated.

Motion: made by Vice President Faubel, seconded by Councilperson Sanders, and passed unanimously to accept the Treasurer’s report and to pay the bills as listed with the addition of the $5,267.00 Reilly bill out of Pligit for engineering regarding bonding Paupack. Motion: amended by Vice President Faubel, seconded by Councilperson Sanders, and passed unanimously to amend the motion to add paying McClane’s last engineering invoice of $1,550 for the pickle ball court out of Park and Rec.

Planning: Councilperson Sanders had covered earlier, report on file.

Landlord/Tenant: The re-inspection rate will be $70.

Ambulance: Ken Morrison of Lake Region Ems gave the report. Councilperson Herzog gave the PPH report, on file. Motion: made by Councilperson Herzog, seconded by Councilperson Dougherty, and passed unanimously to appoint the Paupack Secretary Treasurer as treasurer of PPH and that two signatures will be required.

Motion: made by Councilperson Herzog, seconded by Vice President Faubel, and passed unanimously to release $5,000 once the PPH checking account is set up.

Fire: Chief Mead gave the report, on file.

Hawley Area Authority: report on file.

Zoning: President Rojas gave the report from SFM, on file.

Property Maintenance: President Rojas gave the report from Ralph Bolinger, on file.

Park and Rec: Councilperson Dougherty reported that they will waive the library 5K fee.

Grants: Motion: made by Councilperson Sanders, seconded by Councilperson Herzog, and passed unanimously to authorize resolution 2022-7 to submit an LSA grant application for Police vehicle and cameras and to cover the local contribution.

Motion: made by Councilperson Sanders, seconded by Councilperson Dougherty, and passed unanimously to do the Hero Pay if feasible.

Motion: made by Vice President Faubel, seconded by Councilperson Monaghan, and passed unanimously to apply for local law enforcement grant. Amended by Vice President Faubel, seconded by Councilperson Monaghan, and passed unanimously to amend the motion to make technology the first priority and education the second.

Emergency Management: Councilperson Sanders said she and Kevin Hawk went to the quarterly County meeting, report on file.

Mayor: Mayor Nichols said he had performed one wedding and spoke about Peter Becker’s new book about Hawley.

Solicitor: Solicitor Bernathy asked Council to review the Short Term Rental draft ordinance he had supplied.

Finance: Vice President Faubel said the budget meeting would take place October 18 at 6:30pm.

Police Committee: Councilperson Herzog said that the new Police vehicle would be shipped the first week of October. Motion: made by Councilperson Herzog, seconded by Councilperson Sanders, and passed unanimously to hire Vincent Mezik as Police officer.

Chief’s Report: Officer Rowan reported it was on file.

Streets: Scott Mead’s report is on file. Motion: made by Councilperson Monaghan, seconded by Councilperson Herzog, and passed unanimously to ratify the $6,000 vote from Pligit for truck repair.

Road Master Mead spoke about two sinkholes along Route Six. He will have the Penndot Engineer look at them, as the work will need to be bid out.

Building: Motion: made by Councilperson Sanders, seconded by Councilperson Herzog, and passed unanimously to approve two hundred dollars for a small water heater for the magistrate and to purchase dog waste bags.

Health and Welfare: Councilperson Herzog reminded everyone to take the County’s housing survey.

Personnel: Councilperson Sanders said it was already handled under Police.

Unfinished business: the conditional use will be rescheduled based upon a stenographer being available.

Motion: made by Councilperson Sanders, seconded by Vice President Faubel, and passed unanimously to adjourn. The time was 8:35pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Andrea Racht, Hawley Borough Secretary