

REGULAR SESSION ** ECONOMY BOROUGH COUNCIL ** JULY 8, 2008

Council President Ronald R. Rock called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM in Council Chambers of the Economy Municipal Building to conduct business of general purposes.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ROLL CALL

PRESENT: Larry Googins, Arthur Mutschler, Audrey Mutschler, Renee Raymer, Donald Sivy, John C. Thomas, Ronald R. Rock

ALSO PRESENT: Mayor David N. Poling, Mike Jones, Esq. (7:21 PM) , Norman Shoup, P.E., Randy S. Kunkle, Borough Manager, Earl Fitzgerald, Road Foreman

HEAR THE PUBLIC:

Sal Boboth, 105 Timber Ridge Road, reported build up of berm sediment along Timber Ridge. Mr. Fitzgerald reported this will be scheduled and bermed out before winter.

Mike Lucia, 416 Golden Grove Road, reported a small hole on Summerfield Drive that is eroding. Mr. Fitzgerald will look at this.

David Ames, 405 Golden Grove Road, asked the status of the discussion at the June 10th meeting regarding moving the entrance to Freedom Road at Conway Wallrose Road away from the Keystone Creamery parking lot. Mr. Shoup reported Conway Wallrose Road has a 22' right of way and Freedom Road is 33' wide; the curb cuts are within the right of way; costly easements would be needed to make this a 90 degree turn. Mr. Kunkle suggested the Public Safety Committee and Chief Harrington look at this intersection for recommendations. Mr. Shoup recommended making Freedom Road one way out from the last house near Rolling Hills Road and no right turn off Conway Wallrose Road onto Freedom Road.

MINUTES:

MOTION by Mr. Mutschler seconded by Mr. Sivy – to approve the minutes of the June 24, 2008, Regular Session of Council, as written. CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

MAYOR'S REPORT:

Mayor Poling read the Mayor's Report for the Police Department for the month of June as prepared by Chief Harrington, which will be on file for review in the borough secretary's office.

Mayor Poling will forward emails from Jeff Lehn to Mr. Fitzgerald. Mr. Fitzgerald reported he responded to Mr. Lehn's original email and Mr. Lehn never answered him back.

Mayor Poling reported PennDOT has started the traffic study at Bock Lane and Conway Wallrose Road and asked if a traffic study for 3 way stop signs was requested for Dunlap Hill/SR 989 and Conway Wallrose Road. Mr. Kunkle reported Mrs. Mutschler was to review this with Chief Harrington because of the sight distance near Stanley's. Mr. Thomas felt stop signs would be worse and there may be accidents in the beginning. Mrs. Mutschler reported research of accidents at Bock Lane and Conway Wallrose Road showed 3 accidents. Mayor

Poling was told by PennDOT if 600 cars pass in an 8 hour period, the road qualifies for stop signs. Mr. Googins suggested starting the process to get a study for the traffic signals. Mr. Kunkle advised PennDOT will not do a traffic signal study without a financial commitment from the municipality. Mr. Shoup estimates a traffic signal at \$150,000.00; can not install used traffic signals as this is a state road. Mayor Poling reported Liberty Hills has committed to \$25,000 over a 3 year period. Mr. Googins will give Mr. Kunkle information from SPC regarding funding for traffic signals.

MANAGER'S REPORT:

1. Brush Hog Damage: Mr. Kunkle advised our insurance carrier has denied the claim; this is the incident that took place on Amsler Ridge Road whereby the Crimm's discovered a broken window after our brush hog cut across the street in front of their house; no one saw the brush hog do the damage but the circumstances suggest it is a possible culprit; the Crimm's are requesting Economy Borough consider replacing their window for just under \$500. After discussion Council decided not to pay for the window.

2. Abandoned Properties: Mr. Kunkle informed Council that possibly in future cases of abandoned properties with high grass and weeds: if the code enforcement office can not locate an owner or property maintenance, Economy Borough may need to hire a third party to clean up the property and then place a lien on the property.

3. Recording Devices: Mr. Kunkle received the July 3, 2008, Brighton Music & Sound Quote IQ784.1 for Council Chambers Sound Recording Upgrade. Council decided to arrange for a loaner H4 unit as per Brighton Music & Sound suggestion in their quote.

4. E. Reid Powell Refuse Bags: Mr. Kunkle reported the Economy Superette not longer wishes to participate in selling extra refuse bags to the residents; the Economy Borough office will sell the bags. Mayor Poling suggested contacting Miller's Mini Market to see if they still wish to participate. Mrs. Mutschler requested information be put in the Fall Newsletter. Mr. Thomas suggested explaining the guidelines again in the newsletter and the locations bags can be purchased from.

Mr. Rock asked the status of the vehicle painting. Mr. Kunkle has obtained 1 quote and is in the process of getting 2 more.

Mr. Rock asked if information on the digital speed monitoring signs has been received. Mr. Kunkle reported the signs are approximately \$3,700 each; grant money is available and will be applied for.

COMMITTEE REPORTS and OTHER BUSINESS:

ORDINANCE and RECREATION:

No Report

PUBLIC UTILITIES:

Mr. Googins reported the Ambridge Water Authority Conway Wallrose Road Water Tank installation is delayed as they are awaiting electrical installation; tentatively scheduled for mid July.

PROPERTY and BUILDING:

Mr. Sivy reported mowing and trimming grass areas and inside maintenance on rain days.

PUBLIC SAFETY:

Mrs. Mutschler reported she will check with Chief Harrington on the Keystone Creamery issue; sight distance at Dunlap Hill and requesting a skid resistance test from PennDOT for Ridge Road Extension on the Conway Wallrose Road end.

FINANCE COMMITTEE:

Mrs. Mutschler verified with Mr. Kunkle that a line item will be added to the budget regarding the road department petty cash . Mrs. Mutschler reported receiving a copy of the scrap money receipts which include hand written receipts for such items as reimbursement for shortage in snack box; employees should pay for their snacks or remove the box. . Mr. Googins reported receipts were not required in the past and Earl did the extra work of providing receipts. Mr. Thomas suggested giving the petty cash to the police department and the road department and from this day forward, require receipts; this is a good practice to get into and there will be no discrepancies.

Mr. Mutschler inquired about the Ambridge Water Authority bill in the amount of \$409.60 for the police department. Mr. Kunkle stated this is considered a commercial account due to the size of the meter.

MOTION by Mrs. Raymer, seconded by Mr. Thomas – to authorize payment of all bills listed and properly signed off and approved by the appropriate supervisor of that department. CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Mrs. Raymer reported Mr. Googins and Mr. Rock are requesting to attend the Budgeting Tools and Techniques PSAB Training Session on August 6th at the Holiday Inn, Beaver Falls at a cost of \$65.00 each plus mileage.

MOTION by Mr. Thomas, seconded by Mr. Sivy – to authorize Mr. Googins and Mr. Rock to attend the Budgeting Tools and Techniques PSAB Training Session on August 6th at the Holiday Inn, Beaver Falls at a cost of \$65.00 each plus mileage. CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

ROAD DEPARTMENT:

Mr. Mutschler reported the line striping is completed; Mr. Shoup has comments on Roberts Lane; and the playground at Sunset Hills is scheduled to be started.

REPORTS:

ENGINEER:

Mr. Shoup reported meeting with Scott Shoup, Earl Fitzgerald and Randy Kunkle regarding the Roberts Lane issue; someone put in a 10” vitrified clay pipe up towards this property; apparently when they get a hard storm the 10” pipe can’t handle it and it overflows and water runs down and across the road, drops in a ditch and flows to Lake Donald; the solution would be to extend the 18” pipe about 120’ and put a headwall on; feels the 18” would handle that and it would no longer overflow come down and go across the road; materials for this would be approximately \$900-\$1,000; Economy Borough would need an easement if there is not one there, however there may be one; Scott talked with Mrs. Hartles daughter and does not think there will be a problem getting an easement; all the work would be done on the Hartle property; been there for many years, but is a problem. Mr. Googins asked if it should be budgeted for next year or done this year. Mr. Kunkle reported the

first step would be to get a 20' easement, a survey, the solicitor to file papers, and the Hartles signature. Mrs. Mutschler suggested reviewing the situation, get a final cost and wait until money is available. Mr. Shoup estimated \$1,000 for the materials, \$500 for the easement and legal. Mr. Googins suggested getting the easement done now until the budget is reviewed. Mr. Rock stated this will be put under review, tabled for now, to be considered towards the end of this year; will get the easement in the late fall or winter for consideration in the spring. Mr. Shoup stated in the mean time he would check to see if there is an existing easement; leaves at the end of September.

Mr. Shoup commented on the Richard Mueller (104 Roberts Lane) letter; the "ditch" that runs down Rose Street is classified by DEP as a stream; you can not pipe a stream; this runs year round; nothing that can be done about this.

Mr. Googins asked the status of the salt shed lighting issue with Duquesne Light. Mr. Shoup reported the transformer box is owned by Duquesne Light; Crown had no problem if Economy Borough wanted to hook into that box; Crown has no say, but were concerned about being out of service; Duquesne Light is concerned they would have to put Crown out of service for a few hours while they made some transfers; Scott provided the meter numbers to them to see what the load is and has not heard back yet; the answer is yes Economy Borough can go into that box and get power needed. Mr. Sivy would like to do something before winter. Mr. Shoup will call Duquesne Light again and will report next month; last resort will be to call the PUC; the 3 estimates received earlier may have changed.

SOLICITOR:

Mr. Jones reported we are waiting for the judge to issue a writ on the Northern Light Shopping Center issue and the Ambridge Water Authority suit was filed and has been served; litigation will commence.

SECRETARY:

No Report

Mrs. Mutschler requested the American Flag holder in Council Chambers be repaired or replaced as it fell last night. Mr. Rock suggested a bigger base.

HEAR THE PUBLIC II

Mike Lucia, 416 Golden Grove Road, asked which road was being discussed as being slippery. Mrs. Mutschler stated Ridge Road Extension from Conway Wallrose Road to Kreust Drive. Sal Boboth, 105 Timber Ridge Road, reported Hoenig Road was like that similar years ago.

ADJOURNMENT:

***MOTION by Mr. Mutschler, seconded by Mr. Sivy – to adjourn the meeting. Time: 8:32PM
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY***

Respectfully submitted,

Susan A. Blum
Borough Secretary
July 18, 2008