

**REGULAR SESSION \*\* ECONOMY BOROUGH COUNCIL \*\* JULY 10, 2007**

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:** Nick F. Gnarra, Jr., Larry Googins, Arthur O. Mutschler, Audrey Mutschler, Donald Sivy, Ronald R. Rock

**ABSENT:** Renee Raymer, Vacation

**ALSO PRESENT:** Dale M. Fouse, Esq., Norman Shoup, P.E., Earl Fitzgerald, Road Foreman, Randy S. Kunkle, Borough Manager

David A. Lucci, RLA, Victor-Wetzel Associates, came before Council on behalf of Traditions of America regarding the Liberty Hills project requesting approval of the Liberty Hills Phase II Final Plan. Mr. Kunkle advised the Economy Borough Planning Commission gave approval of the Final Plan at their meeting last night.

***MOTION by Mr. Googins, seconded by Mr. Mutschler – to authorize the approval of the Liberty Hills Phase II Final Plan as per the recommendation and conditions of the Economy Borough Planning Commission.***  
***CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY***

**HEAR THE PUBLIC:**

Bob Mecchia, 211 Fernwood Drive, reported to Council the speeding on Park Hill Road seems to have eased up slightly due to the police presence, new signage and citations and warnings being issued by the police; suggested mock white line and speed plateaus. Mrs. Mutschler will check into the speed plateaus.

Barbara Baldwin, 116 Green Forest Drive, advised Council on the Emerald Ash Borer and the lack of preparedness and information from the Federal Government; has used a granule pesticide on her own 3 100' ash trees. Mr. Kunkle reported he attended the news conference in Cranberry and the USDA and the PA Department of Agriculture are partnering to locate the center of the infestation and have compared the Emerald Ash Borer to the blight that killed the American Chestnut Tree.

Bob Pleslusky, 120 Foxglove Drive, came before Council regarding the proposed Burning Ordinance; does not feel it is strong enough from the legal ad; has had an ongoing burning issue with the neighbor at 124 Foxglove burning green trees and leaves. Mr. Kunkle reported the legal ad is only a summary and provided Mr. Pleslusky with a full copy of the proposed burning ordinance.

Ray Mattern, 2906 Conway Wallrose Road, suggested putting the information about the new burning ordinance in the next edition of the Economy Connection; suggested a possible place to dump yard waste to be mulched for residents to use.

Butch Thompson, First Street, reported Brighton Township has a chipper/shredder at their borough building; the residents bring the yard waste and can take mulch back. Mrs. Baldwin suggested the Boy Scouts could have a yard waste program. Mr. Mecchia reported Edgeworth has no burning, but a chipper is driven on the streets daily collecting yard waste residents put to the curb.

Chuck Cutright, 300 Compton Heights, came before Council with his concern of election signs being put up in the public right of ways prior to the 14 day period before the election; felt Economy Borough had the most signs in this Primary Election than any other municipality in Beaver County and it was awful.

Bob Mecchia suggested with Liberty Hills being approved Economy Borough should look ahead and budget for more police to cover this area.

### **MINUTES:**

***MOTION by Mr. Sivy seconded by Mr. Mutschler – to approve the Minutes of the June 26, 2007, Regular Session of Council, as written. CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY***

### **MAYOR’S REPORT:**

Mrs. Mutschler read the Mayor’s Monthly Report for the Police Department for the month of June, 2007, as prepared by Chief Harrington, which will be on file for review in the borough secretary’s office, once signed.

Mr. Googins reported on painting ghost lines. Mr. Fitzgerald reported Baden Borough will do this for Economy Borough when they paint the parking lot lines; due to the maintenance of the paint machine, Baden only paints once a year and will schedule Economy Borough at that time.

### **MANAGER’S REPORT:**

**1. Outdoor Burning ORDINANCE No. 413:** Mr. Kunkle reported the proposed ordinance has been advertised and is ready for adoption.

***MOTION by Mrs. Mutschler, seconded by Mr. Googins – to adopt Ordinance No. 413, establishing the rules and procedures for outdoor burning and the restrictions and penalties for violations. CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY***

**2. Amending Fees RESOLUTION No. 413:** Mr. Kunkle reported this resolution has been advertised and will amend the fees resolution by adding residential electric inspection fees.

***MOTION by Mr. Googins, seconded by Mr. Sivy – to adopt Resolution No. 413 amending the Economy Borough schedule of fees and charges per Borough Ordinance No. 303. CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY***

Question on the Motion: Mr. Mutschler asked how the proposed fees compare with local Underwriter fees. Mr. Kunkle stated Mr. Luff reported these fees are in line with other municipalities. Liability was questioned. Mr. Fouse stated there is limited liability on inspections. Availability for after hour power outages and

reconnects was questioned. Mr. Kunkle reported residents are not required to use the Economy Borough inspectors, they may choose who does their inspections.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS and OTHER BUSINESS:**

**ORDINANCE and RECREATION:** No Report

**PUBLIC UTILITIES:** No Report

**PROPERTY and BUILDING:**

Mr. Sivy reported he received the report from Mr. Shoup; requested changes and will have an updated report for the next meeting on the municipal building air conditioner issue.

Mr. Sivy reported he has been in contact with Cutler Hammer and Conserve Electric on the thermostat issue for the emergency generator; will report back.

Mr. Sivy reported he has researched Wal-Mart, Radio Shack and the internet for a portable CD recorder and finds that the cost is from \$699 and up; digital recorders do not make a record; feels the written minutes approved by Council is sufficient. Mrs. Mutschler prefers an updated system to record the meetings; Baden Borough just purchased a system; will get more information from the other municipalities. Mr. Gnarra suggested Mr. Sivy give all of Council the information he has gathered to review, then a motion can be made for Council consideration.

**PUBLIC SAFETY:**

Mrs. Mutschler verified that all Council received the status report on the police officers; only 2 part time officers are working.

***MOTION by Mrs. Mutschler, seconded by Mr. Gnarra – to proceed with the hiring of Chris Ferragonio as a part time police officer. CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY***

Mrs. Mutschler advised she will have Mr. Ferragonio come to a meeting to meet with Council.

Mrs. Mutschler advised information is still being gathered on the benefits of the current part time officers.

**FINANCE COMMITTEE:**

Mr. Gnarra verified that all elected officials and department heads received the information regarding the revised DCED accounts numbers.

***MOTION by Mr. Gnarra, seconded by Mrs. Mutschler – that all bills listed and properly signed by the appropriate supervisor of that department be approved for payment. CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY***

**ROAD DEPARTMENT:**

Mr. Mutschler read the Road Department Report for June, 2007, as prepared by Mr. Fitzgerald, which will be on file for review in the borough secretary's office.

Mr. Googins explained the history of the request and disposition of catch basins on Compton Road and Locust Road.

Mr. Googins requested an Executive Session to discuss a Road Department personnel issue with no vote.

**REPORTS:**

**SECRETARY:**

No Report

**ENGINEER:**

Mr. Shoup reported the paving contract has been signed and the notice to proceed issued.

**SOLICITOR:**

No Report

*MOTION by Mr. Sivy, seconded by Mr. Mutschler – to enter into Executive Session to discuss a Road Department personnel issue with no vote. Time: 8:55 PM CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY*

*MOTION by Mrs. Mutschler, seconded by Mr. Googins – to return to the regular order of business. Time: 10:20 PM CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY*

**ADJOURNMENT:**

*MOTION by Mrs. Mutschler, seconded by Mr. Googins – to adjourn the meeting. Time: 10:21 PM CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY*

Respectfully submitted,

Susan A. Blum  
Borough Secretary  
July 13, 2007

List of Bills attached to Minute Book