

REGULAR SESSION ** ECONOMY BOROUGH COUNCIL ** SEPTEMBER 25, 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, Renee Raymer, Donald Sivy, Ronald R. Rock

ALSO PRESENT: Mayor David N. Poling, Dale M. Fouse, Esq., Randy S. Kunkle, Borough Manager

HEAR THE PUBLIC:

Kathy Douds, 640 Nova Drive, came before Council asking the status of the Sunset Hills recreation area. Mr. Kunkle gave a detailed overview of the Grand Master Plan Study to this point; Economy Borough could get started in this area to show some progress and finish Recreation Park later. Mrs. Douds will bring a petition to the next Council meeting from the Sunset Hills residents requesting the play area be started.

Frank Snyder, 840 Second Avenue, came before Council requesting that the sidewalk enforcement be done in a consistent manner; and would like to see the annual yard sale stopped due to the potential liability; move it to a park; most of the participants are friends and family of residents who bring in their items for sale; trailers are brought into Sunset Hills. Mr. Rock suggested the Jr. High as a site. Mrs. Douds stated approximately 70 of the 300 +/- homes participated.

Mark Romasco, 845 Second Avenue, asked why the focus on sidewalk enforcement was on Sunset Hills and would also like to see the annual yard sale stopped, feels it is a liability issue. Officer Lively stated it is a problem if you are caught in the back of the plan. Mr. Kunkle advised articles have been in the newsletter for 5 years letting the residents know sidewalk maintenance would be enforced; Sunset Hills was first (and is not finished) as a complaint was received that a child fell and got hurt in Sunset Hills last year during Trick & Treat; the CEO has been instructed to look for the most critical areas. Mr. Kunkle advised the Sunset Hills Association applies for the yard sale permit every year. Mr. Rock asked Mr. Kunkle to contact the association to let them know Council is looking at this seriously as beyond the scope of a yard sale. Mr. Googins suggested different color paint for the sidewalks. Mrs. Mutschler stated some sidewalks were completely missed; Highfield Estates is worse. Mayor Poling advised some of the sidewalk issues were caused by utility work; Cranberry has a 48" utility set back, should be considered in future development agreements.

MINUTES:

MOTION by Mr. Gnarra seconded by Mr. Googins – to approve the Minutes of the September 11, 2007, Regular Session of Council, as written. **CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

MAYOR'S REPORT:

Mayor Poling reported receiving a letter from Bill Vild, Woodcroft Road, suggesting speed bumps to help with the traffic speeding issues.

Mayor Poling reported the Beaver County 9-1-1 Center will be making a decision this week on a new 10 million dollar facility; Economy Borough is one site to be considered and 2 sites in Ambridge are being considered; property would be with a \$1 lease.

Mayor Poling reported Chief Harrington would like to change the security system at the police building to a card system; approximately \$4,500 to \$5,000 cost. Mr. Gnarra requested the contractor give Economy Borough 3 options, 1) price on police building only; 2) price on police building and municipal building; and 3) price on police building, municipal building and borough garage.

Mr. Mutschler asked how the police car got damaged. Officer Lively reported during the Steel Hammer exercise, an Army personnel was being driven to the sub station office and our driver didn't see the pole at Dollar Tree and hit it straight on; air bag did not deploy and is being looked into; our insurance company is having the vehicle repaired.

MANAGER'S REPORT:

1. Resolution No. 415 – Deed of Dedication: Mr. Kunkle advised in order for the Recorder of Deeds office to accept Ray Kenny's deed of dedication regarding Barbara Drive, Resolution No. 415 has to be adopted; similar to the earlier resolutions regarding the four property owners abutting Barbara Drive.

MOTION by Mr. Googins, seconded by Mr. Sivy – to authorize the adoption of Resolution No. 415 – pertaining to the pending disposition of the private road called Barbara Drive. CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

2. Schmidt/Bjelivuk Subdivision: Mr. Kunkle reported this is a simple subdivision whereby one family member is giving another family member a small piece of property that the latter has been using for years as access to their property.

MOTION by Mr. Gnarra, seconded by Mrs. Mutschler – to authorize the approval of the Schmidt/Bjelivuk Subdivision with the recommendations and conditions set forth by the Economy Borough Planning Commission and the Beaver County Planning Commission. CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

3. PSAB Fall Leadership Conference: Mr. Kunkle advised the PSAB Fall Leadership Conference is in State College, October 19-21, 2007; \$160 for full Registration \$113.93/ Friday and Saturday nights; deadline for registration is tomorrow.

Motion by Mr. Googins, seconded by Mr. Sivy – to authorize one (1) person to attend the PSAB Fall Leadership Conference at a cost of no more than \$600. CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

COMMITTEE REPORTS and OTHER BUSINESS:

FINANCE COMMITTEE:

Mr. Gnarra reported Mr. Kunkle has provided the Finance Committee with the 1st draft of the 2008 budget and will coordinate meetings.

Mr. Gnarra verified that all elected officials have received a copy of the Statement of Tax Collections and Distributions for the year ended December 31, 2006, for Central Tax Bureau of PA and a copy of the August, 2007 monthly Centax report. Mr. Gnarra reported the earned income tax is behind in the estimated collections and there may be a short fall.

ROAD DEPARTMENT:

Mr. Mutschler reported the inside of the salt shed is being paved in order to store the salt. Mr. Gnarra verified the work will be done for this winter season; money has been saved by using millings from another APWA municipality.

ORDINANCE and RECREATION:

Mrs. Raymer reported the Economy Recreation Fall bus day trip to Casino Seneca will be Saturday, September 29, 2007; 1 bus is going.

PUBLIC UTILITIES

Mr. Googins reported attending the Ambridge Water Authority meeting last week; the Pinehurst Water Line Project was discussed.

Mr. Googins reported a complaint has been received about the speeding on Silver Hollow/Walnut by people using it as a short cut; the street has not been accepted yet. Officer Lively reported there are no signs in Whispering Pines II. Mr. Googins suggested appropriate speed limit signs. Mr. Mutschler suggested Watch Children signs. The developers agreement will be reviewed.

Mr. Googins verified the Road Opening Ordinance is being worked on; top coat on a roadway is usually per the developers agreement; suggested it be done after all the utilities have dug into the roadway.

Mr. Googins reported on Friday, October 5th pallets of flavored water will be available to non-profits for free by Creekside Springs, Ambridge.

PROPERTY and BUILDING:

Mr. Sivy reported the John Deer needs the clutch replaced/repared before winter; estimate \$2,500 to \$3,000.

Mr. Sivy reported a leak has developed in the wall between the men's and women's room in the municipal building on the roof; and exhaust fans are not working in the municipal building and the community building.

Mr. Sivy reported a company called Uncommon USA has flag poles for approximately \$1,800 to \$2,000.

Mr. Sivy reported an engineering survey was done on the lighting systems in all 3 buildings; waiting for the written report.

PUBLIC SAFETY:

No Report

REPORTS:

SECRETARY:

No Report

ENGINEER:

No Report

SOLICITOR:

Mr. Fouse reported receiving the retirement proposal for Ron Heitzenrater confirmation dated September 20, 2007, accepting the terms of the retirement proposal package:

1. \$25,000 lump sum (incentive) payment.
2. Payment of \$3,550 for unused sick days.
3. An estimated salary for the past thirty-six (36) months totaling \$173,256 that will serve as the basis for his monthly retirement stipend; and
4. An Act 600 "Service Increment" addition of \$500 per month in addition to monthly retirement income based upon the figure set forth in number three (3) above.

MOTION by Mrs. Mutschler, seconded by Mr. Mutschler – to authorize the approval of Sgt. Ronald Heitzenrater retirement effective October 1, 2007, and authorize Mr. Kunkle to make the appropriate payments and authorize the solicitor to review the terms of the package with the actuary to confirm with them that the estimated salary is appropriate. CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Mr. Gnarra wants to make sure that Mr. Heitzenrater is aware the payment for any month is paid at the end of that month.

Mr. Fouse reminded Council that two (2) years ago Economy Borough was approached by developers who were interested in acquiring property around Northern Lights Shopping Center (NLSC); that fell through for a number of reasons; a year later Mayor Poling organized a meeting between Mr. Fouse and the attorney who represented some of the same developers. Mr. Fouse met with this attorney on several occasions to discuss the Northern Lights Shopping Center and ultimately made Mr. Fouse aware that his client was interested in the property referred to as the Boal Property, beyond and behind the Northern Lights Shopping Center, which is a commercially zoned district, which our zoning map reflects and our Planning Commission has reviewed; the obvious problem was access to that commercial district and it became apparent that the way to perhaps achieve access was to go through Northern Lights Shopping Center; these past discussions are now being made publicly known because the planning consultant, Roberta Sarraf had reviewed our plan to provide access

to that property as well as a potential zoning ordinance text change; Ms. Sarraf has prepared a memorandum that she will deliver to the Economy Borough Planning Commission at their October 1, 2007 meeting; Mr. Kunkle will also attend the meeting; Mr. Fouse met with Mr. Kunkle, Mayor Poling and Mr. Sable and a representative from the developer and based upon those discussions Mr. Fouse directed Ms. Sarraf to make recommendations to the EB Planning Commission; reporting this to Council now as Mr. Fouse assumes that from the EB Planning Commission meeting Council will be getting a recommendation of some sort which Council may be asked to consider on October 9th, and the action to occur in November, 2007; Council will be considering a recommendation not inconsistent with Executive Session discussions in the past; it is now time to make this a public record; in the past Council may have had Executive Sessions associated with this discussion because personal property is being exchanged between other people; at this junction it is not appropriate to be in Executive Session; Mr. Fouse commented that not only will this roadway provide access to the only remaining significant commercial district in Economy Borough, but it also will help us clarify and clean up an issue we have had with the deed and description at the intersection off SR 65 at NLSC; still has deed drafted by the previous solicitor, Dave Joyce, 13 years ago that was never executed; there are many issues with regards to that intersection, who owns it and who should be maintaining it; over the years we have had discussions with the owner of NLSC; this will clean up and clarify it; Economy Borough will be taking that road and it will become a borough road all the way to SR 65 and all the way up to the commercial district beyond NLSC; not asking for any action at this juncture; maybe the second meeting in October there may be some action.

ADJOURNMENT:

***MOTION by Mrs. Mutschler, seconded by Mr. Mutschler – to adjourn the meeting. Time: 8:30 PM
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY***

Respectfully submitted,

Susan A. Blum
Borough Secretary
September 28, 2007