

**REGULAR SESSION \*\* ECONOMY BOROUGH COUNCIL \*\* JANARY 22, 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 O. Mutschler, Audrey Mutschler, Renee Raymer, John C. Thomas, Ronald R. Rock

**ABSENT:** Donald Sivy- Working (Cleveland)

**ALSO PRESENT:** Mayor David N. Poling, Michael B. Jones, Esq., Randy S. Kunkle, Borough Manager

William Vescio, President, Bryon Funding, Inc., gave an update of the Police Pension and the Non Uniformed Pension Fund for the Fourth Quarter, 2007 and a market commentary for the year 2008.

Robert J. Villella, President, Central Tax Bureau of PA, Inc., came before Council with an update report on how CENTAX progressed with the transition year of 2007 and how CENTAX will continue to raise collections with use of the 2005 and 2006 State List when received from the Ambridge Area School District.

**HEAR THE PUBLIC:**

Stanley Dulsky, 112 Gross Drive, reported to Council he is not satisfied with the fact that he was not made aware of when the dye testing was done by Shoup Engineering; saw no evidence or indication of the dye test being done; wants to be present. Mr. Kunkle reported he and Mr. Googins went to the site after the test was done and did see a trace amount of purple residue in the outfall. Mr. Googins offered to provide Mr. Dulsky with a picture of the residue. Mr. Rock verified the cost to redo the dye test would be approximately \$40.00; after discussion, it was decided to have Mr. Kunkle contact Shoup Engineer to re do the dye test when the weather permits; Mr. Shoup to contact Mr. Dulksy and Mr. Rock when the test is scheduled.

Gary Bucuren, 3480 Conway Wallrose Road, came before Council with his concerns of Economy Borough spending; questioned why an Economy Borough owned vehicle is parked at an employees home while the employee is off sick/on vacation; questioned if the 1 Ton was used by an employee to do work on the side; questioned why an employee would have 2 cell phones; questioned why the Economy Borough pick up truck was parked at Carmody's on December 7<sup>th</sup> for 3-4 hours (has a picture not taken by him); feels as a tax payer this is wrong. Mr. Googins stated past Council permitted use of the vehicle as part of the job incentive. Mr. Rock asked Mr. Bucuren to name who is saying these things he is hearing and who took the picture. Mr. Bucuren declined to name names.

**MINUTES:**

**MOTION** by Mr. Mutschler seconded by Mr. Googins – to approve the Minutes of the January 7, 2008, Re-organization Meeting of Council, as written. **CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**MAYOR'S REPORT:**

Mayor Poling reported he spoke with Tom Johnson, retired PennDOT employee, and was told money was allocated to do Conway Wallrose Road from one end to the other; feels Economy Borough needs to be vigilant to make sure this gets done. Mr. Kunkle reported the original plan was to pave ½ in 2007 and ½ in 2008; new plans are to do the work all at once in 2008.

Mayor Poling reported the Beaver County Commissioners have decided to build the new 9-1-1 Center in Ambridge.

Mayor Poling verified the NLSC New Car monies are in a separate fund account.

Mr. Googins commented he witnessed that the police department is still making an effort on Park Hill Road to stop speeding.

**MANAGER'S REPORT:**

**1. Non-organized Employee Wages:**

*MOTION by Mr. Googins, seconded by Mrs. Raymer – to authorize the increase of the hourly rate of the custodian, Mark Custer, from \$9.50 per hour to \$9.75/hour, which is a 2.50% increase.  
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY*

*MOTION by Mr. Thomas, seconded by Mrs. Raymer – to authorize the increase of the hourly rate of police custodian, Mary Sue Horton, from \$11.55 per hour to \$11.80 per hour, which is a 2% increase.  
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY*

*MOTION by Mr. Thomas, seconded by Mr. Googins – to authorize the increase of the part time police officers from \$12.00/hour to \$12.50/hour, which is a 4% increase. CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY*

*MOTION by Mrs. Raymer, seconded by Mr. Mutschler – to authorize the increase of the hourly rate of Susan A. Blum, Borough Secretary, from \$16.25 per hour to \$16.75 per hour, which is a 3% increase.*

*Yes – Mr. Googins, Mr. Mutschler, Mrs. Raymer, Mr. Thomas, Mr. Rock*

*Absent – Mr. Sivy*

*No – Mrs. Mutschler*

*Motion Carried*

*MOTION by Mr. Mutschler, seconded by Mr. Googins – to authorize the increase of the salary of the Borough Manager, Randy Kunkle, from \$53,500 to \$55,000, which is a 2.75% increase.*

*Yes – Mr. Googins, Mr. Mutschler, Mrs. Raymer, Mr. Thomas, Mr. Rock*

*Absent – Mr. Sivy*

*No – Mrs. Mutschler*

*Motion Carried*

**2. Office Assistant Position:** Mr. Kunkle reported Carolyn Migliore originally accepted, but later had to decline the offer of employment; Dara Pruszenski, Amsler Ridge Rd., is scheduled for an interview tomorrow. After discussion, Council advised Mr. Kunkle to advertise the position if Ms. Pruszenski does not accept the offer of employment.

***MOTION by Mr. Thomas, seconded by Mrs. Raymer – to authorize Mr. Kunkle to interview and make an offer of employment to Dara Pruszenski as the office assistant for 15 hours/week at \$9.00/hour, with proper checks. CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY***

**3. GIS Class:** Mr. Kunkle reported the Workforce Training Manager at CCBC stopped by to provide information regarding GIS training; there are 15 seats available to municipal employees from Beaver County; would like Earl and self to fill two of those seats; a GIS system will eventually do many things for Economy Borough, but the two functions I see it helping with first are road inventory/maintenance planning and the storm water management program; will give better and more accurate information about the status of over 50 miles of roads, but it will greatly reduce the amount of time it takes Earl and/or me to assess road conditions; it will also accurately locate all of the storm drain outfalls that have to be monitored on a continual basis; requesting permission for both Earl and myself to sign up for the classes.

***MOTION by Mr. Thomas, seconded by Mr. Googins – to authorize Mr. Kunkle and Mr. Fitzgerald to attend the ArcExplorer GIS mapping System Workshop, Wednesday, February 20<sup>th</sup> and February 27<sup>th</sup> at the Beaver County Conservation District Environmental Center. CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY***

**4. Hepatitis B Vaccines:** Mr. Kunkle reported in the mid 1990's municipalities were urged by their worker's compensation carriers to provide Hepatitis B vaccines to their first responders; most of the Economy Borough Police and Volunteer Firemen took advantage of this; feels it's time Economy Borough offered this again; suggesting Council consider including the Road Department; UPMC's H.A.P.P.I. program will provide the shots on sight if 10 or more people are involved at the following rates: on site here - \$58 X 3 shots for each person; or at their location in Cranberry, \$55 X 3 shots for each person; they also recommend tetanus boosters for those who haven't had one in 10 years for \$18.00 each, either location. Mr. Thomas will get the number of Firemen who wish to participate and Mr. Kunkle will contact Chief Harrington for the number of Police who wish to participate. Mr. Rock asked that this be put on the next agenda to be acted upon.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS and OTHER BUSINESS:**

### **ORDINANCE and RECREATION:**

Mr. Thomas reported the research on the draft stop sign ordinance is ongoing.

### **PUBLIC UTILITIES**

Mr. Googins reported attending the Ambridge Water Authority (AWA) meeting last week; Jack Firich is Chairman and Myron Sainovich is the Solicitor; their meeting ended at 8:20 PM with no Executive Session.

Mr. Googins reported the letter sent to AWA requesting a meeting was put on hold until the new board was in place; a meeting is scheduled for Monday, January 28, 2008, at 3:00 PM, in Council Chambers, with AWA representatives, the Public Utilities Committee, Mr. Kunkle and possibly the engineer to discuss rate and tap in fee issues.

Mr. Googins reported the Economy Borough Municipal Authority is in the process of GIS mapping the Phase II system digitally at a cost of approximately \$80,000; Phase I will be done in the future.

Mr. Googins reported attending a free LTAP seminar “Asset Management Systems”; feels Mr. Kunkle and Mr. Fitzgerald should go the next time it is offered; software is approximately \$1,000; this would be only the basics to map our roads.

**PROPERTY and BUILDING:**

Mr. Googins reported Mr. Sivy has researched bringing the flag pole from the Ambridge High School to Economy Borough and it is cost prohibitive.

Mr. Googins reported more shingles have blown off the police department building and Mr. Bevelaqua has made the necessary repairs.

**PUBLIC SAFETY:**

Mrs. Mutschler reported Officer Farah is requesting to attend a JNet Conference in State College February 20 & 21; sharing the room expense and travel expense with Jim Essex, Harmony Township.

*MOTION by Mrs. Mutschler, seconded by Mrs. Raymer – to authorize Officer Farah to attend JNet Conference in State College February 20 & 21; sharing the room expense and travel expense with Jim Essex, Harmony Township. CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY*

Mrs. Mutschler verified that Economy Borough does not have a specified meal allowance policy in place.

**FINANCE COMMITTEE:**

No Report

**ROAD DEPARTMENT:**

Mr. Mutschler read the Road Department Report for January, 2008, as prepared by Mr. Fitzgerald, which will be on file for review in the borough secretary’s office.

Mr. Thomas asked if there was ever a complaint about having a proper lunch room to eat at for the Road Department employees; feels they should have a clean atmosphere to eat lunch at; would like the Road Committee to review this for a lunch room, especially in the winter. Mr. Mutschler stated the planned future expansion includes a lunch room.

Mr. Thomas reported attending the Beaver County Emergency Management meeting; they are drafting a mutual aid agreement for damage assessment; goal is to have trained people in each municipality that would be able to assist in other municipalities during emergencies.

**REPORTS:**

**SECRETARY:**

No Report

**ENGINEER:**

No Report

**SOLICITOR:**

Mr. Jones reported there is no new info on the Eminent Domain issue.

Mr. Jones reported the public hearing for the proposed Zoning Ordinance amendments is scheduled for Tuesday, February 26, 2008, as per the MPC requirements.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

***MOTION by Mrs. Raymer, seconded by Mrs. Mutschler – to adjourn the meeting to Executive Session, to discuss personnel, with no vote. Time: 9:05 PM  
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY***

Respectfully submitted,

Susan A. Blum  
Borough Secretary  
January 31, 2008