

**REGULAR SESSION \*\* ECONOMY BOROUGH COUNCIL \*\* FEBRUARY 12, 2008**

MEETING CANCELLED DUE TO WEATHER CONDITIONS.

**REGULAR SESSION \*\* ECONOMY BOROUGH COUNCIL \*\* FEBRUARY 26, 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, Donald Sivy, John C. Thomas, Ronald R. Rock

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Larissa Theodore, Beaver County Times \*\* Amended 03/11/2008 to include.

**ALSO PRESENT:** Dale M. Fouse, Esq., Randy S. Kunkle, Borough Manager

James J. Sas, Chairman, Economy Borough Municipal Authority, came before Council with the following annual summaries regarding the status of the Economy Borough Municipal Authority:

	<b>2007 Actual</b>	<b>2007 Budget</b>	<b>2008 Budget</b>
<b>Ordinary Income/Expense</b>			
<b>Income</b>			
<b>Total 4100 · SEWER BILLING CHARGES</b>	\$ 2,472,877	\$ 2,470,703	\$ 2,478,929
<b>Total 4200 · MANUAL BILLING</b>	\$ 339,169	\$ 352,314	\$ 516,750
<b>Total 4300 · MISCELLANEOUS CHARGES</b>	\$ 34,770	\$ 30,240	\$ 40,372
<b>Total 4400 · EXTRAORDINARY INCOME</b>	\$ 118,578	\$ 224,205	\$ 112,500
<b>Total 4500 · INTERFUND TRANSFERS IN</b>	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$ 2,965,394</b>	<b>\$ 3,077,462</b>	<b>\$ 3,148,551</b>
<b>Expense</b>			
<b>5000 · OPERATIONS &amp; MAINTENANCE</b>			
<b>Total 5100 · GENERAL OPERATIONS</b>	\$ 192,585	\$ 193,300	\$ 212,775
<b>Total 5200 · PERSONNEL-OPERATIONS</b>	\$ 106,012	\$ 106,000	\$ 103,670
<b>Total 5300 · TREATMENT &amp; MAINTENANCE</b>	\$ 223,140	\$ 163,073	\$ 195,750
<b>Total 5400 · DAMAGES EXPENSES</b>	\$ -	\$ 4,200	\$ -
<b>Total 5000 · OPERATIONS &amp; MAINTENANCE</b>	<b>\$ 521,737</b>	<b>\$ 466,573</b>	<b>\$ 512,195</b>
<b>Total 5500 · ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES</b>	\$ 278,197	\$ 259,211	\$ 307,143
<b>Total 5800 · EXTRAORDINARY EXPENSES</b>	\$ -	\$ 5,000	\$ -
<b>Total Expense</b>	<b>\$ 799,935</b>	<b>\$ 730,784</b>	<b>\$ 819,338</b>
<b>Net Ordinary Income</b>	<b>\$ 2,165,459</b>	<b>\$ 2,346,678</b>	<b>\$ 2,329,213</b>
<b>Other Income/Expense</b>			

<b>Total Capital Expenditures</b>	\$ (334,017)	\$ (553,500)	\$ (397,457)
<b>Net Debt Service</b>	\$ (2,371,513)	\$ (2,696,512)	\$ (2,589,136)
<b>Net Cash Sources/ (Uses)</b>	<u>\$ (206,054)</u>	<u>\$ (349,834)</u>	<u>\$ (259,923)</u>
<b>Estimated EDU's as of December 31</b>	<u>3,508</u>	<u>3,495</u>	<u>3,538</u>

**Notes:** 2007 Budget to Actual reflects the denial of approximately \$125,000 Phase I funds for Capital Projects by the Commonwealth of PA  
Increase to Operations & Maintenance cost primarily attributable to Baden Inter-Municipality WWTP costs  
2008 Capital Expenditures reflects the completion of the Anne Street and Ridgewood pump station expansions commenced in 2007

Mr. Sas reported approximately \$450,000.00 is the amount of delinquent tap fees and monthly fees for Phase I and Phase II.

Mr. Rock thanked Mr. Sas for doing an excellent job; felt he was and is the best man for the job. Mr. Sivy thanked Mr. Sas for tonight's presentation and explanations.

**PUBLIC HEARING – Proposed Zoning Ordinance Amendments:**

Mr. Fouse advised this is the time, date and place advertised for the Public Hearing for the Proposed Amendment for the Zoning Ordinance. Roberta J. Sarraf, AICP, Planning Consultant, advised the Economy Borough Planning Commission has been working on the Proposed Amendments for the past 1 ½ years and gave a summary of the provisions of the proposed revisions; at their January 7, 2008, the EB Planning Commission recommends the Proposed Amendments to Council for adoption.

***MOTION by Mr. Thomas, seconded by Mr. Googins – to close the proceedings and authorize Roberta Sarraf and Dale Fouse to prepare the necessary documents for the next meeting, Tuesday, March 11, 2008.***

***CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY***

**HEAR THE PUBLIC:**

John Campbell, 123 Gross Drive, reported weather permitting, they are planning a ground breaking ceremony for the Veterans Memorial, at the end of March with a ceremony for Veterans Day; the Memorial is engraved at Rome Monument; bricks are being engraved; requested Councils consideration of paying the electric bill for the 7 or 8 150 watt flood lights that will be in the structure itself and illuminating the flags as Councils contribution to the project. Mr. Kunkle asked Mr. Campbell to provide the name of the person who designed the lighting in order to have the information to contact Duquesne Light for estimates; Mr. Campbell is to provide the information on the light system to Mr. Kunkle. Mr. Campbell inquired about a temporary sign at the end of Kenneth Campbell Way marking the site (during the public hearing). Mrs. Sarraf advised since this is not a permanent sign Mr. Campbell should contact the zoning officer. Mr. Campbell reported 650 bricks have been purchased and there is an 8,500-9,000 brick capacity. Mrs. Mutschler suggested putting an article in the next newsletter letting the residents know bricks are still available.

Butch Thompson, 115 First Street, asked Council to consider opening the meeting back up before adjournment for additional public comment or questions to clarify what may have been discussed during the meeting. Mr.

Fouse advised Council is only obligated to one public portion. Mr. Rock reported the Ambridge School Board allows 3 minutes per person limited to a one half hour period. Mr. Googins suggested comments be limited to only what was discussed. Mr. Rock asked that the agenda for the next meeting include a public section before the adjournment of 3 minutes person on what was discussed at that meeting, on a trial basis.

Bob Mecchia, 211 Fernwood Drive, advised Council and thanked the Economy Borough Road Department for an excellent job. Mr. Mecchia asked the status of the stop signs and speeding on Park Hill Road; will do anything he can to help stop the speeding. Mr. Rock reported the proposed stop sign ordinance is on the agenda tonight and the speed limit is bound by state regulations; still working on these issues; will try to have more traffic details when we can.

### **MINUTES:**

***MOTION by Mr. Googins, seconded by Mr. Mutschler – to approve the Minutes of the January 22, 2008, Regular Session of Council, as written. CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY***

### **MAYOR'S REPORT:**

Mayor Poling absent due to the death of his mother, Edna Poling.

### **MANAGER'S REPORT:**

**1. BOYER SUBDIVISION:** Mr. Kunkle reported this a minor subdivision (lot line adjustment) at 211 Foxglove Drive; the owner wants to subdivide and sell a vacant lot; two variances were approved during this process (3.78' adjustment to the 150' width requirement and a reduction of .248 acres in the lot area requirement); Economy Borough Planning Commission recommends approval conditioned upon compliance with the Beaver County Planning Commission letter dated December 19, 2007, compliance with Planning Consultant Sarraf's letter dated February 4, 2008, and compliance with Shoup Engineering's letter dated November 29, 2007.

***MOTION by Mr. Sivy, seconded by Mr. Thomas – to authorize the Boyer Subdivision with the recommendations and conditions set forth by the Economy Borough Planning Commission, the Beaver County Planning Commission letter dated December 19, 2007, and Planning Consultant Sarraf's letter dated February 4, 2008. CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY***

**2. MONACI SUBDIVISION:** Mr. Kunkle reported this is a minor subdivision on Harmony Road among relatives whereby one is giving up a small piece of land to accommodate an existing driveway to an adjacent parcel; Economy Borough Planning Commission recommends approval conditioned upon compliance with the Beaver County Planning Commission letter dated January 16, 2008 and Planning Consultant Sarraf's letter dated February 4, 2008.

***MOTION by Mrs. Mutschler, seconded by Mrs. Raymer – to authorize the Monaci Subdivision with the recommendations and conditions set forth by the Economy Borough Planning Commission and the Beaver County Planning Commission letter dated January 16, 2008, and Planning Consultant Sarraf's letter dated February 4, 2008. CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY***

**3. PROPOSED STOP SIGN ORDINANCE:** Mr. Fouse advised the proposed Stop Sign Ordinance is ready for advertising.

*MOTION by Mr. Thomas, seconded by Mr. Sivy- to authorize the advertising for adoption at the March 11, 2008 meeting, the proposed stop sign ordinance authorizing the location and enforcement of stop signs at intersections throughout Economy Borough as presently exist. CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY*

**4. CDBG GRANT APPLICATION:** Mr. Kunkle reported this would have been on the last agenda as the applications were due on February 15<sup>th</sup>; Economy Borough has applied for \$50,000.00 to extend the waterline down Woodlawn Road off Shaffer Road as part of the Pinehurst Waterline Project.

*MOTION by Mr. Googins, seconded by Mrs. Mutschler – to ratify the February 15, 2008, CDBG Application, prioritizing Woodlawn Road Waterline Extension. CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY*

**5. PSAB SPRING LEGISLATIVE CONFERENCE:** Mr. Kunkle reported this will be March 30-April 1 at the Holiday Inn Harrisburg/Hershey in Grantville; hotel reservation forms have to be mailed by March 7<sup>th</sup>; please let the office know if you wish to attend.

**6. HEALTH INSURANCE:** Mr. Kunkle advised he has received quotes from the Caputo Agency in Beaver Falls and one from Bob Nelson in Ambridge as requested by Council, and it appears there could be significant savings; another alternative is to have the PD join the Teamsters Welfare Fund; both the police and non uniform contracts state that providers can change but the benefits have to remain the same; would Council like to meet with the agents first or have the employees meet with the agents first to have their questions answered? Council decided to have Mr. Kunkle arrange a meeting with the employees and agents first.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS and OTHER BUSINESS:**

**ROAD DEPARTMENT:**

No Report

**ORDINANCE and RECREATION:**

Mr. Thomas reported he would meet with Mr. Kunkle to review the Master Plan with regards to the Sunset Hills Park; would like to review the hours worked installing the Recreation Drive playground equipment by the Road Department; would like to move forward with Sunset Hills if funds are available.

**PUBLIC UTILITIES:**

Mr. Googins reported he, Mr. Thomas and Mr. Kunkle met with representatives of the Ambridge Water Authority who agreed to have their engineer discuss the rate issue with the Economy Borough engineer; this has not happened; would like to send a letter to the Ambridge Water Authority as the Public Utilities Chairman regarding the talks to give them one more chance. Mr. Fouse advised Ambridge Water Authority has a new solicitor and he has discussed this issue with him; has been out of town and will contact the AWA solicitor again.

## **PROPERTY and BUILDING:**

Mr. Sivy read the Building Report dated February 26, 2008, which will be on file for review in the borough secretary's office.

Mr. Kunkle reported regarding the police building roof, he contacted Modany, the employee in charge of our building construction is retired to Florida; Modany was checking on our project file and never got back to us. Mrs. Mutschler asked Mr. Kunkle to contact Modany again.

John Campbell reported the police building flag pole is leaning in 2 directions.

Amended 03/11/2008 \*\* Mrs. Mutschler reminded Mr. Sivy that at the October 23, 2007, meeting pricing for above and underground electric service to the salt shed was to be obtained.

## **PUBLIC SAFETY:**

Mrs. Mutschler reported due to the cancellation of the February 12<sup>th</sup> meeting, she would like to ratify the action for the tactical training seminar in Moundsville, W VA, March 14-15, March 28-29 and April 10-11 for a cost of \$2,800.00.

***MOTION by Mrs. Mutschler, seconded by Mr. Thomas – to ratify the action taken by poll to authorize the \$2,800 for the tactical training seminar in Moundsville, W. Va., March 14-15, March 28-29, and April 10-11.***

Discussion on the motion: Mr. Fouse reported a phone poll for the training was taken on February 12 due to the Council meeting being cancelled because of the weather by Mr. Kunkle and failed, 3-4; during numerous calls to Council by himself on various issues, the poll appeared to pass 4-3, so he called Chief Harrington to go ahead and schedule the training. Mr. Googins stated he has received the February 14<sup>th</sup> letter from Mayor Poling reading "Any of you are welcome to schedule a meeting with me at which time I will inform you of the reasons going forward it is essential to keep a tactical swat team among our police."; has questions as to the necessity of a tactical team in Economy Borough and the rational of financing a tactical team with such a tight budget. Mr. Thomas asked if it was budgeted. Mrs. Raymer stated no, not the tactical team. Mr. Sivy verified that this service is provided by Beaver County and the Pennsylvania State Police. Patrolman Chris Foley stated that the tactical team training is excellent and is used every day on almost every kind of call from alarms to domestic relations; the training teaches the officers how to handle themselves tactically; he and Officer Lively recently used their training on a suicide; the training helps the officers work together; Beaver County has a tactical team made up of members of other municipalities, Economy Borough is the only municipality who took the initiative to have their own team. John Campbell stated when the tactical team was started the officers took the training from their own pockets; his dad was on the 1<sup>st</sup> tactical team. Bob Mecchia stated he is not against the tactical team or the money being spent. Officer Foley stated the tactical team training is not specific as a SWAT team, the training helps in everyday police work; this particular training is certified tactical training. Mr. Rock stated the \$2,800 is in the police training budget, Chief Harrington has 36 years experience and he trusts his recommendation; this is a positive thing for Economy Borough and the \$2,800 is not a bad investment. Mr. Googins stated he would still like to meet with Chief Harrington and Mayor Poling to have an understanding of the tactical team and the training they want to go to, as suggested in Mayor Poling's letter. Mrs. Mutschler stated this is done, they are going to the training. Mr. Fouse stated when the meeting was cancelled he felt he had the 4 yes votes as he was told there was a dead line of Feb. 14<sup>th</sup>.. Mr. Googins stated he did not have sufficient information to make a decision. Mr. Kunkle stated on Feb. 12<sup>th</sup> he also spoke to Council on issues a lot over several hours and the issues started to mesh with each other. Mr. Sivy asked if the tactical team is covered for liability. Mr. Kunkle stated the worker's compensation carrier feels the tactical team is and has been a part of Economy Borough and Economy Borough derives a benefit from the tactical team and the employees are covered. Mr. Sivy stated he would still like to have a follow up meeting on this.

Mr. Googins stated he has no problem with the police officers getting training and would vote to increase the budget for training as long as every police officer receives the training; feels everyone needs it and the other police officers may be coming up short; would like to hear from Chief Harrington and Mayor Poling why a rural residential community such as Economy Borough has to man a tactical team. Mr. Thomas wondered why Mr. Googins did not have a problem with the tactical team in the past and now all of a sudden has a problem with this training. Mr. Googins stated he is concerned about the budget. Mrs. Raymer stated prior to taking office, Chief Harrington, told to her, Mr. Googins and Mr. Mutschler, at the police station, that the tactical team is not supported by taxpayer's money. Mr. Thomas agreed Council should have a meeting and get this aired out. Mr. Rock called for the vote.

***ROLL CALL VOTE***

***Mr. Thomas – Yes***

***Mr. Sivy – Yes***

***Mrs. Raymer – Yes***

***Mrs. Mutschler – Yes***

***Mr. Mutschler – Yes***

***Mr. Googins – No***

***Mr. Rock – Yes***

***Motion carries by a 6 Yes, 1 No vote.***

Mrs. Mutschler reported also due to the cancellation of the February 12<sup>th</sup> meeting, she would like to ratify action taken to hire a part time officer as Officer Carney and Officer Zunic are out and Officer Wellington is gone; Jim Dempsey is retired from Sewickley Heights with 28 years of service; has his certification but needs updates.

***MOTION by Mrs. Mutschler, seconded by Mr. Googins – to ratify action to hire Jim Dempsey as part time police to fill one part time position. CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY***

Mr. Sivy verified this position is without benefits. Mr. Kunkle reported a small uniform allowance.

**FINANCE COMMITTEE:**

***MOTION by Mrs. Raymer, seconded by Mr. Mutschler – to ratify the action taken on February 13, 2008, to pay the bills listed and properly signed off and approved by the appropriate supervisor of that department. CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY***

Mr. Googins reported he would like to amend the 2008 Budget to reflect the \$1,500 contribution received from Norfolk Southern Foundation for simunition conversation kits for the police Sig Sauer handguns for training.

***MOTION by Mr. Googins, seconded by Mrs. Raymer – to amend the 2008 Budget to add \$1,500 to expense line item 01.410.460. CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY***

**REPORTS:**

**SECRETARY:**

No Report

**ENGINEER:**

No Report

**SOLICITOR:**

Mr. Fouse requested an Executive Session with no vote to discuss 1) Employee COBRA and 2) Right-of-Way revision for the NLSC.

**HEAR THE PUBLIC-II:**

Mr. Campbell stated there is training that people take every day that nobody questions, i.e. road department on equipment and fire department mandates; can't see why the bickering about training that is for the good welfare of this community.

Mr. Mecchia asked Chris Foley if after the tactical training is received, will he share the information with the other officers and that all officers would get some benefit from this training, therefore it would benefit the whole department. Officer Foley responded, yes they share training and work side by side with the other officers.

Mr. Campbell asked if the training was mandatory or voluntary. No auditable response.

***MOTION by Mr. Sivy, seconded by Mrs. Mutschler – to adjourn to Executive Session to discuss 1) Employee COBRA and 2) Right-of-Way revision for the NLSC; with no vote. CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY  
Time: 9:20 PM***

**ADJOURNMENT:**

***MOTION by Mr. Mutschler, seconded by Mr. Sivy – to adjourn from Executive Session discussion on 1) Employee COBRA and 2) Right-of-Way revision for the NLSC; with no vote; and the meeting.  
Time: 9:35 PM CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY***

Respectfully submitted,

Susan A. Blum  
Borough Secretary  
March 5, 2008