

REGULAR SESSION ** ECONOMY BOROUGH COUNCIL ** MARCH 25, 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, Audrey Mutschler, Donald Sivy, John C. Thomas, Ronald R. Rock

ABSENT: Arthur Mutschler – Ill, Renee Raymer – Prior Commitment

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

HEAR THE PUBLIC:

Jeff Hooks, Economy Youth Baseball Association, advised Council as requested at the last meeting, EYBA has looked at the old block concession stand for use as a storage building for their tractor, quad, etc., and EYBA would like Council's permission to use the building; they will either put a larger man door in or a garage door in the area of the window and paint the building pebble stone clay; will provide Certificate of Insurance and a letter expressing the cooperation between the EYBA, Pony League, Colt League and the Jr. High League; new web site is www.economybaseball.org.

MOTION by Mr. Thomas, seconded by Mrs. Mutschler – to authorize the Economy Youth Baseball Association use of the block shed and EYBA providing a letter of agreement between the different organizations (Pony, Colt and Jr. High) for use of the field. CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Tom Reinsel, Classic Equestrian Riding School, 150 Neiman Lane, would like to build a 1,500 SF building for retail sales on the property (19 acres) to replace what they now use as retail space in the tack shop in the stable; concerned the proposed new zoning ordinance would not permit this. Mr. Kunkle reported he has communicated today with the code enforcement office and the planning consultant concerning this issue; if they are already selling some of these items, this would not be a new activity. Mr. Fouse stated there is a procedure in the ordinance; the request would go to the Zoning Hearing Board as an existing non conforming use; needs to research this in order to give an answer. Stephanie Morales, Barn Manager, stated the verbiage in the new ordinance leaves her unsure of what to do next. Mr. Kunkle stated this is a new set of rules with changes and the code enforcement officers can't answer every question just yet; will work with them to make fit what they are trying to do. Mr. Fouse stated if they had a legal use at the time of the change, Economy Borough can't stop them from the use; once established as a non conforming use they can reasonably expand that use; there is no way to prevent it. Mr. Rock stated Economy Borough will do it's best to work with them. Mr. Kunkle stated the starting point would be to provide a sketch of what is currently there and what they plan to do.

Laura Fryer, 378 Friel Road, asking Council to make the noise ordinance stronger to include dirt bikes and quads; currently the adjacent neighbors ride their dirt bikes for hours and hours, in the dark, in the rain, on holidays, constantly. Mr. Kunkle suggested Council could charge the Ordinance Committee to look into amending the ordinance. Mr. Thomas asked Ms. Fryer to call the police every time it happens and document which officer she is speaking to. Mrs. Fryer stated she called the police and was told nothing can be done because they are on their own property. Officer Lively stated this family has been cited for their dogs and dirt

bikes in the past; the fine is up to \$300 plus costs. Mrs. Mutschler reported information on riding dirt bikes has been put in the past newsletters. John Campbell verified that Ordinance #209 requires written consent from property owners from neighbors within 200' feet. Mr. Kunkle stated this written permission is only good for one week and does not work. Mrs. Fryer will follow up with Mr. Kunkle on the progress of amending the ordinance to include dirt bikes.

John Campbell, 123 Gross Drive, advised Council to take a close look at the security system vendors as one made the statement at the last meeting that they don't do locksmith work, they supply a locksmith; the other vender is a locksmith; the quotes may not be accurate, taking the locksmith fee into consideration.

MINUTES:

Mayor Poling corrected the minutes, page 385, to delete from the last sentence "and the current non COG price on salt is \$125/ton."

MOTION by Mrs. Mutschler seconded by Mr. Googins – to approve the Minutes of the March 11, 2008, Regular Session of Council, as corrected. **CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

MAYOR'S REPORT:

Officer Lively reported the police have issued over 100 citations the last few weeks thru the Click It or Ticket Program.

MANAGER'S REPORT:

1. ZONING ORDINANCE NO. 417: Mr. Kunkle advised this ordinance is ready for adoption.

MOTION by Mr. Sivy, seconded by Mrs. Mutschler – to authorize the adoption of Zoning Ordinance No. 417 as presented. CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

2. RECREATION GRANT: Mr. Kunkle reported receiving the grant money for the work done at Recreation Drive Park in the amount of \$47,962; \$25,000 was budgeted for that revenue line item, resulting in excess revenue of \$22,962; the Recreation Board is planning to do a similar project at Sunset Hills Park; some of the excess could be used to help in that regard, options/prices will be forthcoming.

3. SUNSET HILLS YARD SALE: Mr. Kunkle reported he met with Carol Loaskie, President of the Sunset Hills Association, regarding their annual yard sale; the Association took over the sale about 4 years ago to try to give it some organization; since last Fall she met with each street representative to discuss the issues; they will have all participants remind patrons which side of the street parking is allowed on and do a better job of policing it themselves; they will also mention parking in their advertising; they asked that we put up more no parking signs, which Earl and I are working on; we are considering a paper sign on each mailbox on the side of the street where parking is prohibited; if it's signed adequately and restrictions on parking are advertised we feel it should improve the parking/congestion problems; Carol is willing to come to a Council meeting if Council would like her to. Officer Lively questioned if the parking signs on mailboxes would be enforceable as they are not on an official post. Mr. Kunkle stated due to the underground utilities, a limited number of official signs would be posted on existing posts. Mr. Thomas stated in the past, the parking issue during the yard sale

has been a problem to get fire trucks and ambulances in an out of Sunset Hills when needed. Mayor Poling suggested shuttling from the Jr. High for the day. Mr. Thomas stated Council wants to try to work with the Association so they can continue to have the yard sale, but we have to address the concern and work with them.

4. Recording Minutes: Mr. Kunkle reported some of his research on this issue and will continue researching.

5. Wind Turbine: Mr. Kunkle reported the new wind turbine has been delivered and will be installed sometime in April.

6. Fees Resolution No. 417: Mr. Kunkle reported the Beaver County Commissioners, by way of County Resolution, increased the base fees for the BCPC's review of subdivisions and land developments from \$50 + \$10/lot and \$50 + \$10/acre, respectively to \$75 + \$10/lot and \$75 + \$10/acre. Mr. Kunkle reported Economy Borough Resolution 410, our Fees Resolution adopted last March, includes these County fees; in order for our Resolution to be consistent with Beaver County's, Resolution No. 417 is offered.

MOTION by Mr. Thomas, seconded by Mr. Googins – to authorize the adoption of Fees Resolution No. 417, amending the Schedule of Fees and charges per Borough Ordinance No. 303 as updated by Resolution No. 410, on March 27, 2007. CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

7. Salt Use: Mr. Kunkle reported Economy Borough has gone through the majority of the salt money this year, which leaves little to stock pile with at this year's salt prices; looking at ways we can buy more salt under the current contract, to gain additional savings; one possibility is to do no contracted paving this year and use a good bit of that money to buy salt and possibly a crack sealer; crack sealing is a well established method of extending the life of roads; we've been renting a sealing machine for a number of years a month at a time, this years price is \$5,500/month; for \$40,000 we could purchase a machine and not be restricted to one month's use and buy the sealing emulsion in bulk; in as little as four years the machine could pay for itself and we'll be doing a better job of extending the life of our roads; this is something to think about before we rent a sealer at the end of next month; will gather more information and give it to the Road Committee for further consideration.

8. In Lieu Request: Mr. Kunkle reported Terry Kifer has submitted a vacation in lieu request for 8 hours; last November it was noted that these would be looked at on a case by case basis. This is a personnel issue and will be discussed in Executive Session.

COMMITTEE REPORTS and OTHER BUSINESS:

FINANCE COMMITTEE:

Mr. Googins reported the Finance Committee would be meeting to discuss financing salt and road issues.

ROAD DEPARTMENT:

Mr. Googins reported the barricades were removed and the sand bags thrown into the creek, which were being used to make the Cooney Hollow Bridge one lane in order for the engineer to look at the deterioration on the sides. Officer Lively reported this was done by kids on quads.

Mr. Googins reported the Road Committee along with the Finance Committee will be looking at the Road Department budget with regards of possibly delaying contract paving and concentrating on repairing streets with cold patch and crack sealing; is going to look at the option of renting vs. buying a crack sealer; if the crack sealer was rented for two months, the cost would be \$11,000; the cost to purchase a crack sealer is approximately \$40,000; it may be in the best interest to purchase a crack sealer to extend the life of the roads; the crack sealer rental for 2008 is scheduled for April 20th; would like Council to ponder this over the next few weeks. Mr. Thomas asked the price of a crack sealer. Mr. Googins stated the state price from the vendor would be \$39,900. Mr. Thomas asked if Mr. Googins would get prices from other vendors and where would the money come from. Mr. Googins said the financial options will be discussed with the Finance Committee, Road Committee and Mr. Kunkle. Mayor Poling asked what street was to be paved next. Mr. Kunkle stated the list is not finalized. Mr. Sivy requested a 2 year plan and possibly purchase a large paver to do the work in house vs. contract paving. Mayor Poling advised Council should observe the PennDOT operation when they pave Conway Wallrose Road; they have a much bigger crew and multiple tri axel trucks.

Mr. Googins reported attending a PennDOT LTAP seminar on Asset Management; the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers have developed software designed for road management; the Micro Power System maps roads, paved areas, storm water drainage, under drains, etc.; a tool that would benefit Economy Borough in the future to forecasts how long roads will last; software is available from APWA at a \$799 cost (a \$200 discount) until May 1, 2008; once the data of the road is entered, the program uses the data to project the life of the road; will report more on this later.

ORDINANCE and RECREATION:

Mr. Thomas reported he and Mr. Kunkle are looking into tennis court options; contacting other vendors for other options.

Mr. Thomas reported the Sunset Hills Park Project is progressing; pricing is being obtained.

Mr. Thomas verified that the next DCNR grant application will be submitted by the end of April for a pavilion at Recreation Drive Park.

Mr. Thomas reported the 5K race will be Saturday, May 10th.

PUBLIC UTILITIES:

Mr. Googins requested an Executive Session to discuss a proposed Ambridge Water Authority rate increase.

Mr. Googins reported the aluminum braces for the AWA water tower on Conway Wallrose Road were stolen; waiting for the replacement materials will set the project schedule back. Officer Lively reported the materials were stored close to the road and they were taken during the day.

PROPERTY and BUILDING:

Mr. Sivy reported Unique Services & Applications, Inc. have given the following quotes regarding the flagpoles:

A) \$725.00 - Reset existing flagpole at police department. Includes removal of all debris of flagpole, cleaning of sub-grade foundation, and resetting the pole in good and level order using new dry sand and cedar wedges.

B) \$474.00 – Refurbish existing steel 30’ flagpole at borough building. The pole will be repainted along with the installation of a new truck system and gold ball, will also be replacing all hardware such as rope, snaps, and snap covers.

Mrs. Mutschler suggested having this work done at the same time as the Veterans Memorial flag poles, to save money. Mr. Campbell stated it may be 3-4 months before this work is done at the Memorial, but will contact the vendor to see if it can all be done at the same time.

Mr. Sivy reported Shoup Engineering has met with representatives of Central Heating and Plumbing to review the scope of the HVAC project and feels comfortable that they indeed understand the project requirements; Central has also submitted specification sheets on the equipment they intend to install for the project and the specifications have been found to meet or exceed those required by the bid documents; recommends to Borough Council the Municipal Building Furnace and Air Conditioner Replacement Project (#8536) be awarded to Central Heating and Plumbing for their low bid price of \$12,719.00.

MOTION by Mr. Sivy, seconded by Mr. Thomas – to accept the low bid price of \$12,719.00 from Central Heating and Plumbing for the Municipal Building Furnace and Air Conditioner Replacement Project (#8536). CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Mr. Sivy reported Maye & Maye Family Cleaning have provided the following proposals regarding floors:

A) \$475.00 per time – Economy Borough Building – strip, seal (1 coat) and wax (2 coats) floors in main entrance, conference room and hallways and machine scrub floors in bathrooms.

B) \$875.00 per time – Economy Police Department – strip, seal (1 coat) and wax (2 coats) all hard floors.

C) \$240.00 Per time – to do maintenance (buff with Restore) all the above floors.

MOTION by Mr. Sivy, seconded by Mr. Thomas - to authorize Maye & Maye Family Cleaning to strip, seal and wax floors in the Economy Borough Building and the Police Department as proposed for \$1,350.00 and the follow up for \$240/time for a total of \$1,590.00. CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Mr. Sivy reported he and Mr. Kunkle attended the March 13, 2008, Local Government Academy seminar on Discipline and Discharge; the \$70 registration fee will be on the next list of bills; found the seminar very worthwhile.

PUBLIC SAFETY:

No Report

REPORTS:

SECRETARY:

No Report

ENGINEER:

No Report

SOLICITOR:

Mr. Fouse requested an Executive Session to discuss the emanate domain issue, with no vote.

Hear the Public II:

Butch Thompson, 115 First Street, suggested to save money to partner with surrounding municipalities for the purchase of the crack sealer machine. Mr. Googins reported Marshall Township was contacted to partner but decided to go a different route with another municipality. Mr. Rock advised it is tough to share equipment, i.e. scheduling, repairs, operators, maintenance, etc.

Mr. Googins requested Mr. Kunkle attend the Road Department issue portion of the Executive Session.

MOTION by Mr. Googins, seconded by Mr. Sivy – to enter into Executive Session to discuss a personnel issue, the proposed AWA rate increase and emanate domain, with no vote. Time: 8:42 PM CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

MOTION by Mr. Sivy, seconded by Mr. Googins – to return to the regular order of business. Time: 9:17 PM

ADJOURNMENT:

MOTION by Mr. Googins, seconded by Mr. Sivy – to adjourn the meeting. Time: 9:17 PM CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Respectfully submitted,

Susan A. Blum
Borough Secretary
April 3, 2008