

**REGULAR SESSION \*\* ECONOMY BOROUGH COUNCIL \*\* MAY 26, 2009**

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 Mutschler, Renee Raymer, Donald Sivy, John C. Thomas, Ronald R. Rock

**ABSENT:** Audrey Mutschler-III

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

**ABSENT:** Mayor David N. Poling

Mr. Rock acknowledged and thanked John Campbell for the excellent job he did for the Memorial Day Service.

Mr. Rock requested a Moment of Silence for Doug Carney, long time police officer and wildlife conservation officer who died May 23, 2009, after a long battle with cancer.

**HEAR THE PUBLIC:**

Margie Law, 203 Park Hill Road, came before Council regarding the Economy Borough Burning Ordinance; has spoken with Jake Thomas previously; residents at 212 Park Hill Road were burning their garbage in a barrel yesterday, Memorial Day; smoldered for 3 hours of acrid smell. Mr. Thomas reported burning is prohibited on Sundays, Mondays and Holidays; call him on his cell phone when it happens and he will take care of the problem.

Cynthia Jones, 314 Park Hill Road, asked the status of the MSP noise issue. Mr. Kunkle advised Mr. Luff received an e-mail from Doug Wright on May 5, 2009, that MSP purchased a large tarp to encase the cyclone, but due to the weather they have not had an opportunity to test it. Mrs. Jones stated it is her opinion that MSP feels it is too expensive and they are not going to do anything about it; the noise is still 24/7 unless they are shut down as they did for Memorial Day week end; Mr. Wright is not returning her phone calls; provided Council with copies of letters she sent to MSP with New Sewickley Township (NST) nuisance ordinance attached; situation has become intolerable; now outside language noise from the Penalty Box patrons who go outside to smoke and play their car stereos; will give MSP one more call, if she does not get a call back, will go to the NST Supervisors; MSP does not own the property, they rent from Buncher; she has not contacted them yet. Mr. Rock reports MSP is not in Economy Borough and Economy Borough has no jurisdiction to enforce ordinances of other municipalities; may come to the point where the Economy Borough residents have to go to NST; will have Joe Luff go back to MSP and NST to follow through to see what is happening; will work with Mrs. Jones in relationship with NST. Mr. Googins suggested contacting State Representative Jaret Gibbons who represents both NST and the Bradford Park portion of Economy Borough. Mr. Sivy stated he gave MSP and Mr. Spinelli a copy of a tape on noise abatement; they contacted him 2-3 weeks later and were interested; have not heard from MSP since. Mr. Rock asked Mr. Kunkle to also contact State Representative Jaret Gibbons.

Mike Lucia, 416 Golden Grove Road, asked the difference between invisible noise pollution and expelling a pollutant with smoke/particles. Mr. Rock stated Economy Borough ordinance can't be applied to another municipality; hopefully we can work together.

Sal Boboth, 105 Timber Ridge Road, reported his radio has static and questioned if this could be caused by MSP; had good reception over the Memorial Day week end when they were shut down. Mr. Mutschler felt if it was a high frequency, could have been caused by a welder or similar equipment.

Tomas and Clare Lynch, 101 Walnut Drive, reported since they were at Council January 13, 2009, speeding seems to have increased in the mornings between 7 AM and 8:30 AM and in the afternoon from 4 PM to 6:30 PM with people speeding to get to Whispering Pines; asked for the speed monitoring device to be on Walnut Drive in the Spring and it has not been placed there; has the plate number and a description of a vehicle that was speeding yesterday; feels citations will get their attention, when they have to pay money; want speed bumps; would fund raise for speed bumps; Seven Fields have speed bumps installed. Mr. Rock advised Council is researching traffic calming techniques for other streets and they may also be used on Walnut Drive. Mr. Thomas stated he would send the police over to make a presence; however speeding will stop then start again when they leave. Mr. Rock asked Mr. Kunkle to contact Chief Harrington to get more police presence and have the speed timing device moved to there; Council is looking at a long term solution within the next year.

John Campbell, 123 Gross Drive, suggested putting information about speeding in the next newsletter. Mr. Kunkle reported the newsletter went to press today. Mr. Rock asked Mr. Kunkle to include information on public safety in every newsletter starting with the Fall issue.

George Fitzgerald, 99 Wallrose Hgts. Road, reported a possible solution could be 8' hard plastic speed bumps screwed in the cement as used at his workplace. Mr. Thomas reported they must be approved by PennDOT due to potential liability. Mr. Rock stated Council is looking into a permanent solution.

Mike Maker, Makers Lane, stated he had been told that speed bumps were not allowed to be installed to control speed and how would it effect winter plowing. Mr. Rock reported Council is looking at alternatives that are successful in other municipalities.

Bob Mecchia, 211 Fernwood Drive, reported the solution has to comply with the PA Traffic Calming Guidelines; Findley Twp. spent approximately \$500 each for the pavement plateaus and \$500 for signage; no problem with snow plowing if installed correctly. Mr. Mecchia reported 3 semi freight trucks on Park Hill over the week end.

Meagan Trimbur, 3225 Ridge Road Ext., reported she filed a complaint with pictures on April 24, 2007, with Joe Luff, regarding the property next door at 400 Ridge Road Ext. and nothing has been done to date; would like to see the outside cleaned up, all the cars and junk removed from the property, weeds and brush cut, and rodent control called; she and her husband are increasing their property value, and it is a health, safety and hazardous issue with this property; feels favoritism is being shown as Mr. Maker is an Economy Borough employee. Mr. Kunkle stated the property owner has been given a written notice dated May 19, 2009, regarding the condition of the property. Mr. Maker stated he has received the complaint and will do the best

he can to clean up the property and start as soon as possible. Mrs. Trimbur stated if it is not taken care of she will call the media. Mr. Rock stated Mr. Maker will do the best he can.

Jo Ann Borato, 2001 Conway Wallrose Road, asked why it would take two years and nothing be done for Mrs. Trimbur; just asking people to do their jobs. Mr. Rock stated can't solve the problem by firing someone; the chain of command for a complaint is from the code enforcement office, to Mr. Kunkle to Council; perhaps Mrs. Trimbur should have contacted Council sooner.

Elizabeth Burns, Stange Road, stated she called rodent control herself one day for her daughter; was helping remodel and found a dead rat in the house wall; was told rodent control could not do anything unless someone was on the property; called Mr. Luff with the phone number and person to ask for; waited a week, called rodent control back, Mr. Luff never called; her opinion someone is not doing their job; reminded him that Meagan made a formal complaint 1 year earlier. Mr. Rock reported Ray returned to work today and Council is considering possibly getting an intern to help with the work load; will be taken care of now; if not taken care of, a citation will be issued and referred to the district magistrate.

Andy Milnick, 416 Friel Road, asked the status of his request to have the current firearm ordinance reviewed; concerned as there is an autistic child in the neighborhood; feels permits should be required; will sue Economy Borough if he has a hearing loss. Mr. Thomas reported he is working on this with Chief Harrington and hopefully will have something for the next meeting.

Mike Lucas, 416 Golden Grove Road, asked what it takes to change an existing ordinance. Mr. Fouse advised part of the process is an advertised public hearing is held so that the public can make comments.

John Campbell, 123 Gross Drive, advised Mr. Thomas to contact Harrisburg, the PA Game Commission as they have a safety zone regulation; they have a law that a gun can not be discharged within 150' of any building; could solve the problem.

#### **MINUTES:**

***MOTION by Mr. Googins, seconded by Mrs. Raymer – to approve the Minutes of the May 12, 2009, Regular Session of Council, as written. CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY***

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

No Report

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

**1, Diamond Grade Sign Covers:** Mr. Kunkle reported PennDOT is currently doing a study to determine if these are effective on stop signs; the initial feedback is not encouraging; suggests until PennDOT does the study to hold off on spending money.

**2. Pavement Plateaus:** Mr. Kunkle reported gathering information from Findley and Richland Townships; these speed bumps are part of “traffic calming” programs, the Road Committee is currently reviewing; essential elements to implementing such changes are to require input from those living on the affect roads and to have a set of standards (PennDOT uses the term warrants) to decide when calming devices are to be used; suggests the Road Committee review the information with the engineer and recommend a policy.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS and OTHER BUSINESS:**

**PROPERTY and BUILDING:**

Mr. Sivy reported Mr. Custer has done some minor electrical repairs on the municipal building; it is the grass growing season.

**PUBLIC SAFETY:**

No Report

**FINANCE COMMITTEE:**

Mrs. Raymer reported the expense for the Memorial Day Service was \$84.43 and has been reimbursed to Rose Livingston from petty cash.

**ROAD DEPARTMENT:**

Mr. Mutschler read the following summary of the work that took place during the month as prepared by Mr. Fitzgerald:

- Truck #4 and both trailers were sandblasted and painted. Truck #4 and the Viking trailer are back in service. We are currently putting the new wood decking on the Wack trailer.
- The speed monitor was placed on Park Hill Rd. in mid April and Rt. 989 in the beginning of May.
- Two inlets were replaced on Mary Reed Rd., an additional one will be replaced and then permanent patching of these will take ASAP.
- We helped the custodian cut grass before the summer help started.
- Brush hogging was done as much as possible and will be until fall.
- Crack sealing was done on Lynn St., all of Bradford Park Square, Shortcut Rd., Lyndon Ln., part of Foxglove Rd., Anne St. and Friel Rd. was started. Prior to the use of the new crack sealer a safety meeting was held and proper procedures were gone over.
- The Jr. High Field trip for the special education students went very well. It was greatly appreciated by the teachers and students. It was a pleasure spending time with these kids.

**ORDINANCE and RECREATION:**

Mr. Thomas reported the committee is looking at the firearms ordinance.

Mr. Thomas reported the Recreation Board will have Summer Camps: Tennis June 22-26th at Old Economy Park, Basketball June 22-26th at the Ambridge Area Junior High, Volleyball June 15-18<sup>th</sup> Grades 1-5 and July 6-9<sup>th</sup> Grades 6-8<sup>th</sup> at the Ambridge Area Junior High; Fun Fore All Family Fun passes; and information on discounts to Economy Borough residents at the Golf Course in Harmony Township will be in the newsletter.

**PUBLIC UTILITIES**

No Report

**REPORTS:**

**SECRETARY:**

No Report

**ENGINEER:**

No Report

**SOLICITOR:**

No Report

**HEAR THE PUBLIC II:**

No one wished to be heard.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

***MOTION by Mr. Thomas, seconded by Mr. Mutschler – to adjourn the meeting. Time: 8:14 PM  
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY***

Respectfully submitted,

Susan A. Blum  
Borough Secretary  
May 29, 2009