

Economy Borough Council
Regular Meeting Minutes
June 24, 2014

MEETING was called to order at 7:00 p.m. with Mr. R.J. Burns presiding and the following members of Council and officials of the Borough present: Mr. R.J. Burns, Mrs. Courtney Barthelemy, Mr. Gary Bucuren, Mr. Tom Fetkovich, Mr. Larry Googins, Mr. Frank Morrone, Mrs. Pat Skonieczny, Mayor David Poling, Borough Manager Randy Kunkle, Borough Secretary Margie Nelko, Borough Solicitor Joseph Askar.

OPENING PRAYER

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

RECOGNITION OF VISITORS. Mr. Burns welcomed everyone to the meeting and requested the discussion(s) regarding Borough Business be kept to 3 – 5 minutes in length.

The following visitors were present:

Anthony Petalino, 80 Bock Lane, Baden
Mr. & Mrs. George Batykefer of 180 Oliver Avenue, Freedom
Ray McClellan of 196 Shaffer Road, Sewickley
Janet Stange of 420 Sproat Avenue, Freedom

HEAR THE PUBLIC:

Anthony Petalino was present to request Council's help in resolving a drainage issue located behind his property. Mr. Petalino stated that there is an easement with a drainage pipe that was installed prior to the building of the Ryan Homes located in Highfield Estates. Mr. Petalino is asking if this drainage pipe is owned by the Borough and if the drainage pipe was on the plans for approval. This drainage pipe has a manhole for cleanouts and has had repairs done in the past. The drainage pipe was also moved from under Bock Lane to under Walnut Drive and then covered up. The beginning of the drainage pipe has a trash rack, two (2) brick guide walls to direct the water run-off, which is overfull with debris. The Public Works Department has helped by cleaning out this area a couple of times this year. Mr. Petalino has discussed this matter with the Borough Engineer and he claims the Borough Engineer stated that this may not be a Borough owned drain. Mr. Petalino stated that this drain pipe would have been installed prior to the plans being recorded with the Borough or at the Beaver County Court House. There was some discussion regarding whether the new plant plans would have any information regarding this drain pipe. **After some review, it was the consensus of Council to request Mr. Bucuren and the Borough Engineer to research this matter.**

Ray McClellan was present to request Council's approval for a permanent 25 MPH Speed Limit sign to be installed at the curb on Shaffer Road. Mr. McClellan stated that the Borough's Speed Trailer has been sitting in his driveway and it is working well. The speeds seem to be ranging from approximately 18 to 46 miles per hour with most of the driver's attempting to do closer to the speed limit. **After some review, it was the consensus of Council to request the Borough Manager to research the guidelines for signage.**

MINUTES of the Regular Meeting held on June 10, 2014 were presented to Council. Mr. Fetkovich presented Council with an amendment to the minutes presented. The amendment is on page 501, paragraph one (1) under the Parks and Recreation Committee Report, third line, changing Mr. Hershman to Mr. Hershberger, due to the use of the wrong last name. **After some review and discussion, the motion of Mr. Fetkovich, seconded by Mrs. Skonieczny to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes of June 10, 2014 as amended was unanimously carried with the exception of Mrs. Barthelemy who abstained due to being absent at the meeting.**

PARKS and RECREATION COMMITTEE: Mr. Fetkovich, Chairperson of the Parks & Recreation Committee, expressed his gratitude to everyone for all of their help with the 3rd Annual Community Day. Mr. Fetkovich stated that Mr. Hershberger feels the attendance was the same as last year and that maybe staying later in the evening and adding fireworks would be a great addition to the celebration. Mr. Hershberger also is requesting Council to consider replacing the trash receptacles and dumpster. There was some discussion on who owns the rusty dumpster and that E. Reid Powell Refuse empties the dumpster for the Borough.

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMITTEE – No Report.

PROPERTY and BUILDING COMMITTEE – No Report.

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE: – No Report.

FINANCE COMMITTEE – No Report.

PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE – Mr. Bucuren, Chairperson of the Public Works Committee, will discuss the Public Works Contract negotiations in executive session.

MAYOR'S REPORT – Mayor Poling stated that there has been a large volume of drainage calls received, with Walnut Drive being the worst area. The Borough Manager stated that he has a meeting with the Borough Engineer to view the drainage problem areas. The Mayor requested the drain that stops on the property of Walnut Drive and Conway Wallrose Road be added to the list for review. Mrs. Skonieczny stated that these problems seem to have been derived from the sewer project for the Pineview Development Plan. There was some discussion regarding prior discussions regarding the drainage problems developing from the public sewer and water line projects. Mr. Googins stated that the drainage problems seem to have gotten worse since the Sewer and Water Authorities have changed the water flow. Mr. Burns stated that the Borough has experienced an increase in development which has contributed to these problems. **After some review, it was the consensus of Council to request Mr. Bucuren, the Borough Engineer and Mr. Don Lang, the Assistant Emergency Management Coordinator, to review these issues.**

MANAGER'S REPORT: The Borough Manager presented Council with updates regarding the following issues:

1. **Resolution No. 488** – A Resolution of the Borough of Economy authorizing, empowering and directing the proper officers of the Governing Board to appoint a liaison between it and Berkheimer, the duly appointed collector of local taxes for the District, for the express purpose of sharing confidential tax information with the District for official purposes was presented to Council. This Resolution will grant Berkheimer permission to give the Borough Secretary access to monthly reporting for Earned Income Taxes, Business Privilege/Mercantile Taxes and Local Service Taxes, as well as, the monthly commission invoices for each.

These reports will be used for the purpose of bank reconciliation and for backup proof for the yearly audit(s). Mrs. Skonieczny expressed concerns regarding the terminology of the Resolution being too broad. Mrs. Skonieczny feels that the broad terminology could enable the Borough access to residents' confidential information and/or records. The Borough Solicitor stated that this is a standard Resolution from Berkheimer and that there will be times when the designated person(s) will need to work hand in hand with Berkheimer to correct any issues that may arise. The Borough Manager stated that Resolution No. 440 was adopted in October 2013, regarding the same authorization for him and Mrs. Sue Blum. This Resolution will give Mrs. Margie Nelko the same authorization. The Borough Solicitor stated that paragraph four (4) clearly outlines the penalties for divulging any confidential information inappropriately. Mr. Googins inquired if the Borough Solicitor has concerns regarding the Resolution as presented. The Borough Solicitor stated that he is comfortable with the wording of the Resolution as presented and that he has not seen any issues arise from other municipalities who have adopted this Resolution. **On a motion of Mrs. Skonieczny, seconded by Mr. Bucuren to request the Borough Solicitor to discuss with Berkheimer the amending of the terminology of the Resolution was put to vote. A roll call vote was taken, the motion was approved after receiving four (4) affirmative votes out of seven (7) of all members of Council present. Mrs. Barthelemy, Mr. Fetkovich, Mr. Googins all voted against the motion carried.**

2. **Beaver Road Drainage Repair** – The Borough Manager presented Council with an update regarding the necessary drainage repair that needs to be repaired prior to the paving of Beaver Road. The damage is located in the section between the Villas of Economy and before the Villas St. Joseph and it is too deep for our equipment to repair. The Borough Manager recommends the Borough Engineer design specs and prepare bid requests. There was some discussion regarding the depth of the damage. Mr. Bucuren inquired if there was any more information on the salt issue so that the Borough could see the amount of funding available for paving. **After some review and discussion, the motion of Mr. Bucuren, seconded by Mr. Morrone to authorize the Borough Engineer to design specs and advertise for bids for the drainage repairs on Beaver Road.**

3. **Resolution No. 449** - A Resolution of the Borough of Economy opposing House Bill 1708 and any other plan that would divert General Municipal Pension State Aid was presented to Council. This Resolution was received from the Pennsylvania State Association of Borough's (PSAB) requesting the support from municipalities to preserve the pension state aid as it has been. The state pension systems would be forcing municipalities to raise taxes or further add to the growing unfunded liability by requiring municipalities to pay for a portion of Public Employee Retirement Commission's (PERC) services. **After some review and discussion, the motion of Mr. Googins, seconded by Mrs. Barthelemy to adopt Resolution No. 499 was unanimously carried.**

SOLICITOR'S REPORT – The Borough Solicitor presented Council with an update regarding the forensic review of the Borough owned computers, which has been completed. There are two hundred (200) emails that have come up in the search. The Borough Solicitor stated that these emails will be copied and provided to Council for their review and decision on whether charges will be made or not. At this time, the Borough Solicitor is firmly requesting these emails to be kept confidential by Council. Mrs. Barthelemy inquired if these copies will be accompanied by a report. The Borough Solicitor stated no due to it was not part of the signed/approved agreement. Mrs. Barthelemy stated that she is confused and was under the impression that a report would be received from this audit. The Borough Solicitor stated he would forward a copy of the agreement to Mrs. Barthelemy and any other Council member who wishes to receive one.

NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Burns presented Council with an invitation that was received from the Beaver Valley Rifle & Pistol Club. The Legislative Firearm Interactive Presentation will be held on August 2, 2014; from 10:00 a.m. to 4 p.m. The invitation is to bring our elected officials a little closer to the subject of firearms.

EXECUTIVE SESSION – Mr. Burns requested Council go into Executive Session to discuss a personnel matter related to contract negotiations at 08:04 p.m.

There being no further business, the motion of Mr. Fetkovich, seconded by Mr. Morrone to adjourn the meeting at 08:50 p.m. was unanimously carried.

Margie L. Nelko
Borough Secretary

Randy Kunkle
Borough Manager