

Economy Borough Council
Regular Meeting Minutes
September 22, 2015

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, Mr. Gary Bucuren, Mr. Tom Fetkovich, Mrs. Pat Skonieczny, Mayor David Poling, Borough Secretary Margie Nelko, Borough Solicitor Mr. Joseph Askar, Joshua Kail, Esq., and Borough Engineer Mr. Scott Shoup.

ABSENT: Mrs. Courtney Barthelemy (Excused)
Mr. Larry Googins (Excused)
Borough Manager (Excused)

OPENING PRAYER

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

FINANCE COMMITTEE: No Report.

PARKS and RECREATION COMMITTEE: No Report.

PROPERTY and BUILDING COMMITTEE: No Report.

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE: No Report.

PUBLIC UTILITIES and ORDINANCE COMMITTEE: No Report.

PUBLIC WORKS (PW) COMMITTEE: Mr. Bucuren, Chairperson of the Public Works Committee, presented Council with updates regarding the 2015 Roadway Improvement Project, which includes in-house tar and chipping.

Mr. Burns stated that he has received a bill from Mr. Ray McClellan, of 196 Shaffer Road, regarding the cleanup expense for the storm water damage to his property. Mr. Bucuren stated that he would be meeting with Mr. McClellan to review and discuss the damage.

MAYOR'S REPORT: The Mayor made a recommendation to hire an outside party to review the budget and advise Council of the Borough's actual financial situation since no one on Council wants to oversee the budget and it seems to be a guessing game. There was some discussion regarding contacting Maher Duessel to see if they do this type of work, as a starting point. Mr. Burns stated that we do not need a CPA, that a lower level accountant could perform the review. There was some discussion regarding clarification of what would be happening, which was determined that the Borough Manager and the Finance Committee would construct the budget and the outside party would review it. Mr. Fetkovich stated that budgets are not a guessing game but are based on projections and past history. Mrs. Skonieczny agreed that contacting Maher Duessel would be a good starting point, depending on the price of the service. There was discussion regarding this matter being placed on the next Regular Meeting of Council agenda for review and/or action.

MANAGER'S REPORT: Representing the Borough Manager, the Borough Secretary presented Council with updates regarding the following issues:

1. Pennsylvania Intergovernmental Risk Management Association (PIRMA) Agreement Renewal – A renewal letter and summary was received and presented to Council for review. There was some

discussion regarding this agreement being placed on the next Regular Meeting of Council agenda for review and/or action.

2. Municipal Risk Management Workers' Compensation Pooled Trust (MRM) Agreement Renewal – A renewal letter and a premium/contribution calculation was received and presented to Council for review. There was some discussion regarding bidding out the workers compensation insurance and if the termination notice deadline has passed. The Borough Solicitor requested a copy of the MRM Agreement for review. There was some discussion regarding this agreement being placed on the next Regular Meeting of Council agenda for review and/or action.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT: No Report.

ENGINEER'S REPORT – The Borough Engineer presented Council with a drainage issue that has been ongoing for approximately two years (2 yrs.) on Fernwood Drive, which is located between Brookside Road and Park Hill Drive. There are currently two (2) cross drains on Fernwood Drive with a twelve inch (12 in.) RCP (reinforced concrete pipe) and an eighteen inch (18 in.) RCP. The affected properties are owned by the Haggerty's, of 202 Fernwood, the Winter's, of 204 Fernwood and the Shumsky's, of 206 Fernwood. The Borough Engineer reviewed the possibility of redirecting the water from the twelve inch (12 in.) pipe to the location of the eighteen inch (18 in.) pipe and increasing the size of the pipe to a thirty-six to forty-eight inch (36-48 in.) pipe for approximately three hundred-fifty feet (350 ft.). The Borough Engineer stated that the cost of this project would be approximately \$7,500.00 to \$8,500.00 with the Public Works Department helping with the installation. There was some discussion regarding the developer's having a storm water management plan in place, approved by the appropriate committees/boards and these plans being enforced. Mr. Bucuren stated that the Haggerty's claim the water is coming from the Brookside Road direction, which may still be a problem. The Borough Engineer stated that this may be able to be solved by installing a curb. There was some discussion regarding this issue being placed on the next Regular Meeting of Council's agenda and the Borough Engineer to begin contacting the above residents.

Mr. Morrone requested an update regarding the crosswalk pole at the intersection of Economy Way and Beaver Road. The Borough Engineer reviewed the results from the meeting with PennDot and the Borough Manager regarding this issue. A suggestion was made to change the traffic signal to permit pedestrian traffic, which will add some wait time to the vehicle traffic. There was some discussion regarding contacting Walmart to inform them that the pole is not working and review the possibility of a reimbursement to the Borough for repair costs accrued due to the roadway has not been accepted as of yet.

The Borough Engineer presented Council with an update regarding the Dunlap Hill traffic signal. The survey is being finalized and the design is still being worked on.

Mr. Bucuren stated that Mr. Ray McClellan, of 196 Shaffer Road, has had storm water damage to his property from water run-off on Zehnder Road. Mr. Bucuren asked Mr. McClellan (who was present) if he was available to meet with Mr. Morrone and himself on Thursday, September 24, 2015. Mr. McClellan stated that he was available to meet at their convenience.

OLD BUSINESS:

Mr. Fetkovich presented Council with an update regarding the vacant Office Assistant position.

NEW BUSINESS:

Mr. Burns reviewed a letter with Council, dated September 18, 2015, from the Economy Volunteer Fire Department (EVFD) requesting the Borough to increase funding from 1 mil to 1 ¾ mil. The increase would give the EVFD approximately \$100,000.00 more in funding to work with. There are some concerns regarding structures that are more than thirty-five feet (35 ft.) high, which is the largest ladder the EVFD owns. The EVFD feels an aerial truck would benefit them in these types of emergencies. There was some

discussion regarding how expensive heavy equipment is and that the Borough does not want to see anyone injured due to not having the correct equipment for the emergency. There was some discussion regarding the law permits funding up to 2 mils and the budget. There was some discuss regarding the EVFD insurance point reviews. Mrs. Skonieczny requested more information on the number of fires and the type of buildings involved with in a year. Mr. Fetkovich recommended inviting a representative from the EVFD to discuss and review the letter. Mr. Burns stated that he would forward this request to Mr. Joy and invite him or another representative to the next Regular Meeting of Council.

Mrs. Skonieczny discussed concerns regarding seismic testing on Freedom Road and Friel Road. There was discussion regarding what authority the Borough had to authorize testing on these heavily traveled roads if the roads were not accepted by Borough Ordinance. The Borough Solicitor stated that with the age of these roads the acceptance could have been done by a Resolution and not an Ordinance, which was a common practice back then.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: Mr. Burns requested Council go into Executive Session in regard to personnel and litigation matters and then to adjourn at 7:55 p.m., as per the motion of Mr. Bucuren, seconded by Mr. Morrone.

Margie L. Nelko
Borough Secretary

Proposed items that require action or motions at the next Regular Meeting of Council:

1. Budget Consultant
2. PIRMA Agreement
3. MRM Agreement