

Economy Borough Council  
Council Minutes  
August 28, 2018

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**MEETING** was called to order at 7:00 p.m. with Mr. Brian Westrom presiding and the following members of Council and officials of the Borough present: Mr. Brian Westrom, Mr. Tom Fetkovich, Mrs. Audrey Mutschler, Mrs. Pat Skonieczny, Mayor Jo Ann Borato, Borough Manager Randy Kunkle, Borough Secretary Margie Nelko, and representing the Borough Solicitor Mr. Joshua Kail, Esq.

**ABSENT:** Mr. R.J. Burns (Excused)  
Mr. Gary Bucuren (Excused)  
Mr. Frank Morrone (Excused)

**MOMENT OF SILENCE**

**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.

Ray McClellan of 196 Shaffer Road, Sewickley  
Mr. & Mrs. John Wargo of 155 Stange Road, Freedom  
Mr. & Mrs. Thomas Topolewski of 165 Stange Road, Freedom  
Mr. John Adkins & Mr. Joshua Jenks both of Late Seventies Production

**HEAR THE PUBLIC:**

John Wargo and Thomas Topolewski were both requesting an update regarding a drainage issue between their properties and stated that testing was done by the Beaver County Conservation District which came back positive for West Nile. The Borough Manager stated that the Borough is attempting to acquire easements from two residents behind these addresses which is taking longer due to concerns regarding a shed and a row of pine trees. Members of Council discussed the shed concerns most likely not being an issue, the three (3) bids received to remove the row of pine trees, possibly only piping these two (2) properties and what needs done to expedite the easement(s). **After some review and discussion, the motion of Mr. Fetkovich, seconded by Mrs. Mutschler to accept the lowest tree removal bid, was unanimously carried.**

**MINUTES** of the Regular Meeting held on August 14, 2018, were presented to Council. **After some review the motion of Mrs. Mutschler, seconded by Mr. Fetkovich to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes of August 14, 2018, as presented, was unanimously carried.**

**FINANCE COMMITTEE:** No Report. Mrs. Mutschler, Chairperson of the Finance Committee, stated that we should start looking into next year's budget. The Borough Manager stated that Friday is the deadline for department heads to turn in their numbers and wish lists and once he receives/handles the information he will forward it to the committee.

**ORDINANCE COMMITTEE:** No Report.

**PARKS and RECREATION COMMITTEE:** Mr. Fetkovich, Chairperson of the Parks and Recreation Committee, commended the Recreation Board for a great job in putting together a structured/detailed list

outlining items and responsibilities for the fireworks and movie. Mr. Fetkovich stated there will be some monies left over in the 2018 Budget that could be used for some smaller items this year and that a more formalized plan will be submitted for the 2019 Budget.

**PROPERTY and BUILDING COMMITTEE:** The Borough Manager presented Council with an update regarding the Public Works Department roof. Members of Council discussed the time frame of the work and the mold testing and treating if needed.

**PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE:** No Report.

**PUBLIC WORKS (PW) COMMITTEE:** No Report.

**MAYOR'S REPORT:** Mayor Borato presented Council with updates regarding the following issues:

1. **Time Clocks** – A copy of information found on the Staples.com website for two (2) different time clocks were presented to Council for review. Members of Council discussed the differences in the time clocks, the prices, the fingerprint/RFID card/PIN punching capabilities, built-in camera, extended warranties, ADP compatibility and to not postpone a decision again until another meeting. **After some review and discussion, the motion of Mrs. Mutschler, seconded by Mrs. Skonieczny to purchase the Citadel OB3000 Tablet Time Clock with Camera for the price of \$369.99 with an extended warranty, was unanimously carried.** The Mayor encourages work on the Personnel Committee be done for two (2) reasons. First, we need to put in place how this will be administered and by whom, and secondly, the committee along with the Borough Solicitor, Borough Manager and Borough Secretary, need to tweak the Personnel Handbook which we have been waiting on.
2. **Vi-Haus, Inc. Contract** – A three (3) year agreement for cloud server housing, management and network support for the police department was presented to Council for review. The Mayor is requesting approval to renew this contract, after presenting an overview of the experience with this company and the slight price increase. **After some review and discussion, the motion of Mrs. Skonieczny, seconded by Mr. Fetkovich to renew the contract for another three (3) years, was unanimously carried.**
3. **Police Vehicle Purchase(s)** – The Police Chief is looking into replacing his vehicle this year, due to its condition, with the monies budgeted for 2018.
4. **Police Department Hiring Issues** – The Mayor asked for authorization to hire one (1) full-time police officer after presenting concerns regarding shift and overtime issues within the police department. Mrs. Mutschler stated that she would not personally make a motion or approve an officer at this point in time until we work on the budget for next year and explained her reasons which included that you do not hire an officer to fill overtime and that there will always be a bind due to military status/medical issues. Mayor Borato stated that the Chief wanted to get the process/testing started and have the hire date scheduled for the first of the year as previously done. Members of Council discussed the differences of part-time officers vs. full-time officers, the fact that part-time officers are always looking for full-time status, the current/past number of full-time officers and the Civil Service Eligibility List which has expired. Members of Council discussed the process and length of time to derive an eligibility list. Mayor Borato stated that applying for the Civil Service list is costly and time consuming for the applicant and is unfair if there is not a plan or intent to hire.

**SOLICITOR'S REPORT:** The Borough Solicitor presented Council with updates regarding the following issue(s):

1. Ambridge Water Authority (AWA) Fire Hydrant Agreement – The AWA Manager is working with the Fire Marshall to determine what is needed on the maintenance reports, which is all the information noted in the agreement.
2. Heart and Lung Policy – The Police Bargaining Unit has been contacted and this matter will be discussed with them.
3. Personnel Handbook Update – The draft has been reviewed and there are some changes needed from a legal stand point. The draft is then ready for discussion and review by the stake holders (possibly the Personnel Committee) for details relating to the policy.
4. Cortright Condemnation (345 Springer Road) – Notices of Condemnation are being mailed out to the owner(s). The property has been deemed dangerous by the Code Enforcement Office. The Borough would need to decide if it will pay for the demolition and place a lien on the property. Members of Council discussed the condemnation process/procedures, the utilizing tax payer's money for this type of matter, that reimbursement for a lien could take time, and if the taxes have been paid for the property.

**ENGINEER'S REPORT** – The Borough Manager, on behalf of the Borough Engineer, presented the following updates:

1. Ridgewood Plan Drainage Issue – The work is being scheduled.
2. Duquesne Light Permit (Economy Way) – No updates at this time.
3. Green Forest Culvert Issue – The contractor should be starting next week and has agreed to do the catch basin that Mr. Ron Fenio requested for \$5,000.00, which would be paid by Mr. Fenio.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

1. Non-organized Employee Pay – No updates or discussion on this matter.
2. Personnel Committee Objectives – Mr. Westrom stated he would prepare the committee member list and the committee objectives ready for the next regular scheduled meeting. Mr. Westrom asked Council for any objectives they would like to add and noted that Mr. Fetkovich has already submitted his objectives.
3. Borough Building and Public Works Department Video Cameras – Mayor Borato stated that a quote from MP Security Solutions, LLC was received and distributed to Council for review. Members of Council did not discuss this issue.

Mayor Borato stated that the camera for the Yard Waste Dumpsters is up and running. The Borough Manager reported that the county called and stated that we have had our third (3<sup>rd</sup>) contaminated dumpster which could not be used for recycling. The county paid for the landfill costs of the first two (2) dumpsters and the Borough will be charged for the landfill costs of the third (3<sup>rd</sup>) dumpster. Members of Council discussed the landfill cost, signage for the camera, signage for what is permitted to be dumped, and whether we can enforce a fine. The Borough Manager was asked to put an article in the newsletter regarding this matter.

4. Police Department Excess Tires – No update at this time.

5. Custodian Position – There was discussion regarding the position and the number of applicants. **After some review and discussion, the motion of Mrs. Mutschler, seconded by Mr. Fetkovich to re-advertise the custodian position, place it on the website and advertise with Pennsylvania CareerLink, was unanimously carried.**
  
6. Filming on Park Hill Road - Mr. John Adkins and Mr. Joshua Jenks, of Late Seventies Production, presented Council with an overview of the movie, and the scene to be filmed. It was explained that the reason for the road closure is because the scene will have period dated (1978-1980) vehicles on the road and having newer vehicles in the background would spoil the scene. Neighbors will have access to their driveways and emergency vehicles will be accommodated immediately. Members of Council briefly discussed the road closure, the Road Opening Ordinance. Members of Council, Mr. Adkins, and Mr. Jenks discussed police services, road closure concerns, detour signs with wage reimbursement for erection, the installation of a temporary light pole, if clean up would require Borough resources, and concerns regarding the 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Movie and Fireworks Night taking precedent over this project. Mr. Jenks stated that he was unaware that Economy had very interesting areas that are not found in other areas for filming. **After some review and discussion, the motion of Mr. Fetkovich, seconded by Mrs. Mutschler to approve the permit pending on all approvals and everything being coordinated, was unanimously carried.**

Mayor Borato stated the only Special Event Permit the Borough has is for anyone using one of the parks and wants to have alcohol, so she contacted other local municipalities and found that Edgeworth Borough has a special event permit and regulation regarding traffic on streets closed or restricted for maintenance or special events. Mayor Borato suggested the Planning Commission could work on a special event permit and regulations for the Borough.

7. Fee Resolution - This matter is on hold.

**NEW BUSINESS:** None

**OTHER BUSINESS:** None

There being no further business, the motion of Mrs. Skonieczny, seconded by Mrs. Mutschler to adjourn the meeting at 8:05 p.m. was unanimously carried.

Margie L. Nelko  
Borough Secretary

Randy Kunkle  
Borough Manager

Motion(s) made and/or Council consensus decision(s):

1. Accept the lowest bid for tree removal along Stange Road.
2. Approve the Minutes of August 14, 2018.
3. Approval to purchase a Citadel OB3000 Tablet Time Clock with Camera and extended warranty.
4. Approval to renew the Vi-Haus, Inc. contract.
5. Authorization to re-advertise for the hiring of a part-time custodian.
6. Approve the Park Hill Road Filming.