

MINUTES ** ECONOMY BOROUGH COUNCIL ** 28 January 14

Council President RJ Burns called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM in Council Chambers of the Economy Municipal Building.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ROLL CALL

PRESENT: Courtney B. Barthelemy, Esq., Gary Bucuren, Tom Fetkovich, Larry Googins, Frank Morrone, Pat Skonieczny, RJ Burns

ALSO PRESENT: Mayor David N. Poling, Joseph Askar, Esq., Randy S. Kunkle, Borough Manager

HEAR THE PUBLIC: Ken Waters, 107 Rose St, gets water run-off from 102 and 104 Rose St. Gave pictures of 102 to Code Enforcement Officer (CEO). Mr Burns suggests under-drain will help. Mr Waters responds that 104 installed an improper pipe therefore he still gets run-off from that property. He asks if this is a borough problem? Mr Burns responds that Mr Bucuren will get with the engineer to see if a solution can be found.

Audrey Mutschler, Ridge Road Ext, asks if the meetings are being recorded; the answer is yes but presently the recorder is not working.

Bob Mechia, Fernwood Dr, has positive comments on the winter road maintenance.

MINUTES: November 12, 2013; ***motion by Mrs Skonieczny to strike everything after “Mr Fouse on page 432, seconded by Mr Bucuren, all voted aye. Motion due to Mr. Fouse was not present at the time the minutes were being approved and the audio was bad.***

Motion by Mr Googins to approve the amended minutes, seconded by Mr Bucuren, all voted aye.

December 10, 2013: ***motion by Mrs Skonieczny to strike everything after “Mr Fouse”, seconded by Mr Bucuren, all voted aye.***

Discussion concerning a statement read by Mrs Barthelemy at a council meeting and the timing of when that statement was turned into the borough takes place.

Motion by Mr Burns to strike Mrs Barthelemy’s statement from the minutes, seconded by Mr. Morrone. A roll call vote was taken and the motion was not carried.

Motion by Mr Fetkovich to approve the minutes of December 10th, seconded by Mrs Barthelemy, all voted aye.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Property: there was a problem with the elevated sand mound at the police department; Economy Septic estimated the repair from \$1700 to \$2500; they ended up charging \$1900 to make the necessary repairs.

Discussion regarding traffic signs at WalMart takes place, who will enforce? Solicitor Asker states since they are on private property they aren't automatically ours to enforce; WalMart would have to ask for the borough's involvement.

Finance: Mr Googins would like to have an executive session regarding the forensic audit. He also discusses financial reports and asks if the borough wants to search for a new auditor.

Public Works: Mr Bucuren reports salt is short everywhere but we'll cut back to get by; there have been truck and plow issues, which can be expected.

Public Utilities: Nothing to report; copy of the AWA agreement to Mayor Poling and Mrs Skonieczny.

Mayor: Mayor Poling reports the police department needs three Ford Interceptors that cost \$26,642 via the COSTARS contract plus \$7,386.40 for light bars and set-up costs.

Motion by Mr Burns to approve the purchase of three 2014 Ford Interceptors for \$34, 028.40 each, seconded by Mr Morrone, all voted aye with Mrs. Barthelemy voting no, due to the Finance Committee has not met to discuss this purchase.

Discussion takes place about how to pay for the vehicles.

Mr Burns amends the motion to purchase one vehicle with the NLSC money plus the money for 2014, seconded by Mrs Barthelemy, all voted aye.

Motion by Mr Bucuren to authorize the Civil Service Commission to produce a list of certified candidates for the potential hiring of a police officer, seconded by Mr Morrone, all voted aye.

Mrs Barthelemy asks if the Chief is being paid overtime; discussion ensues.

Discussion regarding additional third party inspectors takes place.

REPORTS:

ENGINEER:

SOLICITOR: Mr Askar reports he was not able to meet with Chief O'Brien to finalize his contract but he soon will.

NEWBUSINESS: **Motion by Mr Bucuren to appoint Dennis Viaga to a five year term on the Economy Borough Municipal Authority, seconded by Mr Morrone, all voted aye excepting Mrs Skonieczny who abstains, and Mrs Barthelemy who opposes.**

Here the Public: Felicia Misik introduces herself and Larissa Theodore as the owner/editors of the Ambridge Connection, a virtual community board including the Ambridge School District.

Mike Lucia, 416 Golden Grove Rd, asks if the forensic audit has been ordered yet; no.

Reggie John, Golden Grove Road, asks if we have enough officers to operate three new vehicles? Mayor Poling states due to the lack of vehicles last Halloween we only had six zones instead of eight.

Motion by Mr Bucuren to go into executive session to discuss a forensic audit, seconded by Mr Morrone, all voted aye at 9:26 pm.

Motion by Mr Googins to go back into regular session, seconded by Mr Bucuren, all voted aye.

Motion by Mr Fetkovich to have a phase I forensic audit performed not to exceed \$7,500, seconded by Mr Morrone, all voted aye.

Motion to adjourn by Mr Googins, seconded by Mr Fetkovich, all voted aye at 10:10 pm.

To the best of my knowledge the forgoing is a true and accurate record of what occurred during this meeting.

Randy S Kunkle
Borough Manager