

Economy Borough Council
Regular Meeting Minutes
March 28, 2017

MEETING was called to order at 7:00 p.m. with Mr. Googins presiding and the following members of Council and officials of the Borough present: Mr. Larry Googins, Mr. Gary Bucuren, Mr. Frank Morrone, Mrs. Audrey Mutschler, Mayor Jo Ann Borato, Borough Manager Randy Kunkle, Borough Secretary Margie Nelko, representing the Borough Solicitor Mr. Joshua Kail, Esq.

ABSENT: Mr. R.J. Burns (Excused)
Mrs. Pat Skonieczny (Excused)

MOMENT OF SILENCE

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

HEAR THE PUBLIC:

Carol Schomaker (not signed in) was present to express concerns regarding coyotes on behalf of her neighbor. A copy of the Franklin Park Newsletter regarding coyotes was given to the Borough Manager to place in the upcoming newsletter.

Mike Lucia (not signed in) was present to ask what the traffic is like with the bridge work on Big Sewickley Creed Road and to ask when the red light at Dunlap Hill will be done.

Michael Kennedy (not signed in) was present to ask for an explanation on the Solar Panel Ordinance No. 461 regarding the roof coverage, which was determined to be 50% of the total. The Borough Manager was asked to discuss this with the Code Enforcement Officer.

MINUTES of the Regular Meeting held on March 14, 2017, were presented to Council. The Borough Solicitor stated that he has had general discussions with Mrs. Skonieczny regarding the scope of minutes. The Borough Solicitor explained that the legal requirement for the public section is their name and the subject stated, other portions you would want to articulate the arguments for each side. Members of Council discussed setting a policy for the minutes when all members are present. Mrs. Mutschler presented Council with an amendment to the minutes on page 344, second paragraph under Public Hearing changing “regarding the repeatedly (in his opinion) false statements” to state “regarding the repeatedly false statements.” **After some review, the motion of Mr. Bucuren, seconded by Mr. Morrone to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes of March 14, 2017, as amended was unanimously carried.**

FINANCE COMMITTEE: Mr. Bucuren, Chairperson of the Finance Committee, presented Council with the Budget Report and the Treasurer’s Report for the month of February 2017. After some review, these reports were ordered received and filed.

ORDINANCE COMMITTEE: No Report.

PARKS and RECREATION COMMITTEE: No Report.

PROPERTY and BUILDING COMMITTEE: Mr. Morrone, Chairperson of the Property and Building Committee, presented Council with an update regarding the Assistant Code Enforcement Officer position. The applications received for the position were distributed to Council for review.

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE: No Report.

PUBLIC WORKS (PW) COMMITTEE: Mrs. Mutschler, Chairperson of the Public Works Committee, presented Council with updates regarding the following issue(s). Mrs. Mutschler requested an executive session to discuss a personnel matter.

1. Public Works Bi-monthly Report – After some review and discussion, this report was ordered received and filed.
2. Proposed 2017 Roadway Improvement Project – Mrs. Mutschler stated that she was forwarded the road paving information from the Public Works Foreman and would need to co-ordinate with the Borough Engineer.
3. Public Works Position – The Borough Solicitor stated he has received a quote from ADP for background checks and HR services. The ADP quote will increase our expenses by approximately \$700.00 a year for five (5) background checks per year, any additional background checks will cost \$25.00 each. The Borough Solicitor stated that he also contacted CSI for pricing on background checks and found that the standard check starts at \$25.00 with extra fees for each additional type of request. Members of Council discussed the possibility of needing to do more hiring (expanding) for the Borough. **After some review and discussion, the motion of Mrs. Mutschler, seconded by Mr. Bucuren to authorize the Borough Solicitor to move forward in getting information for Council from ADP was unanimously carried.**

MAYOR'S REPORT: Mayor Borato presented Council with updates regarding the following issue(s). Mayor Borato requested an executive session to discuss a police department personnel matter.

1. Hiring of Police Officer – A recommendation to extend an offer of employment to Mr. Pierson J. Pollock should he pass the necessary testing was approved. Mr. Pollock has successfully passed the required testing and will begin working for the Borough on April 3, 2017. Mrs. Mutschler requested that the new officer come to a meeting to introduce himself.
2. Disposal of Police Interceptor – The in-operable 2010 Crown Victoria (Veh. No. 310) has been awaiting disposal. The Borough Manager recommended using Route 422 Auctions as we have done in the past. **After some review and discussion, the motion of Mr. Morrone, seconded by Mr. Bucuren to authorize the sale of the 2010 Crown Victoria was unanimously carried.**
3. Purchase of Police Interceptor – Chief O'Brien is requesting permission to purchase a 2017 Ford Police Interceptor. The 2010 Crown Victoria (Veh. No. 313) has been repaired and is in operation with a recommendation to continue use until a new vehicle is purchased. This vehicle could be repainted and used as a Borough vehicle, should Council chose to do so. **After some discussion, the motion of Mr. Bucuren, seconded by Mr. Morrone to authorize the purchase of a 2017 Ford Police Interceptor was unanimously carried.**
4. Letter of Encouragement (Donald Thomas) – A letter to the Mayor and Borough Council was received from Mr. Donald Thomas encouraging them to take a strong role in proactively leading all of us to abide by the codes of the Borough. Members of Council discussed junk vehicles within the Borough. The Borough Manager was asked to discuss this matter with the Code Enforcement Officer.
5. Beaver County Transit Authority (BCTA) – Mayor Borato received an email from a resident regarding concerns with the Northern Lights Shopping Center BCTA Shelter. The shelter is below road grade and pools with water. Members of Council discussed who is responsible for the shelter. The Borough Manager presented some background on this issue and stated he will contact the BCTA to discuss.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT: The Borough Solicitor presented Council with updates regarding the following issue(s).
The Borough Solicitor requested an executive session to discuss a police department personnel matter.

1. Skonieczny Lawsuit – No update at this time.
2. Ambridge Water Authority Agreements (AWA) – The Borough Solicitor recommended postponing this matter until all members of Council were present because of some prior discussions with Council Member(s) regarding this topic.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Fee Resolution – This matter is still on hold due to input from the Planning Commission has not yet been received.
2. Non-organized Employee Resolution No. 457 – This matter will be discussed in executive session as a personnel matter.
3. Bonding for Borough – The Borough Auditor has recommended an amount above the normal maximum amount available at any given time. The Borough Manager and Borough Secretary are working on an amount, checking with other municipalities and then checking with the bonding company for bond pricing. Mrs. Mutschler asked if this is for office staff only and that it should include anyone signing checks. The Borough Solicitor stated that this is advisable but not legally required. Mrs. Mutschler stated, after contacting the PSAB, that rubber stamps should not be used.
4. Employee Dishonesty Rider – The Borough Manager stated that this matter is tied in with bonding for the Borough.
5. Public Works Department Position – This matter was discussed during the Public Works Committee report.
6. Assistant Code Enforcement Services – This matter was discussed during the Property and Building Committee report.
7. Borough Auditor Recommendations (Maher Duessel) – The Borough Manager emailed a written reply to Council regarding the Borough Auditor recommendation items for review and discussion. This reply was forwarded to the Borough Auditor as well.
8. Petty Cash Check No. 25576 – The Borough Solicitor stated that the Borough's Attorney was the one who requested the copies that was questioned at the last meeting. The Borough Manager stated that a draft petty cash policy was forwarded to the Finance Committee for review. Members of Council discussed the issue of paying something that was already spent, the possibility of ongoing expenses and an easy pass for turnpike use. **After some review and discussion, the motion of Mrs. Mutschler, seconded by Mr. Morrone to approve the payment of check number 25576 payable to Petty Cash in the amount of \$448.03 was unanimously carried.**
9. Reducing the Number of Bank Accounts – The Borough Solicitor is reviewing this matter.
10. Purchase of Police Interceptor – This matter was discussed during the Mayor's Report.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Resolution No. 460 – Appointing a Delegate and an Alternate Delegate to the Tax Collection Committee of Beaver County - A Resolution of the Borough of Economy appointing a delegate and an alternate delegate to the Tax Collection Committee of Beaver County was presented to Council for review. The

Borough Manager presented a background of the Tax Collection Committee of Beaver County and stated that the appointments are being changed from names to position titles so that it is not an issue in the future. **After some review and discussion, the motion of Mrs. Mutschler, seconded by Mr. Bucuren to approve Resolution No. 460 was unanimously carried.**

2. **Zoning Hearing Board Appointment** – The Borough Manager stated that Ms. Karla Nesbitt Travis has expressed her desire to be re-appointed to the Zoning Hearing Board. **After some review and discussion, the motion of Mrs. Mutschler, seconded by Mr. Bucuren to re-appoint Ms. Karla Nesbitt Travis to the Zoning Hearing Board for a three year (3 yr.) term was unanimously carried.**

OTHER BUSINESS:

Mr. Googins presented Council with a Certificate of Appreciation received from Anthony Seelinger on March 18, 2017, during the dedication of the Ceremonial Burning Pit near the Veterans Memorial.

Mr. Bucuren stated that he had received a phone call regarding an article in the paper about the Ambridge Water Authority's water overflow damaging a neighbor's property across the street on Conway Wallrose Road. The Borough Manager explained the background of this issue.

The Borough Secretary noted that the Economy Borough Municipal Authority Minutes of February 21, 2017 were distributed to Council.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: Mr. Googins requested Council go into Executive Session regarding four (4) separate personnel matters at 8:11 p.m., as per the motion of Mrs. Mutschler, seconded by Mr. Morrone.

Mr. Tom Fetkovich entered the meeting at this time (8:13 p.m.)

A motion by Mr. Morrone, seconded by Mr. Fetkovich, to reconvene at 8:54 p.m. was unanimously carried.

Upon re-entering the public meeting it was noted that the Mayor's Monthly Police Department Report was discussed.

There being no further business, the motion of Mr. Morrone, seconded by Mr. Bucuren to adjourn the meeting at 8:57 p.m. was unanimously carried.

Margie L. Nelko
Borough Secretary

Randy Kunkle
Borough Manager

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

1. Approve the Minutes of March 14, 2017 as amended.
2. Approval of the Borough Solicitor to move forward with information from ADP on background checks.
3. Approve disposal of 2010 Crown Victoria.
4. Authorize the purchase of a 2017 Ford Police Interceptor.
5. Approve payment of Check Number 25576 payable to Petty Cash.
6. Approve Resolution No. 460 – Appointing the Tax Collector Committee Delegate and Alternate Delegate.
7. Appoint Ms. Karla Nesbitt Travis to the Zoning Hearing Board.