

Economy Borough Council
Council Minutes
November 24, 2020

Council President Mr. Frank Morrone called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM in Council Chambers of the Economy Municipal Building.

MOMENT OF SILENCE

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ROLL CALL –

Mr. Frank Morrone, Mr. Gary Bucuren, Mr. Jeffrey Ruckert, Mr. Don Sivy, Mr. Glenn Sylvester, Mr. Roger Kowal and Mrs. Pat Skonieczny (via teleconference) and Mayor Jo Ann Borato.

STAFF PRESENT –

Borough Manager Randy Kunkle, Borough Assistant Manager/Secretary Travis Cavanaugh, representing the Borough Solicitor Mr. Joseph Askar, Esq.

EXECUTIVE SESSION –

On a motion by Mr. Ruckert; seconded by Mr. Sylvester requested Council go into Executive Session regarding personnel and oil and gas ordinance, following which a vote will not be needed. Motion was unanimously approved at 7:02 p.m.

On a motion by Mr. Ruckert; seconded by Mr. Sylvester requested Council go into Regular Session. Motion was unanimously approved at 7:47 p.m.

RECOGNITION OF VISITORS –

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

Cheryl Ashbaugh of 2061 Big Sewickley Creek Road, Sewickley

There were also 9 participants via teleconference.

HEAR THE PUBLIC –

Ms. Ashbaugh expressed her concerns with Council members not able to attend Executive Sessions while on the teleconference and about the President of Councils behavior from last Council meeting pertaining to the hear the public session of the meeting.

MINUTES –

Minutes of the Regular Meeting held on November 10, 2020, were presented to Council. After some review and discussion, **on a motion by Mr. Kowal; seconded by Mr. Ruckert** to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes of November 10, 2020, as presented. Motion was unanimously approved.

PUBLIC WORKS (PW) COMMITTEE – No agenda item at this time.

PARKS and RECREATION COMMITTEE – No agenda item at this time.

ORDINANCE COMMITTEE – No agenda item at this time.

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE – No agenda item at this time.

PROPERTY and BUILDING COMMITTEE – No agenda item at this time.

FINANCE COMMITTEE –

A. **Advertise the Proposed 2021 Preliminary Budget** –

Mr. Kowal, Chairperson of the Finance Committee, stated that the Finance Committee has reviewed the proposed 2021 Budget. The Finance Committee presented Council with the proposed 2021 Preliminary Budget for review and comments. After some review and discussion, **on a motion by Mr. Ruckert; seconded by Mr. Sivy** to authorize the Borough Manager advertise the proposed 2021 Preliminary Budget and place it on public display as amended. Motion was unanimously carried.

B. **Advertise the 2021 Tax Ordinance** –

The Borough Manager recommended advertising the proposed 2021 Tax Ordinance establishing a tax rate of 13.5 mills for the year 2021. After some review and discussion, **on a motion by Mr. Sivy; seconded by Mr. Kowal** to authorize the Borough Manger to advertise the 2021 Tax Ordinance. Motion was unanimously carried.

MAYOR'S REPORT –

Mayor Borato mentioned that she received phone calls from members of the Local Unions No. 2, 66 and 449, that they were offended pertaining to the man camps comments made during the hear the public portion of the last regular Council meeting.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT –

A. **Werner Demand Letter** –

After some review and discussion, **on a motion by Mr. Kowal; seconded by Mr. Ruckert** to authorize the Borough Solicitor to draft a letter for the Werner's pertaining to when they plan to complete the rest of their site plans. Motion was unanimously carried.

ENGINEER’S REPORT – No agenda item at this time.

OLD BUSINESS –

A. Huey Claim – No agenda item at this time.

B. Cable Franchise Agreement –

The Borough Manager presented to Council the differences between the “old” and the proposed cable franchise agreements.

Discussion continued on the cable franchise agreement.

NEW BUSINESS –

A. Civil Service Commission –

On a motion by Mr. Ruckert; seconded by Mr. Sylvester to accept the resignation letter from Mr. Fred Malins effective immediately from the CSC. Motion was unanimously carried.

On a motion by Mr. Ruckert; seconded by Mr. Sylvester to appoint Mr. Ronald Rock to the CSC with a term ending December 31, 2022. Motion was unanimously carried.

On a motion by Mr. Ruckert; seconded by Mr. Sylvester to appoint David Baker to the CSC as an alternate member. Motion was unanimously carried.

B. Planning Commission –

On a motion by Mr. Sylvester; seconded by Mr. Kowal to accept the reappointment of Mr. James Blumling to the Planning Commission for a four (4) year term ending on December 31, 2024. Motion was unanimously carried.

On a motion by Mr. Sylvester; seconded by Mr. Kowal to accept the reappointment of Mr. Myron Kowalski to the Planning Commission for a four (4) year term ending on December 31, 2024. Motion was unanimously carried.

C. Early Retirement Incentive –

After some review and discussion, **on a motion by Mr. Ruckert; seconded by Mr. Kowal** to accept the early retirement letter from Mr. James Blumling. Motion was unanimously approved.

D. Early Retirement Incentive –

After some review and discussion, **on a motion by Mr. Ruckert; seconded by Mr. Kowal** to accept the early retirement letter from Mr. Frank Hernandez. Motion was unanimously approved.

E. Public Works Hiring –

After some review and discussion, **on a motion by Mr. Ruckert; seconded by Mr. Sylvester** to hire Mr. Frank Zaccagnini with a ninety (90) day probation period to the Public Works Department with a start date of December 14th, 2020, contingent upon the completion of the requirements in the CBA. Motion was unanimously carried.

After some review and discussion, **on a motion by Mr. Ruckert; seconded by Mr. Sylvester** to hire Mr. Joseph Max with a ninety (90) day probation period to the Public Works Department with a start date of December 14th, 2020, contingent upon the completion of the requirements in the CBA. Motion was unanimously carried.

OTHER BUSINESS – No agenda item at this time.

MOTION TO ADJOURN –

On a motion by Mr. Sivy; seconded by Mr. Ruckert to adjourn the Regular Meeting. Motion was unanimously approved.

The Regular Meeting adjourned at 8:53 p.m.



Travis Cavanaugh
Asst. Borough Manager/Secretary