

Mount Pocono Borough Council
Regular Meeting Minutes
Summit Pointe Meeting Room – 13 Summit Drive
Monday, December 20, 2021
8:02 P.M.

The Mount Pocono Borough Council meeting held on Monday, December 20, 2021, was called to order at 8:02 P.M. by President Fran O’Boyle at the Summit Point Meeting Room after an Executive Session prior to this meeting from 7:00 P.M. to 8:00 P.M.

Roll Call: Councilmember Patty Bucco, present; Vice-President Mike Oser, present; President Fran O’Boyle, present; Councilmember Aida Montanez, present; Councilmember Claudette Williams, present; Councilmember Stacy Stewart-Keeler, present. Councilmember Ron Emilie was on the phone.

In Attendance: Michael Penn, Mayor; Joshua Walker, Borough Manager; Alexis Wilkinson, Zoning/ Codes Enforcement Officer; and, Danielle Hewitt, Treasurer were all present.

Solicitor James Fareri was absent.

PRELIMINARY ANNOUNCEMENTS – President F. O’Boyle reminded everyone of the Borough’s Code of Conduct.

OFFICER’S REPORTS

President’s Report – President F. O’Boyle noted that the Mayor’s wall in the Borough building needs to be updated. He noted if we wait too long it would become difficult to rectify. It was noted that perhaps just a plaque for the shorter term Mayors would suffice. Also noted that former Mayors pay for the picture but the Borough pays for the frame.

Mayor’s Report – Mayor M. Penn clarified that he is indifferent to have his photo on the Mayor’s wall.

Borough Manager/ Secretary’s Report – Borough Manager J. Walker stated nothing to report regarding working from the fire hall. He clarified that no employees are currently working from home.

Treasurer’s Report – Borough Treasurer D. Hewitt presented the bills list. Vice President M. Oser moved to approve and pay the bills for Monday, December 20, 2021, as presented. Councilmember P. Bucco seconded.

BILLS TO BE APPROVED FROM THE NBT GENERAL FUND CHECKING ACCOUNT:

PA American Water Co.	(Fire Hydrants - 43)	\$ 714.09
Pocono Mountain Public Library	(Nov. 2021 Current Taxes – Library)	501.21
Pocono Mtn. Regional EMS	(Nov. 2021 Current Taxes – EMS)	252.16
Pocono Mtn. Vol. Fire Co.	(Nov. 2021 Current Taxes – Fire Company)	501.21
PPL Electric Utilities	(Boro Decorative Lighting)	<u>46.64</u>

GRAND TOTAL: **\$ 2,015.31**

Motion carried unanimously.

Zoning Officer – Zoning/ Codes Enforcement Officer A. Wilkinson gave a summary on both the Conditional Use for 39 Seneca Road short-term rental and the Clarius ninety-day extension. She requested that Borough Council would advertise the Conditional Use and to accept the Clarius request. She reminded Borough Council that she will be going to court Tuesday, December 21st regarding the 94 Winona Road short-term rental violation.

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Approval of Minutes – Councilmember A. Montanez moved to approve the regular meeting minutes of November 1, 2021 and November 15, 2021 as presented. Councilmember S. Stewart-Keeler seconded. Motion carried unanimously. Upon reviewing the regular meeting minutes of December 6, 2021, Mayor M. Penn asked that this item would be tabled until the December 28, 2021, meeting and asked that the Borough Manager review the audio and correct the Mayor’s statement as presented on the audio.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Borough Building Mold Remediation and Repairs – Borough Manager J. Walker reported on the following: (i) mold remediation – antimicrobial sealant was painted on; building has to sit for twenty-four hours prior to retest; test scheduled for Wednesday, December 22nd; noting if test fails SERVPRO will return at their expense. (ii) invasive investigation – Andy Munas of Barry Isett came last Wednesday and removed some bricks on the exterior wall. There is a belief that water is invading behind the bricks due to no flashing and Borough Manager J. Walker sent photos of the previous installation of addition to al. (ii) Future building repair consideration – Borough Manager J. Walker advised Borough Council that the remediation process is complete and the building air is currently breathable. (iv) Update on insurance claim – Solicitor J. Fareri recommended getting a public adjuster to seek more money.

Updates on Grant Applications – Mayor M. Penn noted that there was no update to report.

NEW BUSINESS

Borough Manager Vacation Request – Councilmember A. Montanez discussed the Borough Manager’s vacation request days of December 21st, 22nd and 23rd. After more discussions, it was agreed that once the Borough Manager has completed the following conditions his vacation would be approved: (1) a copy of Tom Ford right to know response must be emailed to the Mayor; (2) November 1st and November 15th audio files for the Borough Council regular meetings must be sent to the Mayor; (3) corrections of the December 6th regular meeting minutes was requested but was tabled; (4) the advertisement for the January 3rd Reorganization Meeting must be completed when location is confirmed.

Advertise Reorganization Meeting – Councilmember A. Montanez moved to advertise the Borough Council Reorganization meeting to be held on Monday, January 3, 2022, at 7:00 P.M. with the pending location confirmation. Councilmember C. Williams seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Advertise and Set Short-Term Rental Conditional Use (39 Seneca Road) – Vice President M. Oser moved to advertise the Conditional Use Hearing for the short-term rental for 39 Seneca Road in a R-2 Zoning District to be held on Tuesday, January 18, 2022, at the Pocono Mountain Fire Hall. Commissioner P. Bucco seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Clarius Ninety-Day Extension – Vice President M. Oser moved to accept the thirty-day extension for the Clarius Land Development Plan. Councilmember P. Bucco seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Separation Agreement of Lori Noon – tabled until the December 28th meeting.

Borough Manager/ Position & Ordinance – this item was tabled until the December 28th meeting.

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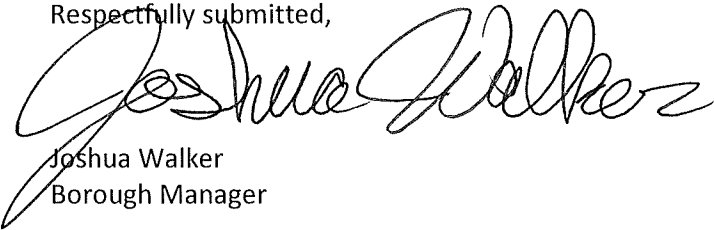
Public Participation –

Ann Marie Harris, 236 Winona Road – questioned when will be back in the Borough building. Borough Manager J. Walker responded that sometime in early January and the flooring is a pending item.

Don Struckle, Devils Hole Road – questioned since it is up to the incoming Borough Council to decide what do about the floors and reopening of the building, can the building be reoccupied while formal decisions are being made.

There being no further business or public participation Vice President M. Oser moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:44 P.M. Councilmember P. Bucco seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,



Joshua Walker
Borough Manager

