

MOUNT POCONO BOROUGH COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
MONDAY, JANUARY 6, 2020
7:15 P.M.

President C. Williams opened the Regular Meeting at 7:15 P.M. with the following members present: Vice President F. O'Boyle; Councilmembers; S. Stewart-Keeler; A. Montanez; M. Hensel; and Tommy M. Neville. Solicitor J. Fareri, Mayor M. Penn, Junior Councilmember K. Crosby, Borough Secretary/ Treasurer L. Noonan, and Zoning/Codes Enforcement Officer D. Noonan were also present.

Councilmember D. Casole was absent.

The Pledge of Allegiance was said by all.

PRELIMINARY ANNOUNCEMENTS

None

APPROVAL MINUTES

Councilmember A. Montanez moved to accept the minutes from the December 9, 2019 Public Hearing and Regular meeting, the December 16, 2019 Special Meeting, the December 23, 2019 Public Hearing and Special Meeting as presented. Councilmember S. Stewart-Keeler seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

OFFICERS' REPORTS

PRESIDENT

President C. Williams welcomed everyone to 2020 and stated the Council is moving into 2020 with positive goals. She discussed the Action Items and her goal to have the items on the Action Items list accomplished and the list minimized in the next 90 days.

Councilmember A. Montanez stated she is attending a meeting with Harrisburg Officials to discuss grants for the traffic light on SR 611 & Pine Hill Road, sidewalks for 611 & 940, and Parks Improvements. This meeting will be held on Wednesday at 1:00 pm in Coolbaugh Township.

President C. Williams requested an update from the Park Foundation and wants to know who they answer to and wants an accounting of what they have done with the money they have collected. President C. Williams stated she wants regular updates.

MAYOR

Mayor M. Penn wished everyone a Happy New Year and wished for peace in 2020. He stated he is looking forward to having a productive year. He stated there were no weddings in December 2019. He reviewed the following items:

1. He sent a letter to the Brodhead Water Association (BWA) in support of a growing greener grant they are applying for.
2. The decision to cancel the December 30, 2019 Special Meeting which was to discuss the proposed pay increase for the elected officials. He stated the meeting was canceled due to the online threats that were made. He suggested that Council table discussion on the pay increase.
3. He suggested that Council Re-Open the 2020 Budget which will allow Council time to have one on one interviews/performance reviews with the employees.
4. Recognized Mr. Michael Moreno, Regional Coordinator of the Pocono Chamber of Commerce who is a Person to Be Heard this evening. The Mayor stated he supports Mr. Moreno's request to fly Pride Flags in the Borough during the month of June 2020.

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TREASURER'S REPORT:

GENERAL FUND CHECKING ACCOUNT	\$ 22,795.26
PENN SECURITY GENERAL FUND ACCOUNT	245.56
BANNER BEAUTIFICATION ACCOUNT	3,783.07
STATE LIQUID FUELS	30,819.11
PARK & RECREATION FUND	882.21
PLANNING COMMISSION REIMB. FUND	12,488.54
ROAD FUND – GENERAL FUND	115,576.73
STORMWATER FUND	49,090.25
SANITATION FUND	575.91
INTERSECTION & SIGNALIZATION FUND	<u>248,772.99</u>
 GRAND TOTAL	 <u>\$485,029.62</u>

Vice-President F. O'Boyle moved to transfer \$50,000.0 from the Intersection & Signalization Fund and contact PMRP and request a delay in the remaining funds owed until March. He further moved to delay paying any other bills that can be until funds are available. Councilmember T. Neville seconded.

Councilmember A. Montanez stated Council should transfer \$100,000.00 and pay all the bills on time.

After discussion, Vice-President F. O'Boyle withdrew his motion and Councilmember T. Neville withdrew his second.

Councilmember A. Montanez moved to transfer \$100,000.00 from the Intersection & Signalization Fund to pay this month's obligations and as soon as tax money is received in March, the money will be reimbursed. Vice-President F. O'Boyle seconded. Motion carried.

BILLS TO BE PAID FROM THE GENERAL FUND CHECKING ACCOUNT:

AMTrust North America	(workers comp due 12/20/19)	\$ 2,526.00
Association of Mayor's	(annual dues)	60.00
Barry Isett & Associates	(Munic., Hirshland, POSH Prop.)	1,211.58*
Bill Beekman Plumbing	(repairs to oil burner maint. Garage)	125.00
Blue Ridge Communications	(phones)	417.17
Cintas	(uniforms/rugs)	467.91
EM Kutz, Inc.	(plow parts/tarps/shoes/nuts & bolts)	3,400.47
Ed's Auto Service	(2009 Ford F-550 repairs trans. Leak)	1,323.49
ESSA Bank	(loan payment)	2,309.20
FNB Visa	(electric kit & UPS postage)	84.71
Geisinger	(health insurance)	10,278.52
Gotta Go Potties	(portable toilets 2019)	1,360.00
Highmark Blue Shield	(eye/dental)	352.04
Lowe's	(sidewalk ice remover)	94.85
Met Life	(life/disability)	360.74
Mount Pocono Municipal Authority	(103 Brunswick Dr property)	87.40
Miller's Automotive	(inspection 2001 GMC & 1997 Ford F-350)	56.00
Monroe County Control Center	(1 st quarter)	694.23
NAPA Auto Parts	(batteries & shop supplies)	258.71
NEPA Alliance	(2020 membership)	275.00
Newman, Williams, Mishkin	(Hoops International & LPC 1)	835.00*
PSAB	(Membership Directory & Boro News)	160.00
Panko Reporting	(POSH Properties)	190.00
Pennoni Associates	(ARLE Grant)	863.50
PA American Water Co	(water)	692.34
PA One Call	(monthly service)	5.70
PA State Mayor's Association	(annual dues)	60.00

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Plociniak Oil	(heating oil – Maint & boro bldg.)	3,743.23
Pocono Mountain Regional Police	(December Mortgage Payment)	2,792.12
Pocono Mountain Regional Police	(monthly service)	60,964.91
PM Public Library	(1 mill dedicated RE Taxes)	568.61
PM Vol. Fire Co.	(1 mill dedicated RE Taxes)	568.64
PM Regional EMS	(1/2 mill dedicated RE Taxes)	284.32
Pocono Record	(advertising)	736.49
Reilly Associates	(LPC 1 (lot 28)	3,801.82*
Selective Insurance	(insurances)	2,817.00
ThyssenKrupp	(elevator service)	194.46
Sunoco	(gas/diesel)	671.13
Tulpehocken Spring Water	(water)	56.99
Underdog Computer	(website maintenance)	75.00
Verizon Wireless	(cell phones)	139.81
WB Mason	(copy paper)	<u>99.96</u>

GRAND TOTAL **\$106,064.50**

*Engineer & Solicitor Reimbursable

BILLS ALREADY PAID FROM THE GENERAL FUND CHECKING ACCOUNT:

Mt Pocono Payroll	(w/e 12/11/19)	\$ 6,495.72
Mt Pocono Payroll	(w/e 12/18/19)	6,225.48
Mt Pocono Payroll	(w/e 12/25/19)	6,427.34
Mt Pocono Payroll	(w/e 12/31/19)	<u>\$6,106.34</u>

GRAND TOTAL **\$25,254.88**

BILLS TO BE PAID FROM THE LIQUID FUELS ACCOUNT:

Cargill	(de-icing salt)	\$11,571.74
Lehigh Hanson	(anti-skid)	4,755.86
P P & L	(electric)	<u>1,994.86</u>

GRAND TOTAL

\$18,322.46

ZONING/CODES ENFORCEMENT OFFICER

Zoning/ Codes Enforcement Officer D. Noonan gave the following monthly report:

Permits / Certificates Issued (12/1 to 12/31):

Shed - 1
Deck/Porch – 2
Construction – 1

Fees (12/1 to 12/31): \$448

Rental Inspections: 1

Additional Work / Activities:

- 12/9 - Council meeting.
- 12/19 - ZHB re: Posh Properties.

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- Multiple plan reviews and Project monitoring re:
 - Hirshland
 - Posh Properties
 - McDonalds
 - LTS single-family Summit Point
 - Barone single-family – Kinney Ave.
- Walmart storage trailer monitoring.

Zoning/Codes Enforcement Officer D. Noonan discussed with Council adopting a ticketing ordinance which will help with violations.

Councilmember M. Hensel stated the Planning Commission reviewed a proposed ticketing ordinance in 2017.

Borough Resident Patty Bucco was in favor of the ticketing ordinance noting it could help with the Land Bank.

SOLICITOR

Solicitor J. Fareri stated that he will be having discussions with the Solicitor in Coolbaugh Township about the inspections/agreements for LPC Pocono I, LP and will provide updates to Council as this project moves along.

Vice-President F. O'Boyle stated the Council needs to make sure the taxes are properly split between the Borough and Coolbaugh Township for this development.

PERSONS TO BE HEARD

Michael Moreno, Regional Coordinator, Pocono Mountain Chamber of Commerce

Mr. Moreno was present on behalf of the LGBTQ Business Council seeking permission to place of Pride Flags on Pocono Boulevard for the month of June 2020. Mr. Moreno stated that they are hosting a Pride Fest June 7, 2020 in Stroudsburg. He explained the only cost to the Borough would be the labor to put the flags up.

There was discussion on the locations of the flags and if it will conflict with the Hometown Hero Banners that will go up before Labor Day. Council tabled action on this request until these questions can be answered.

Ernest Rath, 6 Heath Lane

Mr. Rath discussed concerns he had with the drainage work on Heath Lane & Mountain Drive for the Hirshland Development. Council instructed the Borough Secretary to have the Borough Engineer re-review and provide a report on the stormwater work and impacts it will have on the residents on Heath Lane.

Karen Struckle, Mount Pocono Association (MPA)

Ms. Karen Struckle was present and discussed the holiday events held last month.

Junior Councilmember K. Crosby left the meeting at 8:25 pm.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Action Items List

The Borough Secretary/ Treasurer reviewed and updated the Action Item List accordingly.

Vice-President F. O'Boyle moved to advertise the Brunswick Drive and Timberbrook Terrace property for sale/bid. Councilmember A. Montanez seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Personnel Committee

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President C. Williams scheduled a personnel meeting on January 9, 2020 at 11:00 a.m.

Re-Open Budget

Councilmember A. Montanez moved to re-open the 2020 Budget. There was discussion on if there was a need to re-open the budget.

Councilmember A. Montanez withdrew her motion.

NEW BUSINESS

Ordinance #1 of 2020 – Taxation Ordinance

Vice-President F. O'Boyle moved to advertised Ordinance #1 of 2020 the Taxation Ordinance. Councilmember S. Stewart-Keeler seconded. Motion carried.

Elected Officials Compensation Ordinance

Councilmember T. Neville moved to table the proposed Elected Officials Compensation Ordinance. Vice-President F. O'Boyle seconded. Motion carried.

Re-Appointments/Resignations

Councilmember S. Stewart-Keeler moved to reappoint Erin Melbert to the Park & Recreation Board, Pastor Leanon Trawick to the Zoning Hearing Board and to accept the resignation of Norman DeLano, Sr. from the Planning Commission. Vice-President F. O'Boyle seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Personnel Policy

President C. Williams requested that the review of the Personnel Policy be placed on the February 18, 2020 work session agenda.

President C. Williams requested that the Borough's Auditor be contacted for a cost estimate to complete a budget analysis to help aid the borough in cutting costs.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Shirley Lansdowne, Center Avenue, stated she thought Belmont Knoll Senior Housing was sold a few years ago.

Councilmember M. Hensel, discussed Councilmember D. Casoles Water Report which advised that there would be a temporary water shut-off for improvements and replacement of a fire hydrant starting at 8:00 am on Tuesday, January 7 – Wednesday, January 8, 2020. Disruption of water service is anticipated to last 4-6 hours and is weather permitting. Roads effected are Edgewood Road, Devonshire Lane, Stonegate Court, Brunswick Drive, Candlewood Lane and Timberbrook Terrace.

Rob Miller, 28 Center Avenue, questioned who isn't paying their taxes.

Mike Reardon, 14 Cedar Road, Wished everyone a Happy 2020 New Year.

There being no further public participation or any further business coming before the Board, the meeting adjourned at 9:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted,


Lori Noonan, Borough Secretary

