

Call to Order:

The regular scheduled meeting of December 6th. 2010 was called to order by Ms. McCarthy at 6:32 p.m.

Members present were: Mr. Vandzura, Mr. Slanoc, Mrs. Chobany, Mr. Wozniak, and Mayor Fox. Also present were Robert Koban-Borough Manager; Mr. Emerick-Solicitor, Mr. Wisor-Engineer, Chief Miller-Public Safety, Don Squillario, and Michelle Claar-Secretary. Absent was Mr. Kissell.

VISITORS: None

Reports:

Managers Report:

Mr. Koban furnished a written report prior to the meeting. Mr. Koban recapped several items in his report. Mr. Koban commented on the LED program and the cost savings to the Borough. Funding will be researched for the streetlights within the Borough. Mr. Koban informed Council that information is being researched for additional options for the earned income tax as an increase in revenue to the General fund. Mr. Koban advised Council that the Municipal Electric Aggregation Agreement with First Energy has been delayed until further notice. The PUC has discrepancies with the agreement relating to Home Rule Municipalities. First Energy will contact us with any new developments and when the agreement will go into effect.

Solicitor's Report:

Mr. Emerick furnished a written report prior to the meeting. Mr. Emerick questioned if there was any communication with the Plummer's regarding the findings in fact concerning the property located at 1021 Caldwell Avenue. Ms. Claar and Mr. Koban advised that there was no communication from the Plummer's or Cambria Thrift. The issue will remain on the agenda's until completed. There is no update on the demolition of the Harpo's building. Mr. Emerick advised that he has not received any correspondence from Attorney Sottile regarding the alley at the Kowalczyk's.

Engineers Report:

Mr. Wisor furnished a written report to Council. Mr. Wisor had nothing additional to report. Mr. Wisor was just informed that we received a grant for the Gillespie Avenue stabilization project. Mr. Koban advised that we will forward all the paperwork to his office to begin the project.

Police Report:

Chief Miller furnished a written report prior to the meeting. Chief Miller advised the department had four (4) assists to other departments during the month. Mrs. Chobany questioned if there were any noise complaints during the concert held at the Sundance Lounge. Mrs. Chobany advised that she was approached by a resident regarding the noise. Chief Miller advised that police protection was provided during the concert and there were no noise complaints received. Chief Miller and Mr. Koban informed Mrs. Chobany to instruct the resident to complete a citizen complaint form and to contact the police department or 911 in the future.

Public Works Report:

Mr. Squillario furnished a written report prior to the meeting. Mr. Squillario had nothing additional to add.

Treasurer's Report:

Ms. Claar furnished a written report prior to the meeting. Mr. Wozniak motioned, seconded by Mr. Slanoc to approve the Treasurer's report, motion carried 6-0.

Correspondence:

A thank you was received from Bethany Church for the Fall Harvest festivities. Ms. Bern Sigado sent a thank you to the Public Works Department for the efforts on street cleanup, leaf removal and snow plowing. Comcast sent notices regarding price increases for digital cable equipment and channel changes effective in January, 2011.

Mr. Dick Rice sent an e-mail advising that the Our Town project is completed and will be aired on WPSU-TV on December 9th, 2010 at 8:00 p.m.

Minutes of the Previous Meeting:

The minutes from November 1st, 2010 regular and October 18th, 2010 committee meeting were distributed prior to the meeting. Mrs. Chobany motioned, seconded by Mr. Wozniak to approve the minutes from October 4th, 2010 regular and October 18th, 2010 committee meeting motion carried 6-0.

Paying of Bills:

The bills were distributed prior to the meeting. Mr. Slanoc motioned, seconded by Mrs. Chobany to pay the unpaid bills and additional bills in the amount of \$7,121.49. Ms. McCarthy polled and motion carried 6-0.

Other Reports

Mr. Wozniak questioned Mr. Squillario concerning the minutes from the JRC relating to a contractor performing tree removal and the liability issues. Mr. Koban explained that the borough insures the buildings and the Commission has their own insurance on other portions at the Park.

Mr. Slanoc motioned, seconded by Mrs. Chobany to approve the monthly reports as presented, motion carried 6-0.

Unfinished Business:

There was no update on the Mainline Heritage Association.

The grant funding for Gillespie Avenue Bridge is currently waiting on a response from the PA Department of Environmental Protections Growing Greener program.

The Harpo's Building was scheduled for demolition in the fall. Remaining on agenda until it is demolished.

There was no update on the Rails to Trails grant funding.

There is no update on the Main Street Streetscape project.

Chief Miller advised that the Police Department sent another ten day notice for the structure located at 619 Main Street. Mr. Vandzura commented on sending another notice, only this time certified and requesting an address change.

The Mainline National Bank and Attorney McGlynn are in the process of preparing the paperwork for the transfer to the Borough and Fire Department.

A list of activities for 2011 from the fire department was amended. Mr. Vandzura motioned, seconded by Mr. Wozniak to approve the list of activities for 2011 as presented by the Portage Volunteer Fire Company, motion carried 6-0.

New Business:

The agreement between the Central PA Humane Society and the Borough was reviewed by Council. Mr. Wozniak motioned, seconded by Mr. Vandzura to approve the Animal Control Agreement between Portage Borough and the Central PA Humane Society commencing from December 6th, 2010 through December 6th, 2011, motion carried 6-0.

Mr. Koban presented Council with the 2011 proposed budget for review and comment. Mr. Slanoc motioned, seconded by Mrs. Chobany to approve the advertising of the 2011 proposed budget for public inspection with adoption at the special meeting on December 17th, 2010 at 6:00 p.m. Ms. McCarthy polled each member, motion carried 6-0.

Ms. Claar presented the 2011 calendar for the regular and committee meeting dates. Council reviewed the dates and Ms. McCarthy commented that the special meeting should reflect a regular meeting. Mr. Vandzura motioned, seconded Mayor Fox to approve the advertising of the 2011 meeting dates for the regular and committee meeting dates, motion carried 6-0.

Mr. Koban informed Council that he received information from Cambria County Codes Enforcement Agency and the COGS for third party administrators for the uniform construction codes enforcement. Mr. Koban advised that he will present additional information to Council once he reviews all the services available between the two agencies. The issue will be placed on the committee meeting agenda.

Mr. Koban presented documentation and graphs from Glacial Energy reflecting the cost savings for an electric supplier at 18%. The savings represents electric accounts for the municipal building, streetlights, street signals, and the Public Works building. Mr. Koban

commented that the agreement is month to month and can be cancelled at any time. Mr. Vandzura motioned, seconded by Mr. Wozniak to approve the electricity EFT agreement between Portage Borough and Glacial Energy, motion carried 6-0.

The Rotary Club submitted a request to utilize the ASCAP music license/permit for a St. Patrick's Day Dance in March of 2011. Mrs. Chobany motioned, seconded by Mr. Slanoc to grant permission for the Rotary Club to utilize the ASCAP music license/permit for a St. Patrick's Day Dance in March, 2011, motion carried 6-0. Ms. Claar presented a sign out sheet for organizations requesting permission to utilize the permit/license.

Good of the Borough:

The 2010 list of boards and commissions were presented to Council for review of expiring terms. Letters of interest were received for the Planning Commission, Joint Recreation Commission, and Water Authority. Council agreed to have interviews on Monday, December 13th at 6:30 p.m.

Mrs. Chobany motioned, seconded by Mr. Wozniak to approve the free parking on Main Street during the month of December, motion carried 6-0.

The Christmas Dinner with the Portage Municipal Water and Sewer Authority will be held directly after the December 17th special meeting at 7:00 p.m.

Adjournment:

Mrs. Chobany motioned, seconded by Mr. Slanoc to adjourn, motion carried 6-0. The meeting adjourned at 7:18 p.m.