

A meeting of Portage Borough Council was held on Friday, December 18th, 2015 at 6:00 p.m., in Council Chambers.

Those in attendance were:

Sharon McCarthy, President
Mayor James Kissell
John Morgan

George Wozniak
Jerome Yetsko
Todd Learn

Rebecca Chobany

Also present were: Robert Koban, Borough Manager; and Ms. Claar-Secretary.

CALL TO ORDER

Ms. McCarthy called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m., which was followed by a roll call with a quorum being present.

REFLECTION/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mr. Kissell offered a reflection that was followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

RECOGNITION OF GUESTS

Guests: Mr. Ron Portash-Dispatch.

Bills to be paid

Ms. Claar submitted the bills to be paid plus the additional prior to the meeting.

ON MOTION OF MRS. CHOBANY, SECONDED BY MR. WOZNIAK, COUNCIL UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED PAYING THE BILLS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$4,259.20. COUNCIL MEMBERS VOTING AFFIRMATIVELY INCLUDED MR. LEARN, MR. MORGAN, MR. YETSKO, MR. WOZNIAK, MRS. CHOBANY, MAYOR KISSELL, AND MS. McCARTHY. MOTION CARRIED 7-0.

2016 Budget

Mr. Koban presented the 2016 budgets for the General Fund, the State Liquid Fuels, and the Capital Improvement Savings Funds for Council to approve and adopt.

ON MOTION OF MRS. CHOBANY, SECONDED BY MR. KISSELL, COUNCIL UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED ORDINANCE 4-2015 BY ADOPTING THE 2016 APPROVED BUDGET FOR THE GENERAL FUND, STATE LIQUID FUELS FUND, AND THE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT SAVINGS FUND. COUNCIL MEMBERS VOTING AFFIRMATIVELY INCLUDED MR. LEARN, MR. MORGAN, MR. YETSKO, MR. WOZNIAK, MRS. CHOBANY, MAYOR KISSELL, AND MS. McCARTHY. MOTION CARRIED 7-0.

2016 Tax Millage Rate

Mr. Koban presented the 2016 tax millage rates for Council to approve and adopt.

ON MOTION OF MAYOR KISSELL, SECONDED BY MR. WOZNIAK, COUNCIL UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED ORDINANCE 5-2015 BY ADOPTING THE 2016 TAX MILLAGE RATES FOR THE BOROUGH AT 16.5 MILLS FOR GENERAL PURPOSE MILLS AND .5 FOR FIRE PROTECTION FOR A TOTAL OF 17 MILLS. COUNCIL MEMBERS VOTING AFFIRMATIVELY INCLUDED MR. LEARN, MR. MORGAN, MR. YETSKO, MR. WOZNIAK, MRS. CHOBANY, MAYOR KISSELL, AND MS. McCARTHY. MOTION CARRIED 7-0.

2016 Compensation Plan and wage rates for borough employees

Mr. Koban presented the 2016 compensation plan and employee wage rates for Council to approve and adopt.

ON MOTION OF MRS. CHOBANY, SECONDED BY MR. WOZNIAK, COUNCIL UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED ORDINANCE 6-2015 BY ADOPTING THE 2016 COMPENSATION PLAN AND SETTING THE BOROUGH EMPLOYEES WAGE RATES. COUNCIL MEMBERS VOTING AFFIRMATIVELY INCLUDED MR. LEARN, MR. MORGAN, MR. YETSKO, MR. WOZNIAK, MRS. CHOBANY, MAYOR KISSELL, AND MS. McCARTHY. MOTION CARRIED 7-0.

Letter of Interest for PAJRC

Mr. Koban informed Council that he received a letter of interest from Mrs. Mary Ann George for the vacant position on the Portage Area Joint Recreation Commission that was advertised in the Dispatch. Council unanimously agreed to invite Mrs. George to the January 4th regular meeting for a meet and greet to be held at 6:15 p.m.

New Office Building

A discussion was held on the possible purchase of a new office building at the Sacred Heart School that Council had an opportunity to inspect last week. There was no update from the realtor prior to the meeting. The issue will be discussed further at the January 4th regular meeting.

Good of the Borough

Mr. Kissell advised that a snowflake on Main Street and Caldwell Avenue is burned out. Council congratulated Mrs. Chobany for her twelve (12) years of dedicated service on Borough Council. Council commended Mr. Portash for his writing and reporting of borough issues in the Dispatch over the last year.

ADJOURNMENT

THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS, ON MOTION OF MRS. CHOBANY, SECONDED BY MR. WOZNIAK, THE MEETING WAS ADJOURNED AT 6:19 P.M.