

A meeting of Portage Borough Council Committee of the Whole was held on Monday, October 15th, 2018, at 6:30 p.m.

Those in attendance were:

Sharon McCarthy James Kissell (Arriving late) George Wozniak
David Hayes Todd Learn Jerome Yetsko John Morgan

Also present were: Robert Koban, Borough Manager and Michelle Claar, Borough Secretary.

Visitors:

Ron Portash, Mainline Newspapers, Jean Kinley

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

- A. Update on Recreation Director/Manager
Mr. Koban advised that a final draft will be available soon for Council to review.
- B. Borough Building Roof litigation
No update.
- C. Update on Trout Run Flood Protection Grant-The grant was denied. Another round of grants will be available in the Spring of 2019.
- D. Update on PennDot Project on SR 164 and Main Street
Mr. Koban advised that Bruce Schweitzer is in the process of contacting Mrs. Stager regarding the road widening of Caldwell and the loss of space. Rob at Portage Chevrolet is a little unhappy with losing spaces with the widening of Caldwell Avenue. Mr. Koban advised that Rob is inquiring some additional parking within the borough alley. Mr. Koban commented that he is not sure how much space he is requesting. Mr. Koban also commented that he tried to contact the Realtor at the Nidage Building to determine if the building is still for sale. Mr. Portash questioned the PennDot website reflecting the scope of work on SR 164 that would commence in 2019 and end in 2021. Mr. Koban will check with Mr. Schweitzer to determine what projects they are referring to.
- E. Update on PennDot MTF Grant for the Main Street Phase II Improvements
There was no update but moving forward.
- F. Update on Main Street Phase III Project
There was no update.
- G. Update on sump pump issues at the Administration Building
Mr. Koban advised the sump pumps and drainage with the Borough Building and Matt Decort is completed. The storm drain project on Central Alley is also completed. The business owners still need to tap into the storm drain and then it will be ready for asphalt.
- H. Update on Sonman Avenue Bridge 12 Year plan
There was no update.
- I. Update on grant funding for generator
Mr. Koban and Mr. Maul will be meeting with Lowes on Tuesday, October 16th, 2018 at 10:00 a.m.

- J. Update on retainer wall at Johnson Avenue
The project probably won't be complete until Spring of 2019.
- K. Update on Restroom Project at Crichton McCormick Park
Mr. Koban advised that the project is progressing. A construction meeting was held last week with some minor issues. The specifications called for floor mounted toilets and the plans called for wall mounted. The floor mounted toilets remained since the concrete was already poured. The project could be completed by the end of October.
- L. Update on proposed ordinance for sump pump and drainage issues within the Borough
There was no update.
- M. Discussion on Memorial event for World War II Vet; Mr. Walter Mintus
Mr. Hayes advised that the Veteran's ATV should take place on November 10th and requested the assistance of the fire and borough police. Mr. Hayes advised that approximately 200 riders will be in attendance. Ms. Kinley commented on the procedure/etiquette for honoring a man that has served his country with an ATV ride. Mr. Hayes commented that the ride is for a fund raiser to obtain funds for the monument that will be built. Mr. Hayes commented that the fund raiser with the ATV's could be changed to a different date in need be. Ms. McCarthy commented that this could be national news.

Buildings:

- A. 1309/1315 Jefferson Avenue (Bobolsky)
Mr. Koban advised that a PA One Call for utilities has been made from Mr. Bobolsky. Mr. Emerick did send a letter to Mr. Bobolsky concerning the deadline for demolition.
- B. 616 Dulancey Drive (Adams)
Mr. Emerick sent a letter to Shelly Alexander in Florida. The letter was requesting that the Estate of Clair Adams to be willing transferred to the Borough so that we can deal with the property issues directly. The letter was sent out on October 2nd, 2018 with no response yet from Ms. Alexander.
- C. 933 Sonman Avenue-(Greenawalt)
Mr. Emerick sent another letter to a different address for Rebecca Windsor concerning the structure. There was no response prior to the meeting.
- D. Shoenfeld property at Orange and Grove
There was no update.
- E. Update on 828 North Railroad (Gaunts)
Mr. Emerick advised that Cambria County Common Pleas sent notice of a hearing on Wednesday, October 31st, 2018. Mr. Emerick will be out of town that week and is requesting a continuance.
- F. Update on 720-722 Orchard Street Property (Plummer)
Mr. Emerick provided the Findings of Fact and were delivered by the Police Dept.
- G. Update on 406 Caldwell Avenue (Barclay)
Mr. Emerick provided the Findings of Fact and were sent out by certified mail.
- H. Update on 925 Main Street (Lewis)

Mr. Emerick provided the Findings of Fact and were sent out by certified mail.

I. Update on 1007 Conemaugh Avenue (Boro)

Mr. Koban informed Council that the application with the Redevelopment Authority got lost in the shuffle with the Act 152 funding and the CDBG funding. Mr. Koban advised that he spoke with Commissioner Chernisky on the process of the Act 152 grant funding.

NEW BUSINESS:

A. Advertise for a Real Estate Tax Collector

Mr. Koban presented a draft job description for the real estate tax collector for Council to review and approve for advertising the position.

ON MOTION OF MR. MORGAN, SECONDED BY MR. WOZNIAK, COUNCIL UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED THE ADVERTISING OF THE REAL ESTATE TAX COLLECTOR POSITION. COUNCIL MEMBERS VOTING AFFIRMATELY WERE MR. LEARN, MR. MORGAN, MR. YETSKO, MR. WOZNIAK, MR. HAYES, MR. KISSELL AND MS. MCCARTY. MOTION CARRIED 7-0.

B. Maintenance Worker at the Park

Mr. Koban informed Council that he was approached by the Portage Area Joint Recreation Commission concerning the hiring of a maintenance worker since Mr. Dave Squillario will be retiring at the end of the year. A meeting was requested by the PAJRC with the Borough and the Township. Portage Township did not attend the meeting. Mr. Koban advised that the position would be approximately 35 hours per week but the hourly pay is \$10.00 per hour, which would not generate a great response for applicants. Mr. Koban again suggested reviewing the Joint Recreation Agreement with the Commission, the Borough, and the Township. Mrs. Squillario informed Mr. Koban that the PAJRC will be attending the next Portage Township meeting.

Paying of the Bills

Ms. Claar presented a copy of the bills and additional bills to be paid in written form.

ON MOTION OF MR. HAYES, SECONDED BY MR. WOZNIAK, COUNCIL UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED TO PAY THE BILLS IN WRITTEN FORM, IN THE AMOUNT OF \$5,068.31. VOTING AFFIRMATIVELY INCLUDED MR. LEARN, MR. MORGAN, MR. YETSKO, MR. WOZNIAK, MR. HAYES, AND MS. MCCARTHY, MOTION CARRIED 6-0.

Mr. Kissell arrived at 7:21 pm.

GOOD OF THE BOROUGH

A. 532 Dulancey Drive (Gaunts)

LMIA sent an e-mail request to close out the demolition permit on the Gaunt property. Pictures were provided to Council for their review. The pictures showed that backfill is still needed and there is an accumulation of junk on the property. After a discussion by Council;

ON MOTION OF MR. WOZNIAK, SECONDED BY MR. MORGAN, COUNCIL UNANIMOUSLY DENIED LMIA REQUEST TO CLOSE OUT THE DEMOLITION PERMIT ON THE GAUNT PROPERTY LOCATED AT 532 DULANCEY DRIVE. COUNCIL MEMBERS VOTING AFFIRMATELY WERE MR. LEARN, MR. MORGAN, MR. YETSKO, MR. WOZNIAK, MR. HAYES, MR. KISSELL AND MS. MCCARTY. MOTION CARRIED 7-0

Mr. Kissell suggested contacting the Youth Hockey Association to a future meeting to discuss the ice rink liner at the Park during the winter months. Mr. Kissell advised that the kids utilized the skating rink a lot and will soon need volunteers again. Mr. Koban commented that it difficult to get volunteers. Ms. McCarthy sending a letter to the PAJRC and the Hockey Association.

Ms. McCarthy suggested purchasing the Forever Stamps and postage costs to \$1,000 for budgeting. Mr. Koban also suggested the possibility of Bill paying electronically to reduce postage costs.

The Cambria County Borough Association sent notice of the Fall Meeting being hosted by Ebensburg Borough. The meeting will be held at Amici's Restaurant on Tuesday, October 23rd, 2018 with social hour at 5:30 p.m.

Ms. McCarthy advised that Mr. Fox will not be re-applying for the Planning Commission. There being no further business;

ON MOTION OF MR. WOZNIAK, SECONDED BY MR. LEARN, COUNCIL UNANIMOUSLY ADJOURNED. VOTING AFFIRMATIVELY INCLUDED MR. LEARN, MR. MORGAN, MR. YETSKO, MR. WOZNIAK, MR. HAYES, MR. KISSELL, AND MS. MCCARTHY, MOTION CARRIED 7-0.

The meeting concluded at 7:42 P.M.