

November 24, 2014

The regular meeting of Lehighon Borough Council was held in the Municipal Building on Monday, November 24, 2014. The meeting was called to order at 7:30 PM by Pres. Grant Hunsicker. Members in attendance were: Helen Torok, Joe Flickinger, John Kreitz, Darryl Arner, Bessie Bauchspies, and Scott Rehrig.

Officials in attendance were: Borough Manager Nicole Beckett, Borough Secretary Brenda Koons, Solicitor James Nanovic, Mayor Tom Mase, Police Chief Brian Biechy, Fire Chief Gary Frable and Borough Engineer Bruce Steigerwalt. Absent: no one.

Pledge of Allegiance

PUBLIC HEARING - Ordinance 618-2014 Requiring Local Building Permits for Certain Types of Construction

Solicitor Nanovic said the letter from L&I came back today. It states the ordinance is in compliance and can now be advertised. Hearing closed.

Councilors Rehrig/Arner made the motions to advertise and all were in favor with no questions or objections.

Presentation of Award to Fire Chief Gary Frable - see attached

HEARING OF PERSONS PRESENT

None

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Regular Meeting of September 22 and Special Meeting of November 10 & 18, 2014

Councilors Rehrig/Arner made the motions to approve the minutes and all were in favor with no questions or objections.

NEW BUSINESS

Motion to accept Gary Frable's letter of resignation as Fire Chief effective January 1, 2015

Councilor Rehrig wanted Gary to know that council extends a sincere thank you for a job well done and for his many years of service.

Councilors Rehrig/Arner made the motions to approve and all were in favor with no questions or objections.

Motion to approve 90-day waiver request for LASD project

The borough engineer said this is requested because the last planning meeting didn't have a quorum and there are outstanding issues needing agency approval.

Councilors Kreitz/Flickinger made the motions to approve and all were in favor with no questions or objections.

Motion to approve Allegheny Electric Service Agreement

Councilors Rehrig/Bauchspies made the motions to approve the agreement and all were in favor with no questions or objections.

Motion to adopt Resolution R-20-2014 eliminating debt from the Capital Project Fund for Annex Renovation Project

Councilors Arner/Torok made the motions to adopt and all were in favor with no questions or objections.

Motion to approve Change Order #2 for the Light & Power Building Addition Project for additional paving at facility

Councilors Flickinger/Kreitz made the motions to approve and all were in favor with no questions or objections.

Motion to pre-approve awards for the Christmas Light Competition for Judging December 21, 2014

Councilors Rehrig/Arner made the motions to pre-approve winners and all were in favor with no questions or objections.

Action on the Police Civil Service Commission Corporal Exam results

Councilor Rehrig suggested tabling this item for right now. The mayor needs a working corporal and there are a few things that need to be addressed.

Councilors Rehrig/Kreitz made the motions to table this item and all were in favor with no questions or objections.

Motion to adopt the proposed 2015 budget

Councilors Arner/Bauchspies made the motions to adopt and all were in favor with no questions or objections.

Motion to advertise the 2015 Tax Levy Ordinance

Councilors Rehrig/Flickinger made the motions to advertise and all were in favor with no questions or objections.

Discussion/Comments on the Proposed Carbon County Council of Government's Agreement

This item was tabled until final draft is produced.

Unfinished Business

Discussion/Motion to approve the DCED Multimodal Transportation Fund grant contract

Councilors Rehrig/Bauchspies made the motions to approve as long as we can refuse it if no other fund are found to match the grant. All were in favor with no questions or objections.

Decision on the 2014 CDBG Project

Nicole said we will get about \$78,668 out of the \$90,000 grant. Does council want to do ADA ramps or pave on Stedman, 2nd & 3rd Avenue which will require an income survey to have the project qualify or do ADA ramps throughout town? We

could also save the money for 2 years and be able to do the whole project. President Hunsicker asked if the sewer camera was used on Stedman. Bruce thinks it was. He also pointed out that Stedman would be under \$100,000 so there would be no prevailing wage but CDBG money is subject to Davis Bacon rate.

Fourth & Cedar Streets and Stedman Avenue was also discussed along with the possibility of 7th Street. Bruce said we could do ADA ramps this year and paving the next year.

Councilors Rehrig/Flickinger made the motions to do Stedman Avenue and all were in favor with no questions or objections.

Discussion on the appointment of the Fire Chief

Councilors Rehrig/Flickinger made the motions to appoint Patrick Mriss as Fire Chief and advertise in house for Assistant Fire Chief and all were in favor with no questions or objections.

Officials Reports

Borough Manager

Nicole went over her report. She also asked for a \$250,000 transfer from L&P to General Fund.

The Young Professionals Council of the Chamber is working on the Santa in the Park and Council asked if they would be interested in taking over Bike Night.

The structural assessment for 209 N. 1st Street is that the structure must be torn down. How to do this is being looked at.

Borough Engineer

Nothing

Police

Brian said he is working on an AED grant to get AED's in all police vehicles.

Mayor

Tommy said he did his 5th Eagle Scout Ceremony this year. He is glad to see so many young men achieving this rank.

Fire Chief

Nothing

President of Council

Nothing

Solicitor

Nothing

Treasurer

An additional list of bills was provided for approval totaling \$9,168.15. Also a transfer of \$160,000 from the Fire Station Construction account and \$40,000 from the Fire Apparatus account needs to be transferred.

Committee Reports

Finance and Administration – Darryl – Chair, Bessie – Co-Chair – Darryl likes the budget they came up with.

Streets, Buildings and Codes – Joe – Chair, Darryl – Co-Chair – Joe said Tim is doing a great job. Scott also reported that Zion Church had water running into the intersection and needs to be looked at due to the ice situation that occurs during the colder weather. When the elevator was installed they supposedly hit a spring that has been responsible for this problem. Nicole stated this has been an ongoing problem we have tried to correct.

Police, Fire and Safety – Scott – Chair, John – Co-Chair – Joe would like Nicole to do a letter to the fire fighters families appreciating what they sacrifice.

Light & Power Committee – Helen – Chair, Joe – Co-Chair – Helen – Nothing

Sewer Committee – Bessie – Chair, Helen – Co-Chair – Nothing

Public Works & Recreation – John – Chair, Scott – Co-Chair – John & Scott both want L&P department and the Water Authority on standby to help plow roads at the borough manager's discretion.

Acceptance of Officials Reports

Councilors Rehrig/Arner made the motions to accept the official's reports as presented and all were in favor with no questions or objections.

Acceptance of Accounts Payable

Councilors Rehrig/Arner made the motions to accept the accounts payable as presented including the additional \$9,168.15 in bills, all the transfers and all were in favor with no questions or objections.

Motion to go into Executive Session for Personnel

None required

Motion to go back into Regular Session

Action on items from Executive Session

Motion to Adjourn the Meeting

Councilors Rehrig/Flickinger made the motions to adjourn the meeting at 8:25 PM and all were in favor. Meeting adjourned.

Brenda L. Koons
Borough Secretary