

March 23, 2015

The regular meeting of Lehighon Borough Council was held in the municipal building on Monday, March 23, 2015. The meeting was called to order at 7 PM by Pres. Grant Hunsicker. Members in attendance were: John Kreitz, Joe Flickinger, Bessie Bauchspies, Darryl Arner and Scott Rehrig. Absent: Helen Torok. Late: John Kreitz.

Officials in attendance were: Borough Manager Nicole Beckett, Borough Secretary Brenda Koons, Solicitor James Nanovic, Mayor Tom Mase, Police Chief Brian Biechy, Fire Chief Patrick Mriss and Borough Engineer Bruce Steigerwalt.

Pledge of Allegiance

HEARING OF PERSONS PRESENT

None present.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Regular Meeting of February 23, 2015

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

NEW BUSINESS

Motion to contract with Levkolic Associates for the fit-out office for the new Light & Power Building in the amount of \$3,420

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

Discussion/Action on the Carbon County Council of governments Agreement between CCCOG and Participants

Councilors Rehrig/Bauchspies made the motions to have Nicole and Solicitor Nanovic look into it more and bring it back to council. The mayor asked who wrote it and felt they should be present at a meeting to explain it to council. Jim suggested council should give him their specific questions and he will get the answers.

Motion to advertise for 2015 Road Program - Tar & Chip of 4th & 7th Streets

Councilors Rehrig/Flickinger made the motions have Nicole work with Bruce on how to best fund the project and the best options to do the project with authority to take funds from where needed and all were in favor with no questions or objections.

Motion to sign Cleveland Brothers resolution for purchase of CAT loader

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

Approval to purchase of \$30 gift certificates for Administrative Professionals Day

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

Unfinished Business

Motion to adopt the ordinance amending BOCA and firearms

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

Motion to issue conditional approval on the Lehighon Stadium Improvements

Councilor Rehrig recommended making the motion giving conditional approval as per Bruce's letter although some conditions are still not met. He asked the solicitor if there was any harm to the borough by doing this and was told no. Councilor Bauchspies seconded Scott's motion. Not all were in favor. A roll call vote was taken with Scott, Bessie, Darryl and Grant voting yes and Joe voting no.

Motion to approve Repository Sale on 134-136 North 1st Street

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

Action/Discussion on former pump station and the request to purchase or lease

Nicole said she is still working on a short term lease.

Officials Reports

Borough Manager

Lehighon Downtown Initiative met to reorganize and elect officers. Their next meeting will be April 16th.

She and Chief Biechy attended an excellent conference relating to the public sector labor laws.

She is working on the insurance renewals.

Borough Engineer

Bruce extended a heartfelt thank you to everyone for the sympathy basket and card when his mother passed away.

Police

Brian said the mandatory updates are almost done.

Mayor

Tom said he attended another Eagle Scout ceremony on Saturday. He also said that he is receiving good reports from the public on all the potholes being patched throughout the borough by Public Works.

Fire Chief

Chief Mriss said 10 members have received their Firefighter #2 training. Patrick is working with the zoning officer on buildings with structural damage because of the safety issue for the firemen should there be a fire.

President of Council

Nothing.

Solicitor

Nothing.

Treasurer

Additional list of bills and requests a transfer of \$160,000 if necessary.

Committee Reports

Finance and Administration – Darryl said the draft employee handbook is well written and feels it should be approved.

Streets, Buildings and Codes – Scott congratulated the fire and police departments and public works for doing a great job under the stress of this winter. Scott said he and John gave the police department a little something today and hoped they enjoyed it. Public works was given a little something a while ago to show council's appreciation for the jobs they do in all kinds of weather.

Police, Fire and Safety – nothing.

Light & Power Committee – Joe said Lonny's department is busy painting switch gears and things in the borough.

Sewer Committee – nothing.

Public Works & Recreation – John said once the frost is out of the ground the hole patching phase can begin in the borough.

Acceptance of Officials Reports

Councilors Arner/Flickinger 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 and all were in favor with no questions were objections.

Motion to go into Executive Session for Personnel

Councilors Flickinger/Rehrig made the motions to go in at 7:20 p.m.

Motion to go back into Regular Session

Councilors Rehrig/Flickinger made the motions to go back in at 8:08 p.m.

Action on items from Executive Session

Councilors Rehrig/Bauchspies made the motions to hire the 3 applicants for crossing guards provided they meet the 3 hiring requirements and all were in favor with no questions or objections.

Councilor Rehrig suggested sending a card and flowers to Jim Wentz from Council.

Councilors Rehrig/Kreitz made the motions to not issue tickets pertaining to odd/even parking and sidewalks for the rest of the season. He also gave credit to the police chief and mayor for the change in the police department and how efficient it has become under their leadership.

Motion to Adjourn the Meeting

Councilors Rehrig/Flickinger made the motions to adjourn the meeting at 8:12 PM and all were in favor. Meeting adjourned.

Brenda L. Koons
Borough Secretary