

MUNICIPALITY OF MONROEVILLE

COUNCIL WORK SESSION

FEBRUARY 9, 2017

MINUTES

The meeting was called to order at 7:20 p.m. by Mayor Greg Erosenko immediately following the Citizen's Night Meeting.

ROLL CALL

The following were present: Mayor Erosenko, Nick Gresock, Ron Harvey, Jim Johns, Paul Caliari, Steve Duncan, Tom Wilson, Paul Hugus, Joe Sedlak and Jason Straley. Mrs. Gaydos was absent.

EXECUTIVE SESSION ANNOUNCEMENT

Council conducted an executive session for personnel and litigation reasons prior to tonight's Citizens' Night meeting from 6:15 to 7 p.m. Council legislative action, if any, shall be taken at the February 14, 2017 Council Meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON PROPOSED AGENDA ITEMS

CHESTER ENGINEERS

Mr. Mark Scally from Chester Engineers came forward to make a brief presentation on behalf of his company. He reported there have been questions and concerns from council about acquisitions and staff. He stated that there is discussion between Hatch and Chester about joining forces. He briefly explained how Hatch is a large well known industrial company and their work experience with water infrastructure. He suggested this joint venture is moving forward in a positive direction. He briefly reviewed some of the changes in their staff.

Mr. Scally requested council consider the history of Chester Engineers and he mentioned the storm water, water pollution control, their GIS Network and their familiarity with the staff. He suggested Chester Engineers has the corporate resume that would be suited for the municipality. He indicated he would answer any questions. He was confident their professionalism from a performance, technical and responsiveness standpoint exceeds the municipality's expectations.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

There were no additions or corrections concerning the minutes of the Citizens' Night Meeting of January 5, 2017, Council Work Session of January 5, 2017 and the Regular Council Meeting of January 10, 2017.

APPROVAL OF REPORTS OF TAX COLLECTIONS

There were no questions or comments concerning the Reports of Tax Collections at this time.

LIST OF BILLS, BUDGET TRANSFERS AND PAYROLL

Council then considered approval of the List of Bills in the amount of \$663,878.52, Budget Transfers and Payroll in the amount of \$1,023,917.71 for the month of January. There were no questions or comments at this time.

VACANCIES ON BOARDS, COMMISSIONS AND AUTHORITIES

There were no comments at this time concerning the vacancies on the boards, commissions and authorities.

CONSENT AGENDA

NEW BUSINESS

17-2-ST

MUNICIPALITY OF MONROEVILLE

The applicant is requesting site plan approval to construct a 34-space parking lot and associated site amenities for the Westmoreland Heritage Rail Trail. The property is located on Saunders Station Road near the bridge crossing of Turtle Creek in the "S" Conservancy Zoning District.

Mr. Little reported this is the parking lot at the trail that will be started in the Spring. Further brief discussion ensued. Mr. Straley explained it was approved by the zoning hearing board because it was in the flood plain. Mr. Wilson inquired about their position. Mr. Straley gave a brief overview of the site of the trail. He explained this is a partnership with the Westmoreland Trail Alliance and the Westmoreland Department of Parks and Recreation. He stated it is a grant funded project and he pointed out the parking lot. He reported the existing parking lot will be raised five feet and it will be a 34-spaced paved parking lot with two handicapped accessible spaces and all the associated site amenities with the landscaping. He added all the minor comments made by the planning commission have been addressed and they recommended approval. Mr. Wilson requested his recommendation and Mr. Straley recommended approval.

Dr. Gresock inquired whether the five-foot elevation would make the parking lot level with the trail and Mr. Straley answered affirmatively. He explained from the trail to the edge of the parking lot the edge of the parking lot will be at an elevation of 831 feet and the storm water pond or swale is at 832 feet which would take the street runoff from an existing inlet over. He stated there is a two-foot elevation difference between the parking lot and the trail which is sloping down to the wet lands below for the drainage. He added it would provide great access for the fishing and it will be a great recreational amenity for the municipality.

MOTIONSMOTION

A motion to appoint Paul Hugus as the Temporary Zoning Officer.

MOTION

A motion to place a quarter page advertisement in the amount of \$60 in the program for the Gateway High School Musical "Cinderella".

Mr. Wilson requested the advertisement for the program be increased to a half page for \$90. It was the consensus to include it on the agenda for the regular meeting.

RESOLUTIONSRESOLUTION

A resolution authorizing the Green Light Go Grant for Light Emitting Diode (LED) Replacement at various traffic signals with the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation.

Mr. Hugus explained this is replacing the first generation LEDs in the traffic signals through a PennDOT grant. Mr. Duncan inquired whether that was done annually and Mr. Hugus answered negatively. He added it is a one-time grant from PennDOT and it is only for state roads. Further brief discussion ensued.

RESOLUTION

A resolution authorizing the advertising for bids for the 2017 Road Resurfacing Program for the attached list of roadways throughout Monroeville.

Mr. Little reported council has a sheet of the roads that staff is recommending to either be milled and paved, fogged sealed or double seal coated. He was hopeful this could be started in April or May. Further discussion ensued.

Dr. Gresock pointed out there is some left-over work from last year that was not completed. Mr. Hugs explained everything on the list for fog seal is from last year. Mayor Erosenko encouraged council to review the list of streets and submit their concerns to the administration as soon as possible. Dr. Gresock clarified that the charges for the fog seal from last year were not paid out of last year's budget and Mr. Hugus answered affirmatively. He explained they were not paid and there is approximately \$70,000 worth of charges that have not been paid because the work was not completed. He indicated he put it in the bid package to possibly get a lower bid price but last year's prices will be honored if not. He reported the program for this year is \$500,000 and there is \$70,000 from last year. Dr. Gresock pointed out the budget for that department was doubled from last year to this year.

ORDINANCESORDINANCE

An ordinance fixing the compensation of the tax collector for collection of real property taxes levied by the Municipality of Monroeville for the Years 2018, 2019, 2020, and 2021. (Public Hearing)

Mr. Wratcher reported this item is required by Pennsylvania Law prior to the election session where the tax collector office is elected. He stated the public hearing will be held on Tuesday.

REPORTS OF MUNICIPAL STAFFMUNICIPAL MANAGERHOME RULE CHARTER REVISIONS

Mr. Little reported the Home Rule Charter Revisions would stay on the agenda throughout the year for comments on the revisions. He explained how the report from the Home Rule Charter Ad Hoc Review Board was submitted to council at the January meeting. There were no questions or comments at this time.

Dr. Gresock reported the Home Rule Charter is a large document that the Home Rule Charter Ad Hoc Review Board thoroughly reviewed and council has to determine the best way to place the questions on the ballot for the voter referendum. He explained that some questions can be grouped together and he mentioned there will be public hearings. He suggested council start with the issues pertaining to the municipal manager and assistant manager. He was uncertain whether the solicitor and police chief could be added to those items. Again, he stated the first step is to determine which questions should be asked first. He inquired whether there has to be two public hearings and Mr. Wratcher answered affirmatively. Further discussion ensued regarding the scheduling of public hearings. Mayor Erosenko inquired how soon it has to be ready for the ballot in November and Mr. Wratcher suggested approximately 90 to 120 days prior to the election. He mentioned late Summer and recommended the public hearings be scheduled soon to get the public input. He explained then council can take the public input and recommendations from the Home Rule Charter Ad Hoc Review Board to decide what to adopt. He added council can also make recommendations to the county regarding questions but the county makes the final determination as to how those questions will appear on the ballot. He stated it is a function of words and characters, and how much space it will take on the ballot. He suggested it could take several elections to get through all the questions.

Further discussion ensued and Mr. Caliari inquired whether the Home Rule Charter Ad Hoc Review Board had a recommendation of what to prioritize and Mayor Erosenko answered they left that for council to decide.

Dr. Gresock inquired whether there should be two public hearings per referendum question and Mr. Wratcher answered negatively. He explained the public hearings would be on the report the Home Rule Charter Review Board submitted of their recommendations. He stated the recommendations

should be reviewed and then based on the input from the public council would determine what goes on the ballot.

ENGINEERING PROPOSALS

Mr. Little reported that four engineering proposals have been received from Chester Engineers, HRG Engineering, KLH Engineers Incorporated, and MS Consultants Incorporated. He stated the information has been submitted to council for their review and a revised sheet was submitted by MS Consultants on their rate schedule. Mayor Erosenko encouraged council to review the information. Mr. Little explained Mr. Hugus submitted a spread sheet of the different services that engineering firms provide and their rate schedules. Dr. Gresock inquired about the hourly rate for MS Consultants and Mr. Little pointed it out.

FINANCIAL CONSULTANT

Mr. Little reported the financial consultant was discussed in executive session.

FIRST ENERGY – POWER SYSTEM INSTITUTE

Mr. Little reported First Energy is offering a scholarship program and he read the information. He gave the telephone number and stated he would provide additional information on the website. He suggested this is an alternative for going to college.

REPORTS OF MAYOR AND COUNCIL

FOURTH WARD COUNCILMAN JIM JOHNS

Mr. Johns reviewed the activities at the Monroeville Convention Center as follows: Steel City Kitties, February 11-12, 2017; Greensburg Train and Toy Show, February 11-12, 2017; Allegheny Sport and Travel Outdoor Show, February 17-19, 2017; Pittsburgh Golf Show, February 24-26, 2017; Pittsburgh Fire Rescue and EMS Expo, March 5-6, 2017; Johnson's Log Home and Timber Frame Show, March 20-21, 2017; West PACs Job Fair, March 15, 2017; Pittsburgh Arts and Crafts Spring Fever Festival, March 24-26, 2017; CAMP Coins and More Promotions, March 24-26, 2017; and PERC Education Job Fair, March 29, 2017.

Mr. Johns thanked the five Monroeville Fire Departments for supporting Santa's Kids. He reported there will be a lot of families in 2017 that will receive toys, food and gifts at Christmas.

Mr. Johns reported the Fourth of July Committee has decided to move the fireworks from the Monroeville Mall to the New Monroeville Park West. He explained the test fireworks done the prior evening were successful. He was hopeful they could use the amphitheater for music prior to the fireworks and the committee is proposing to get food trucks to provide refreshments. Mr. Johns expressed his appreciation to Dave McGill for getting the fireworks van out of the mud in the field.

Mr. Johns congratulated his wife on her recent retirement.

SEVENTH WARD COUNCILMAN TOM WILSON

Mr. Wilson sent get well wishes to Mrs. Gaydos and thanked everyone who attended the meeting. He also thanked the public works for doing a terrific job.

SIXTH WARD COUNCILMAN STEVE DUNCAN

Mr. Duncan congratulated Mrs. Johns on her recent retirement and commended the public works for their excellent job on the snow removal.

THIRD WARD COUNCILMAN RON HARVEY

Mr. Harvey reported a resident contacted him about an insurance problem with a water and sewer line on Colonial Drive. He thanked the municipal authority and Mr. DeLorenzo for their diligence in resolving the problem.

Mr. Harvey reported he attended a meeting at the Plum Municipal Building on the Pennsylvania Turnpike Expansion. He explained the topic was all the overhead bridges that will have to be rebuilt before they can continue with the Turnpike construction. He mentioned the one in Monroeville in his ward is located on Center Road just passed Old Frankstown Road traveling into Plum. He reported it is not scheduled to begin until 2020 but they will make the bridge bigger. He announced there will be a public meeting for a display of the expansions and all the engineers will be in attendance on February 23, 2017 at 6 -7:30 p.m. in the cafeteria of Plum High School. He encouraged anyone interested to attend. He was concerned with that bridge because it would cut the Gateway Drive residents off to the rest of the world but he was informed that traffic would continue to move while the bridge is being built. He further explained and again encouraged any interested resident to attend the meeting to review the information. Mayor Erosenko requested it be put on the website.

SECOND WARD COUNCILMAN NICK GRESOCK

Dr. Gresock commended the public works department for their excellent work with the snow removal. He reminded the residents to park their cars in their driveways to make the snow removal easier.

MAYOR GREG EROSENKO

Mayor Erosenko reminded everyone that next Tuesday is Valentine's Day. He sent get well wishes to Mrs. Gaydos. He also commended public works for their excellent job in removing the snow.

Mayor Erosenko reported that under the vehicle code a motorist is required to clean all the snow off the top of your vehicles before driving.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before council at this time, a motion was duly made by Mr. Harvey to adjourn the meeting at 7:53 p.m. and Dr. Gresock seconded it. Upon a voice vote, the motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Timothy J. Little
Municipal Manager

TJL/sam