MINUTES OF REGULAR SESSION OF COUNCIL

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 8, 2017

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Regular session of Borough Council convened at 7:34 pm. Present were Councilors Melissa Morgan, Chris Ponchak, Tim Sloss, Janice Matyasovsky, and Larry Sikorski; Solicitor Matt Racunas; and Engineer Don Glenn.

PUBLIC COMMENTS.

Tara Marie Eiben, 302 Owens Avenue, asked if she has a right to have a gun on her own property. She needs to know the law. Mr. Racunas said that is an issue to discuss with the Police Department. Council cannot answer that question; it is regulated by state gun laws. Ms. Eiben said she will sit here and wait for the police to come in.

Christine Peterson, 2725 B Street, said she was away in October and her smoke alarm and ADT alarm went off, and the firemen went to her house. The alarm company calls her daughter first, but she may not always be available. If this happens again, how can it be resolved? Mrs. Peterson suggested having a registry with the police for people that are away. Fire Chief Corey Derr was in the audience, and said he would talk with her after the meeting.

Earl Roshon, 416 Scene Ridge Road, said the area near Manor Field leading to the trail is overgrown and asked who takes care of it. Mr. Sikorski said Allegheny Land Trust maintains the trail. Mr. Ponchak said the area from the parking lot to the trail is the borough’s property; they will look at it and have it taken care of.

COMMITTEE REPORTS.

**PROPERTY.**

There was no report in absence of Mr. Gretz.

POLICE. Mr. Ponchak, Chairman, reporting.

Mr. Ponchak read Lieutenant Johnson’s report on police equipment for the month of October as follows:

Vehicle mileage:

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | BEGIN | END | MILEAGE |
| Unit #130 | 69773 | 71361 | 1588 |
| Unit #131 | 18439 | 19000 | 561 |
| Unit #132 | 51020 | 53000 | 1980 |
| Total mileage | | | 4129 |

Vehicle Maintenance:

Unit 130

* Repair flat tire (2x); change oil; repair shotgun release

Unit 131

* Oil change

Unit 132

* 4 new tires; oil change

LEGISLATION. Mr. Ponchak, Chairman, reporting.

There was nothing to report.

PARKS & RECREATION. Mrs. Morgan, Chairman, reporting.

Christmas Light-Up Night will start at 6:00 pm on Wednesday, December 6. It will be done a little different this year. It will start with Light-up at the Municipal Building, then, escorted by the Fire Department with Santa on the truck, everyone will sing carols as they walk over to the Fire Hall for the remainder of the event.

On Saturday, December 16, starting at 5:00 pm, Santa will be riding on the fire truck throughout the borough, as he does every year.

Mrs. Morgan thanked Fire Chief Derr for the water buffalo provided during the recent boil alert.

HEALTH & ORDINANCE. Mrs. Matyasovsky, Chairman, reporting.

We received a link to our Code of Ordinances. Jeff Morgan placed it on the borough’s website, libertyborough.com, so the entire code book can be viewed through the link.

**LIGHTS.** Mr. Sikorski, Chairman, reporting.

There was nothing to report.

FINANCE. Mrs. Matyasovsky, Chairman, reporting.

Mrs. Matyasovsky presented the Bills for Ratification, as follows:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| American Legal Services – police insurance [November] | $ 43.44 |
| Center Independent Oil (Double Car Wash) – police vehicles [Sept] | 36.82 |
| Christie & Assoc – liability insurance renewal | 59,694.00 |
| CNH Capital (Groff Tractor) – backhoe parts | 198.35 |
| Comcast – phones/Internet | 284.07 |
| Comcast – police Internet | 123.81 |
| Conney Safety – items for the MS4 audit compliance | 78.99 |
| Dearborn National – life insurance [11/1/17 – 1/31/18] | 232.20 |
| Direct Energy – EMS | 65.88 |
| Direct Energy – garage | 103.63 |
| Direct Energy – Municipal Building | 380.21 |
| Direct Energy – pump station | 89.25 |
| First Commonwealth Bank – loan payment [PW truck] | 1,301.99 |
| First Commonwealth Bank – loan payment [2015 street paving] | 3,686.14 |
| Law Enforcement Systems – evidence tape | 42.00 |
| MCI – long distance | 29.02 |
| Mr. John – 1 @ Latrobe Park [10/13/17 – 10/31/17] | 80.08 |
| Mr. John – 2 @ Manor Park [10/13/17 – 10/31/17] | 160.14 |
| Orkin – sewers | 207.92 |
| PA American Water – consumption data | 64.45 |
| PA American Water – shut offs/on | 90.00 |
| PA American Water – EMS | 16.11 |
| PA American Water – garage | 110.49 |
| PA American Water – Municipal Building | 29.86 |
| Peoples Gas – garage | 22.38 |
| Postmaster – 4 rolls of stamps | 196.00 |
| Racunas Law Group, LLC – Solicitor fees [September] | 2,739.59 |
| Ricoh – copier maintenance | 38.22 |
| Sprint – mobile laptop | 40.24 |
| Steel Rivers COG – local share for demolition [2620 C Street] | 2,467.30 |
| Turner Dairy – drinks for Halloween | 77.00 |
| UPMC Health Plan – health insurance [November] | 2,261.39 |
| Verizon – garage | 51.78 |
| WestComm Wireless – police radios | 55.00 |
|  |  |
| **TOTAL RATIFIED BILLS** | **$75,097.75** |

Mrs. Matyasovsky presented the list of bills, as follows:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Aqua Filter Fresh – bottled water | $ 27.13 |
| Collura, Dave – wildlife control [October] | 140.00 |
| Conney Safety – items for MS4 compliance | 73.41 |
| Conney Safety – items for MS4 compliance | 243.43 |
| Direct Energy – EMS | 57.64 |
| Direct Energy – garage | 87.10 |
| Direct Energy – Municipal Building | 308.88 |
| Direct Energy – pump station | 93.67 |
| Duquesne Light – street lights | 3,206.77 |
| Flynn’s Tire – 4 tires [Tahoe] | 715.00 |
| Glenn Engineering – engineering | 975.00 |
| Glenn Engineering – Act 537 | 115.00 |
| Glenn Engineering – MS4s | 505.00 |
| Glenn Engineering – 2017 flooding | 1,805.00 |
| Glenn Engineering – PennVest | 3,010.00 |
| HB South – 2,000 envelopes with return address | 218.00 |
| Home Depot – misc. supplies [PW Dept] / wood for police targets | 300.48 |
| Jordan Tax Service – 2017 billing for Tax Collector | 374.00 |
| Lico – paper towels [Street Dept] | 26.95 |
| Marshall, Dennehey – legal costs through 9/30 [lawsuit] | 663.00 |
| Municipal Authority of West Newton – vactor for culvert and  catch basins [Glenn Ave] | 1,275.00 |
| Office Depot – police office chairs (2) / office supplies | 500.52 |
| PA American Water – fire hydrants | 1,173.57 |
| PA Municipal Service Co – 3rd quarter sewage billing | 912.49 |
| PA One Call – notices | 17.78 |
| Paul’s Auto Service – police vehicles | 459.85 |
| Peoples Gas – EMS | 34.27 |
| Peoples Gas – Municipal Building | 58.74 |
| Ricoh – copier lease | 114.95 |
| Sprint – cell phones | 123.71 |
| TEC Benefits – deductible reimbursement [Matlos/Takaht] | 1,626.42 |
| TruGreen – fall service @ fields | 452.07 |
| Zrenchak Environmental Services – pump station inspection [Oct] | 315.00 |
|  |  |
| **TOTAL BILLS** | **$20,009.83** |

Mr. Ponchak made a motion to accept the ratified bills and the list of bills. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Morgan and passed unanimously.

The receipts for the month of October are as follows:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| GENERAL FUND |  |
| Real Estate Tax – Aquilante | 3,300.93 |
| Fire Tax – Aquilante | 582.51 |
| Delinquent Real Estate Tax – Keystone | 1,003.30 |
| Act 77 Tax Refund | 5,738.48 |
| Real Estate Transfer Tax | 465.50 |
| Earned Income Tax – Keystone | 12,884.01 |
| Local Services Tax | 835.04 |
| Zoning/Building Permits | 80.00 |
| Zoning/Occupancy Permits | 210.00 |
| Dye Test Permits | 350.00 |
| Police Fines | 436.77 |
| Utility Tax Refund (PURTA) – Comm of PA | 850.44 |
| Liquor License – Comm of PA | 450.00 |
| No Lien Letters | 105.00 |
| Reimburse Electric – ETA EMS | 129.81 |
| Reimburse Flooding Expense – Port Vue Borough | 1,457.63 |
| Reimburse Engineering Expense (CITF Grant) – Steel Rivers COG | 1,117.50 |
| Police Reports | 15.00 |
| Right-to-Know Request | 2.25 |
| Political Signs | 30.00 |
| **TOTAL RECEIPTS FOR THE MONTH** | **$ 30,044.17** |
|  |  |
| **GENERAL FUND** |  |
| **REGISTER BALANCE** | **$ 6,729.22** |
|  |  |
| **GENERAL FUND SAVINGS** |  |
| Interest | 38.30 |
| **REGISTER BALANCE** | **411,097.67** |
|  |  |
| **SEWER FUND** |  |
| Customer Payments | 7,340.71 |
| Surcharge | 676.73 |
| Tap-in Charge | 1,000.00 |
| **REGISTER BALANCE** | **$ 8,039.24** |
|  |  |
| **HIGHWAY AID FUND** |  |
| Interest | .65 |
| **REGISTER BALANCE** | **$ 36,923.39** |

We have started working on the 2018 budget.

**PERSONNEL.**

There was nothing to report in absence of Mrs. McClelland.

STREETS & SEWERS.

There was nothing to report in absence of Mr. Gretz.

MAYOR WEIGAND’S REPORT.

There was nothing to report in absence of Mrs. Weigand.

SOLICITOR RACUNAS’S REPORT.

Mr. Racunas presented a resolution adopting the 2015 Allegheny County Hazard Mitigation Plan. Mrs. Matyasovsky made a motion to adopt the resolution. The motion was seconded by Mr. Sloss and passed unanimously.

Mr. Racunas presented a resolution implementing the National Incident Management System (NIMS). Mr. Ponchak made a motion to adopt the resolution. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Morgan and passed unanimously.

ENGINEER GLENN’S REPORT.

Council had approved filing the PennVest loan application at the last meeting, and it was submitted on October 31. A resolution was required, and Mr. Glenn called for a motion to ratify adoption of Resolution 2017-10. Mr. Sloss made a motion to ratify adoption of the resolution. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Matyasovsky and passed unanimously.

Two items on Glenn Avenue will be taken care of next week: the contractor for the slurry mix will be there on Monday, and the paving contractor will be there on Wednesday.

Mr. Glenn presented three invoices for payment for projects relating to the storm damage on Glenn Avenue:

Murin and Murn for installation of stone rip-rap (embankment restoration) in the amount of $15,600. Mrs. Matyasovsky made a motion to pay the invoice. The motion was seconded by Mr. Sloss and passed unanimously.

Murin and Murn for cleaning the channel from the 48” pipe that crosses Glenn Avenue in the amount of $1,040. This amount is half of the cost; Port Vue was invoiced for the other half. Mrs. Morgan made a motion to pay the invoice. The motion was seconded by Mr. Ponchak and passed unanimously.

Murin and Murn for installation of a new storm inlet, 24” storm line, and concrete end wall in the amount of $9,800. Mrs. Morgan made a motion to pay the invoice. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Matyasovsky and passed unanimously.

Mr. Sikorski said they worked together with Port Vue after the flooding on Glenn Avenue. Our relationship with them is very good. The expenses were divided in half.

Mr. Sikorski said that when he walked around, residents had questions about the 9,000 minimum gallons for sewage bills. Mr. Sikorski said council and the engineer took advantage of McKeesport Municipal Authority needing us to sign off for the sale of the system, and held out until they agreed to modify the sewage collection rate to water usage only, with no minimum gallons. The authority sent a letter on October 30 with their approved budget for 2018. The rate will stay the same at $8.40/thousand gallons, but no minimum. We have made progress; this will help the senior citizens.

There was no Old Business, New Business, or Correspondence to discuss.

Mrs. Morgan made a motion to accept the typed minutes from the Regular Session on October 11, 2017. The motion was seconded by Mr. Ponchak and passed unanimously.

Mr. Sikorski announced the next meeting date and times: Wednesday, December 13, 2017, with the Work Session at 6:00 pm, and the Regular Session at 7:30 pm.

A motion to adjourn was made by Mrs. Morgan and seconded by Mrs. Matyasovsky. All were in favor and the meeting adjourned at 8:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Debra L. Helderlein

Borough Secretary