

BOROUGH OF BRADDOCK HILLS
MINUTES
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
May 12, 2020

CALL TO ORDER

Thomas Evans, President of Council, called to order the regularly scheduled council meeting at 7:31 p.m. via phone conference

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mr. Evans led the Pledge of Allegiance.

CALLING OF THE ROLL

Council Present: Mr. Evans, President; Mr. Ursiny, Vice-President; Mr. Gambino; Ms. Bolton; Ms. Kvorjak; Ms. Schaffer

Others Present: Mr. Brown, Jr., Mayor; Robert Garvin, Solicitor; Jonathan Barron, Engineer; Cheryl Sorrentino, Manager

CALLING FOR APPROVAL OF MINUTES AS POSTED

Motion to approve minutes from April 14, 2020 meeting made by Ms. Kvorjak.

All Ayes

CALLING FOR BIDS

No bids.

CORRESPONDENCE

All correspondence was passed out prior to meeting.

COMMENTS & CRITICISMS OF CITIZENS (6 minutes each)

Albert Kvorjak, 2804 McKelvey Road – Mr. Kvorjak asked what was going on with Swissvale Police and if Borough still have them on weekends. Mr. Evans replied yes.

Mr. Kvorjak asked what was their status. Mayor Brown replied that they answer emergency calls, some patrolling and traffic stops.

Mr. Kvorjak stated he works different turns and has seen them do some traffic control, but not driving the streets. Mayor Brown responded that he has seen them patrolling the roads. Mr. Evans stated that Chief Helinski and Ms. Sorrentino will address this with Swissvale Police Department and request them to be more obvious while patrolling the Borough.

Further discussions continued regarding the allegation of lack of patrolling and visibility in the Borough by Swissvale Police Department.

1. REPORT OF BOROUGH COMMITTEES

A. FINANCE – CHAIRPERSON BOLTON

Motion to adopt Resolution 2 of 2020 to waive any penalty fee if paid in full by December 31, 2020 for tax year 2020

Motion – Ms. Bolton

Seconded – Ms. Kvorjak

Roll Call Vote – Unanimous – Carried

Solicitor Garvin explained that this resolution is part of Pennsylvania Act 15 of 2020, which allows municipalities to waive penalty fees of taxes due to the COVID-19 pandemic

B. PUBLIC SAFETY – CHAIRPERSON URSINY

Motion to accept the resignation of Patrol Officer Patrick Lucas effective May 1, 2020

Motion – Mr. Ursiny

Seconded – Ms. Kvorjak

Roll Call Vote – Unanimous – Carried

Ms. Bolton asked how long he has been employed with Braddock Hills Police Department.

Ms. Sorrentino stated less than a year. Mayor stated a year and half.

Ms. Sorrentino noted that Mr. Lucas received full-time employment, which is the reason for his departure.

C. ZONING – CHAIRPERSON KVORJAK

No report.

D. ORDINANCES – CHAIRPERSON SCHAFFER

No report.

E. HEALTH & SANITATION – CHAIRPERSON YAZVAC

Motion to adopt Resolution 3 of 2020 to request a grant in the amount of \$68,780 from the Commonwealth Financing Authority for the design and construction of the stream bank restoration along Wilkins Avenue

Motion – Mr. Ursiny

Seconded – Mr. Gambino

Roll Call Vote – Unanimous – Carried

F. BUILDINGS & BOROUGH PROPERTY –CHAIRPERSON EVANS

No report.

G. PUBLIC WORKS – CHAIRPERSON GAMBINO

No report. Mr. Gambino asked if the department was back to work full-time.

Ms. Sorrentino replied yes.

Ms. Kvorjak stated that the department did a great job on repairing potholes.

2. **REPORT OF BOROUGH OFFICERS**

A. **MAYOR – JOHN BROWN**

Mayor read police and fire reports for April 2020 (see attached). He stated the following events as items of interest:

- Participated in a webinar with Ms. Sorrentino regarding Hazard Mitigation Plan
- Attended Steel Rivers COG meeting with Mr. Evans via phone. He noted that Braddock Hills Borough may host the next meeting in June and all council are welcome to attend.

B. **SOLICITOR – ROBERT GARVIN**

Mr. Garvin commented on the Swissvale Borough Police as a follow-up to the citizen's comment. He stated that when comparing the number of calls answered by Braddock Hills versus Swissvale, they are answering more calls per day. Also, Swissvale is doing an exemplary job despite the visibility issue.

Mr. Garvin stated that Ms. Sorrentino continues to do an exemplary job despite the current pandemic situation.

C. **ENGINEER**

Report was read by Engineer Barron (see attached).

3. **REPORT OF COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS: CHAIRPERSON EVANS**

Mr. Evans stated that they may or may not have a meeting in June due to quarantine. Also, they do not meet during the summer months.

4. **THREE RIVERS WET WEATHER: CHERYL SORRENTINO**

No report.

5. **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

Ms. Kvorjak stated that she is putting on hold her request regarding a stop sign at Brinton Road and Columbia Avenue until after elections.

Mr. Ursiny asked Ms. Sorrentino about the payments made for advertisements since schools have been closed.

Ms. Sorrentino replied that no checks were returned. However, no checks have been cashed to date either. She stated that there may not be any personnel in the offices that handle the checks, which is why they haven't been cashed or returned.

Mayor Brown stated that U.S. Steel made a \$25,000 contribution to Woodland Hills School District for purchasing computers to students that didn't have one for virtual classes. Unfortunately, due to the pandemic no event was held to acknowledge their generosity, but they were sent a thank you card.

6. **NEW BUSINESS**

None.

7. **CALLING FOR APPROVAL OF TREASURER'S REPORT AS POSTED**
(all ayes vote)

Motion to approve the treasurer's report by Mr. Ursiny.

All ayes

CALLING FOR APPROVAL TO PAY ALL BILLS AS POSTED IN THE TOTAL
AMOUNT OF \$127,949.86 TO INCLUDE:

- General fund expenses of \$38,171.30
- Sewer fund expense of \$87,673.59
- Refuse fund expense of \$2,104.97

Motion – Mr. Ursiny

Seconded – Ms. Bolton

Roll Call Vote – Unanimous – Carried

9. **ADJOURNMENT OF THE MEETING TO THE CALL OF THE CHAIR**

Mr. Evans adjourned the meeting at 8:03 p.m.