

Call to Order:

The regular scheduled meeting of Tuesday, September 6th, 2011 was called to order by Ms. McCarthy at 6:30 p.m. Members present were: Mr. Vandzura, Mr. Slanoc, Mr. Wozniak, Mrs. Chobany, and Mayor Fox. Also present were Robert Koban-Borough Manager; Mr. Wisor-Engineer, and Chief Miller-Public Safety. Absent were Mr. Kissell, Mr. Squillario-Public Works, Michael Emerick-Solicitor, and Michelle Claar-Secretary.

Minutes were derived from the various monthly reports and agenda motions.

VISITORS:

Present was: Jerome Yetsko; Rick Truscello with the Eads Group, and Richard Rice with the Portage Planning Commission.

Mr. Wozniak motioned, seconded by Mayor Fox to deviate from the agenda to acknowledge the visitors, motion carried 6-0.

Mr. Truscello and Mr. Rice attended the meeting to provide answers for questions from Council relating to the ten year master plan, comprehensive recreation plan, trail feasibility study and grant funding. The Eads Group presented Council with an engineering agreement that would encompass the three phases of the project. The agreement would include financial participation from Portage Borough, Portage Township, and Cassandra Borough. Mr. Truscello also commented that only three communities in Pennsylvania had received grant funding from DCED and Portage should be proud of such an accomplishment. Mr. Truscello requested a contact person be named for the Eads Agreement to facilitate the sharing of information between parties. Mr. Koban was appointed the contact person. Mr. Rice also provided additional information from the Portage Planning Commission role in the project concerning the ten year comprehensive plan.

Reports:

Managers Report:

Mr. Koban furnished a written report prior to the meeting. Mr. Koban commented on several issues in his report.

Solicitor's Report:

Mr. Emerick was absent but furnished a written report prior to the meeting. The report consisted of filing for damages with the Court of Common Pleas for the 619 Main Street property (Bookhamer). Council is currently waiting on a response from Cambria Thrift concerning the lien placed on 1021 Caldwell Avenue Property (Plummers). No response was provided prior to the meeting.

Communications have begun between Attorneys concerning the Planning Commission Membership issues.

Engineers Report:

Mr. Wisor furnished a written report to Council. Mr. Wisor confirmed that the Sonman Avenue Bridge was placed on the 12 year plan for replacement with the PA Dept of Transportation and the State Transportation Commission.

Police Report:

Chief Miller furnished a written report prior to the meeting. Chief Miller reported that there were no incidents during the Summerfest. The department assisted 4 other police departments during the month of August.

Public Works Report:

Mr. Squillario was absent but furnished a written report prior to the meeting. Mr. Squillario's report included monthly Pip and Chip, cleaning of admin bldg, patching, swept park, crew was on vacation the week of August 15th, and mini park maintenance.

Treasurer's Report:

Ms. Claar furnished a written report prior to the meeting. Mr. Slanoc motioned, seconded by Mrs. Chobany to approve the Treasurer's report in the amount of \$48,381.69. Ms. McCarthy polled and motion carried 6-0.

Correspondence:

None

Minutes of the Previous Meeting:

The minutes from the August 8th regular meeting and August 22nd committee meeting were distributed prior to the meeting. Mr. Wozniak motioned, seconded by Mr. Slanoc to approve the August 8th regular meeting and August 22nd committee meeting minutes, motion carried 6-0.

Paying of Bills:

The bills were distributed prior to the meeting. Mr. Vandzura motioned, seconded by Mr. Slanoc to approve paying the bills in the amount of \$20,820.59 motion carried 6-0.

Reports

Reports were received from the Municipal Water Authority and the Sewer Authority for July and the Joint Recreation Commission for August. Mrs. Chobany motioned, seconded by Mr. Wozniak to approve the monthly reports as presented, motion carried 6-0.

Unfinished Business:

There was no update on the Main Street Streetscape project.

Mr. Koban advised that there was no progress made on the steps and handrail project at the side of the Fire Company. He will contact Chief Ray Lee to expedite the project.

The 619 Main Street Property was discussed earlier in the meeting under the Solicitor.

The 1021 Caldwell Avenue Property was discussed earlier in the meeting under the Solicitor.

Mr. Koban called for Council action of the Eads Engineering Agreement for the two plans and study. Mr. Vandzura motioned, seconded by Mr. Slanoc to approve the Eads Engineering Agreement for the two plans and study in the amount of \$89,500.00. Ms. McCarthy polled and motion carried 6-0.

New Business

A request to add additional seats to the Planning Commission will be discussed at the September Committee of the Whole meeting.

A discussion was held on the Emergency Management Director position for removal. Mr. Vandzura motioned, seconded by Mr. Slanoc to remove Mr. Charles Pavlosky as the Emergency Management Director and appoint Mr. Wozniak as an interim until the reorganization meeting at the first of the year. Ms. McCarthy polled and motion carried 5-0-1 with Mr. Wozniak abstaining. Mayor Fox commented that any equipment should be returned to the Borough.

The fee schedule for the compliance reports and permit will be discussed during the September committee of the whole meeting.

Two requests were received from Jerome Yetsko concerning the property lines and Pine Alley abandonment that will be discussed at the September Committee of the Whole Meeting.

The 2012 Minimum Municipal Obligation for the uniform and non-uniform employees were presented to Council for review. Mayor Fox motioned, seconded by Mr. Slanoc motioned to approve the 2012 MMO for non uniform employees with PMRS in the amount of \$14,167.00. Ms. McCarthy polled and motion carried 6-0.

Mr. Slanoc motioned, seconded Mayor Fox to approve the 2012 MMO for uniform employees in the amount of \$0.00. Ms. McCarthy polled and motion carried 6-0. This plan is overfunded.

A request was submitted for Mr. Vic Miller to collect/canvas funds for the Halloween Parade that will be sponsored this year by the Portage Volunteer Fire Department. Mr. Vandzura motioned, seconded by Mr. Slanoc to approve the soliciting permit to solicit for donations to the Halloween Parade. Ms. McCarthy polled and motion carried 6-0.

A lengthy discussion was held on the various events being held during the Fall; the Halloween Parade, Trick or Treat, and the Community Harvest Fest. The Halloween Parade is scheduled for Sunday, October 23rd at 2:00 p.m. with a rain date of Sunday, October 30th. The Harvest Fest is scheduled for Sunday October 23rd as well from 3:00 - 5:00 p.m. with a rain date of Sunday, October 30th. Ms. McCarthy questioned if a donation

would be given to the Harvest Fest this year. Mr. Koban requested that Ms. McCarthy submit a donation request for consideration at the September committee of the whole meeting. Trick or Treat will also be discussed at the September committee of the whole meeting.

Good of the Borough:

Mr. Vandzura commented on the effects of the earthquake that shook earlier in the month and asked if there was any protocol in place. A discussion took place on several areas that could be inspected for damages. Mr. Vandzura suggested that a protocol should be considered in the future.

A discussion took place on the progress of any grants being researched by Mr. Brant.

Adjournment:

Mrs. Chobany motioned, seconded by Mr. Vandzura to adjourn, motion carried 6-0. The meeting adjourned at 7:49 p.m.