

BOROUGH OF ELIZABETH

MEETING OF COUNCIL

APRIL 27, 2021

MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER – Vice President Miklos called the April 27, 2021 meeting to order at 7 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE- Vice President Miklos led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL- Present for the meeting were Mr. Guffey, Mr. Miklos, Mrs. Morris, and Ms. Gephart. Also present for the meeting were Solicitor DiMascio and Acting Secretary Jean Warren. Absent from the meeting were President Rager, Ms. Smrdel, and Mr. Shaner. Mayor Boucher was present.

VISITORS:

Dennis Martinak updated Council on the Strategic Management Plan and agreed to provide monthly updates. He reported that Rebecca Vargo is working on the financial analysis and Harry Freucht is working on the police analysis. Mr. Martinak stated he is focusing on a field view, website, and stakeholders now; and then will focus on the business district, riverfront, blight, and brownfield. Mrs. Morris was appointed as the Borough's point of contact. Mr. Guffey asked the timeline and Mr. Martinak stated they are working on steps 1-3 now and it is about 2 months out. Michael Foreman, PA DCED, participated via phone and requested that he be provided a draft of the reports prior to presentation to Council. Mrs. DiMascio reiterated that codification of ordinances is an important item she would like to see addressed in the report.

Larry Ross discussed the plans for the Moose parking lot. He reported he met with Mrs. Morris to review the updated plan and Mrs. DiMascio stated the code officer has reviewed the updated plan and one comment was that it needs greenery. The plans will need to go to the engineer. Mr. Ross then discussed the Plum Street concert series and Mrs. DiMascio stated she would provide him a COVID release form that will need to be executed prior to any scheduled events.

Lisa _____ reported they are going forward with the Plum Street event and that they have had donations of tables and tents from Droopy's and food from the Red Lion. There is an 80-person limit.

Chuck Smith, EMC reported that the Hazard Mitigation Plan adoption resolution needs to be submitted to Allegheny County. He provided an overview of the floodplain rights provided by the Plan.

PUBLIC COMMENT- None

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion to accept the minutes of the April 21, 2021 meeting:

- Motion – Mrs. Morris
- Second – Mr. Guffey
- Roll Call Vote - All in Favor

PAYMENT OF BILLS

Motion to pay the bills as presented:

- Motion – Mrs. Morris
- Second – Mr. Guffey
- Roll Call Vote – All in Favor

Motion to approve the Martinak invoice and submit to PA DCED:

- Motion – Mrs. Morris
- Second – Mr. Guffey
- Roll Call Vote – All in Favor

REPORTS

Mayor

The Mayor reported the police are enforcing parking violations; all vehicles are good; Officer Johnson is assisting the building inspector with enforcing the quality-of-life ordinance; they are trying to hire officers; and that there needs to be a policy on overtime and two people on duty.

Treasurer

Motion to accept the Treasurer's report:

- Motion – Mr. Guffey
- Second – Ms. Gephart
- Roll Call – All in Favor

Solicitor

Mrs. DiMascio reported her items were covered in executive session. She also discussed a proposal for the assessment of the authority and that Mr. Miklos should reach out to the zoning hearing board to see if they are still interested in serving.

Building Inspector

No report.

Animal Control

It was reported he was called in for a violaton and the individual was cited.

REPORT OF COMMITTEES

Budget & Finance

Mrs. Morris reported that the 2020 audit has started, and the Borough is cancelling some electrical suppliers.

Public Safety

No report.

Public Works

Mr. Miklos provided the following information on trying to fix-up the Borough:

- \$32,000 for Maple
- \$50,000 for paving
- \$200,000 applied for to complete Maple

Parks & Recreation

Mrs. Morris approached holding a movie night for kids since there is not a kid's festival any longer. The Mayor stated that there may be a small memorial service instead of a parade this year. Mrs. DiMascio

recommended Mrs. Morris to go through Steel Rivers COG for the equipment and movies. Ms. Gephart offered to assist.

Ordinance

Mrs. DiMascio stated there is a resolution updating fees on the agenda.

Personnel

Mr. Guffey reported they are still having secretary issues and seeking applicants; and that they are considering hiring two full-time employees. Mrs. DiMascio reported that hiring RDM to provide secretary services on an interim basis is on the agenda.

Economic Development

No report.

Planning

Mrs. Morris stated the revised Moose lot drawings need to go to the Engineer.

OLD BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

Motion to purchase two street signs, one reading "Slow Hidden Driveway" and the other reading "Slow", not to exceed \$200:

- Motion – Mr. Guffey
- Second – Mrs. Morris
- Roll Call Vote – All in Favor

Motion to adopt a resolution amending the fee schedule for the Borough of Elizabeth setting costs for various permits and administrative services in the Borough:

- Motion – Mr. Guffey
- Second – Mrs. Morris
- Roll Call Vote – All in Favor

Motion to approve the Summer Event Application "Sounds of Summer on Plum" and the closing of center Plum Street from June 3rd through September 3rd:

- Motion – Mr. Guffey
- Second – Ms. Gephart
- Roll Call Vote – All in Favor

Motion to close lower Plum for "Farmer's Market on Plum" for the following dates: June 12, June 26, July 10, July 24, August 14, and August 24, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.:

- Motion – Mr. Guffey
- Second – Mrs. Morris
- Roll Call Vote – All in Favor

Motion to close lower Plum Street on June 17 from 6 p.m.-9 p.m. for the display of Benson Lincoln models:

- Motion – Mr. Guffey

- Second – Mrs. Morris
- Roll Call Vote – All in Favor

Motion to adopt a resolution to accept the Allegheny County 2020 Hazard Mitigation Plan:

- Motion – Mr. Guffey
- Second – Mrs. Morris
- Roll Call Vote – All in Favor

Motion to adopt a resolution to exercise the second-year option to purchase road salt from Cargill through SHACOG:

- Motion – Mr. Guffey
- Second – Mrs. Morris
- Roll Call Vote – All in Favor

Motion to approve payment of \$25,000 to First Commonwealth Bank towards the 2021 TAN:

- Motion – Mr. Guffey
- Second – Mrs. Morris
- Roll Call Vote – All in Favor

Motion to engagement Resource Development & Management for secretarial services at a fee of \$50 per hour:

- Motion – Mr. Guffey
- Second – Mrs. Morris
- Roll Call Vote – All in Favor

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Lisa thanked Mrs. Morris for support of the events and reported the Rostraver Chamber of Commerce is doing a bus tour that will stop in the Borough.

GOOD OF THE ORDER

Mayor Boucher reported that Rick from the VFW contacted him and that they are planning on going to each municipality to do a service and will notify the Borough when they will be there. He reminded residents to share the roads with bikes, etc. in the summer.

Mr. Miklos reported they are working on enforcing the keep Elizabeth beautiful ordinance.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Council went into executive session to discuss personnel issues.

ADJOURNMENT

- Motion – Mr. Guffey
- Second – Ms. Gephart
- Roll Call Vote – All in Favor