

BOROUGH OF ELIZABETH
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

July 28, 2020

Vice President, Andrew Miklos called the July 28, 2020 Elizabeth Borough Council Meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. The meeting was held at the Elizabeth Borough Fireman's Bingo Hall to allow for proper social distancing due to the COVID-19 Pandemic.

Vice President Miklos led in the Pledge of Allegiance followed by a moment of silence for all of those in need.

ROLL CALL

Those present for roll call were Mr. Tim Guffey, Mr. Andrew Miklos, Ms. Cindy Morris, Mr. Paul Shaner, Mayor Barry Boucher. Also, present were Solicitor DiMascio, Secretary Zang and Police Chief Sombo. Absent from the meeting were Ms. Desiree Gephart, Ms. Jocelyn Smrdel and President Chad Rager.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Mr. Guffey and seconded by Ms. Morris to approve the minutes from the June 2020 Regular Council Meeting. Upon a voice vote all were in favor, motion carries.

BILLS

A motion was made by Mr. Guffey and seconded by Ms. Morris to approve the July 22, 2020 Bill List in the amount of \$27,467.30. Upon a voice vote all were in favor except Mr. Miklos who abstained due to a reimbursement made payable to him included in the bill list, motion carries.

TREASURER'S REPORT

A motion was made by Mr. Guffey and seconded by Ms. Morris to approve the June 2020 Treasurer's Report. Upon a voice vote all were in favor, motion carries.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Boucher asked for a break in the agenda to address the hiring of the two police officers on the agenda.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT

Solicitor DiMascio provided an update of items her office has been working on including the street opening ordinance to add language for curb to curb paving; Cable Franchise Agreement drafted and ready for approval, her office will reach out to Verizon to see if they are interested in same agreement; Strategic Management Program underway with Michael Foreman from the

DCED; Act 537 Plan on agenda for study only; her office to draft letter to PNC Bank with approval from Council regarding the closure.

ANIMAL CONTROL- no report

DISCUSSION

Street Department work clothes- \$25 per week for full-time employee

COMMITTEE REPORTS – none

OLD BUSINESS

A motion was made by Mr. Guffey and seconded by Mr. Miklos to advertise an RFP for the Strategic Management Planning Program Proposal and Five- Year Financial Plan. Upon a roll call vote all were in favor, motion carries.

A motion was made by Mr. Shaner and seconded by Ms. Morris to advertise an amendment to Ordinance 637 Street Openings to add language for curb to curb paving. Upon a roll call vote all were in favor, motion carries.

A motion was made by Ms. Morris and seconded by Mr. Shaner to authorize the Franchise Cable Agreement via resolution as prepared by the Solicitor. Upon a roll call vote all were in favor, motion carries.

A motion was made by Mr. Shaner and seconded by Mr. Guffey to adopt a resolution to continue the study of updating the 537 Plan. Upon a roll call vote all were in favor, motion carries.

NEW BUSINESS

A motion was made by Mr. Guffey and seconded by Mr. Shaner to authorize a resolution for Glenn Engineering to submit an application to the DCED for the Blight Remediation Program and designate an official to sign all grant documents. Upon a roll call vote all were in favor, motion carries.

A motion was made by Mr. Shaner and seconded by Ms. Morris to hire Ashley Redshaw and Andrew Amendola for Part-Time Police Officer positions with the Borough. Upon a roll call vote all were in favor, motion carries. Mayor Boucher completed the swearing in of the officers after the vote was completed.

A motion was made by Mr. Guffey and seconded by Ms. Morris to authorize the purchase of the following:

Vise for the garage with the cost not to exceed \$650.

Pressure washer with the cost not to exceed \$600.

Back-up alarm for the 2020 PW truck with the cost not to exceed \$120.

Upon a roll call vote all were in favor, motion carries.

A motion was made by Mr. Shaner and seconded by Mr. Guffey to “Piggy Back” on the EBMA paving contract for certain streets paving involved with the Bayard Street Sewer Separation Project with partial funds to coming from Liquid Fuels and Capital Fund. Upon a roll call vote all were in favor, motion carries.

A motion was made by Mr. Shaner and seconded by Ms. Morris to approve a \$.50 raise for the full-time street worker to take effect June 1, 2020 with the condition of an evaluation to be completed by Mr. Guffey. Upon a roll call vote all were in favor, motion carries.

A motion was made by Mr. Guffey and seconded by Ms. Morris to provide work clothes to the full-time street worker with a cost of \$25 per week. Upon a roll call vote all were in favor, motion carries.

A motion was made by Mr. Guffey and seconded by Ms. Morris to authorize the Solicitor to send a letter to PNC Bank on behalf of the Borough. Upon a voice vote all were in favor, motion carries.

GOOD OF THE ORDER

Mr. Guffey asked for information from Solicitor for information regarding the process of selling or taking over the Elizabeth Borough Municipal Authority.

Mr. Guffey asked the Solicitor about notifying Patricia McGrail’s office if new collector was chosen. Solicitor DiMascio stated a 6 month notice should be provided. Discussion continued regarding the current amount of delinquent taxes and the significant increase in the last quarter.

Mr. Miklos asked Larry Ross with the EADC to write a letter to PNC regarding the closing of the branch.

Mr. Ross stated the project is currently on hold until PNC Bank provides an update on the portion of the parking lot owned by them.

Solicitor DiMascio stated an emergency order was obtained by Judge McVay for the emergency demolition of the Water Street property.

Mr. Miklos stated the work completed at the Veteran’s Flag Pole was community service by Mr. Todd.

Discussion of possible proclamations for those who donate and give back to the Borough.

Chief Sombo stated the new speed sign is up and the training is completed. The sign is currently on Center.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Mr. Shaner and seconded by Ms. Morris to adjourn the meeting at 7:53p.m.