

BOROUGH OF MECHANICSBURG COUNCIL MEETING
36 West Allen Street, Mechanicsburg, PA 17055

December 15, 2020

EXECUTIVE SESSION

6:45 PM

CALL TO ORDER

7:30 PM

President Weber called the meeting to order at 7:32 PM and led those assembled in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

President Weber announced that Council held an Executive Session this evening at 6:45 PM and on December 9th both on matters of personnel and real estate with no action.

ROLL CALL

Roll call was taken with the following members in attendance:

President Weber, Vice President Miller, Councilwoman Agerton, Councilmen Anthony, Bucher, Pellman, Whitcomb, Mayor Ritter, Solicitor R. Coyne, Chief Neff, EMC Wardle, Manager Ciecierski, Assistant Manager Boyer and Administrative Assistant Martin. Engineer Rogalski, Solicitor L. Coyne and Chief Myers were absent. Public as per attached list.

President Weber reviewed the rules of virtual meetings.

GUESTS

None.

CITIZENS COMMENTS/REQUESTS

None.

CORRESPONDENCE

Manager Ciecierski reported that the Borough received two thank you notes from law firms, and various Christmas cards.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Councilman Pellman made a motion to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of Borough Council held on December 1, 2020. Councilman Anthony seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

BOROUGH BOARDS LIAISON

ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COUNCIL – BUCHER

No report.

HARB – BUCHER

No report.

LOAN REVIEW – MILLER

No report.

MUNICIPAL AUTHORITY – MILLER

Vice President Miller reported they will meet on December 21st.

PLANNING COMMISSION – PELLMAN

Councilman Pellman reported they did not meet, and two members are up for reappointment later in Agenda.

RECREATION BOARD - AGERTON

Councilwoman Agerton reported that the Recreation Board held their first Parks Comprehensive Plan meeting on November 10th, and they discussed getting the audit of the Recreation Department's programming to evaluate what the Borough residents' attendance is in each of the classes. She feels it was a very successful first meeting. Councilwoman Agerton added that the Recreation Department is keeping their winter programming and are very open to community feedback.

SHADE TREE – BUCHER

No report.

SCHOOL BOARD

No report.

BOROUGH MANAGER

Manager Ciecierski reported that today was the last day of leaf pick up and the Highway Department converted to salt trucks. He added that staff is looking at a different way to do leaf cleanup for next year and is researching pricing for a new truck and leaf equipment. Manager Ciecierski stated that tomorrow he will be meeting with the Municipal Works

Departments to plan for the snow. He elaborated that they plan to salt all streets tomorrow morning and determine the plan for plowing as the afternoon goes on. Manager Ciecierski reported that Assistant Recreation Director Josh Greene has submitted his resignation, so the Recreation Department is looking to hire. He also informed Council that Upper Allen Township's Manager Lou Fazekas is retiring at end of this year. Manager Ciecierski noted that Penn Waste sent out a notice that residents should expect trash on Thursday to be delayed.

MAYOR

No report.

CHIEF OF POLICE

No report.

SOLICITOR

No report.

FIRE CHIEF

Chief Neff submitted his written report (attached) and informed Council the Chief for Penn State Health EMS requested the Fire Department's assistance in responding to all medical calls in the Borough and Upper Allen after a certain level of snow. He explained that this is because they do not have 4-wheel drive vehicles or the ability to shovel people out. Chief Neff reported that Santa Claus is riding around town in a fire truck Saturday, weather permitting.

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT COORDINATOR

EMC Wardle submitted the attached written report. He added that all the funding for the \$3,000 worth in equipment and supplies Manager Ciecierski bought for pandemic related supplies has been approved via CARES.

ADDITIONS TO AGENDA

Manager Ciecierski requested to add discussion and possible action on approval of the 90-day extension offered for recording the land development plan for Northside Elementary. Councilwoman Agerton motioned to make the addition and Councilman Bucher seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Councilman Whitcomb made a motion to approve the agenda for the regular Council meeting of December 15, 2020 as presented. Councilwoman Agerton seconded the motion, which passed with all in favor.

AGENDA ITEMS

Discussion and Possible Action on Resolution 20-2020 Approving the Verizon Cable Franchise Agreement.

Councilman Pellman made a motion to approve Resolution 20-2020 approving the Verizon Cable Franchise agreement. Councilman Whitcomb seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Discussion and Possible Action on Resolution 21-2020 Setting the Police Pension Contribution for 2021.

Councilwoman Agerton made a motion to approve Resolution 21-2020 setting the Police Pension contribution for 2021. Councilman Whitcomb seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Discussion and Possible Action to Approve the 2021 Budgets for All Funds as Presented.

Councilwoman Agerton made a motion to approve the 2021 budgets for all funds as presented. Vice President Miller seconded the motion and it passed with Councilman Whitcomb recusing himself.

Discussion and Possible Action to Approve Resolution 22-2020 Setting the 0% Tax Rate for 2021.

Councilman Whitcomb made a motion to approve Resolution 22-2020 setting the 0% tax rate for 2021. Vice President Miller seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Consider Appointment of a Borough Solicitor for 2021.

Councilman Whitcomb made a motion to appoint Michael Cassidy from the firm of Johnson and Duffie. Vice President Miller seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Consider Appointment of the Pennoni Associates as Borough Engineer for 2021.

Councilman Pellman made a motion to appoint Pennoni Associates as Borough Engineer for 2021. Councilwoman Agerton seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Consider Appointment of Cumberland County Recorder of Deeds as Real Estate Transfer Tax Collector for 2021.

Councilman Anthony made a motion to appoint Cumberland County Recorder of Deeds as Real Estate Transfer Tax Collector for 2021. Councilman Whitcomb seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Consider Appointment of Penn Credit as Delinquent Tax Collector for 2020 Delinquent Per Capita Tax.

Councilman Whitcomb made a motion to appoint Penn Credit as Delinquent Tax Collector for 2020 delinquent Per Capita Tax. Councilman Anthony seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Consider Appointment of Cumberland County and Barry Heckard as Delinquent Real Estate Tax Collectors for 2020 Delinquent Real Estate Tax.

Councilman Bucher made a motion to appoint Cumberland County and Barry Heckard as delinquent Real Estate Tax Collectors for 2020 delinquent Real Estate Tax. Councilwoman Agerton seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Consider the Following Re-appointments:

Heidi Biggs – Environmental Advisory Council – 3-year Term through 12/31/2023.

Samuel Hepford – Historic Architectural Review Board – 4-year Term through 12/31/2024.

Tim DeWire – Historic Architectural Review Board – 4-year Term through 12/31/2024.

Annie Miller – Municipal Authority – 5-year Term through 12/31/2025.

John Elwell – Planning Commission – 4-year Term through 12/31/2024.

Mark Stoner – Planning Commission – 4-year Term through 12/31/2024.

Ken Mundorf – Police Civil Service Commission – 6-year Term through 12/31/2026.

Diane Meck – Recreation Board – 5-year Term through 12/31/2025.

Ellen Wilson – Recreation Board – 5-year Term through 12/31/2025.

Tom Viehman – Zoning Hearing Board – 3-year Term through 12/31/2023.

Councilman Bucher made a motion to approve the listed re-appointments. Councilman Whitcomb seconded the motion. President Weber thanked all the volunteers. The motion passed unanimously, and President Weber congratulated all on their reappointments.

Authorization of Borough Staff to Complete all Transactions, Close the Books and Pay Outstanding Bills as of December 31, 2020.

Councilman Pellman made a motion to authorize Borough staff to complete all transactions, close the books and pay outstanding bills as of December 31, 2020. Councilman Whitcomb seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Discussion and Possible Action to Accept the 90-day Extension Offered for the Northside Elementary School Land Development Project.

Councilman Bucher made a motion to accept the 90-day extension offered for the Northside Elementary School Land Development Project Councilman Whitcomb seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

CITIZENS COMMENTS

None.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Manager Ciecierski reported that as of the 28th of December the Borough will be at full staff at the Highway Department. Councilwoman Agerton shouted out downtown businesses noting that things were hopping this weekend.

Councilman Anthony asked if Council would be staying virtual in January. Manager Ciecierski answered that with the new State mandates they would, President Weber echoed this agreement. Councilman Anthony wished everyone happy holidays.

Councilman Bucher wished everyone happy holidays.

Councilman Pellman reported that this Saturday at noon the American Legion in conjunction with Wreaths Across America will put a wreath at every veteran's grave and encouraged those who could volunteer to attend. He also wished everyone happy holidays.

Vice President Miller noted that he would like Council to get to know the new Borough employees. He also thanked Coyne and Coyne, especially Solicitors Lisa and Robert Coyne for their service. He noted that he regrets to see them go but is excited for their new opportunities. Vice President Miller asked that a Resolution in honor of their service be prepared.

Vice President Miller wished all happy holidays and hopes everyone stays safe.

Councilman Whitcomb wished everyone happy holidays and noted that he is sorry to see the Solicitors Coyne leave.

Chief Neff wished everyone happy holidays from the Fire Department.

EMC Wardle wished everyone happy holidays.

President Weber thanked Solicitors Lisa and Robert Coyne for their service, wished everyone happy holidays and thanked staff for their hard work.

ADJOURN.

At 8:14 PM, President Weber adjourned the meeting.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'R. Ciecierski', written in a cursive style.

Roger Ciecierski, Borough Secretary