

August 13, 2024

A Meeting of the Council of the Borough of Minersville was held August 13, 2024. Chairman Ian Mahal opened the meeting with The Pledge of Allegiance.

Attendance:

The following Council members attended the August 13, 2024 meeting: Mr. Jeff Enders, Mr. Joseph Slovick, Mr. Ian Mahal, Mr. Jamie Kuehn, Mr. Terry Raffety, Solicitor Evans, Mayor Palmer, Kyle Crouse and Borough Manager Bob Mahalchick.

Citizens' Comments: Residents of The Lofts building thanked Mr. Mahalchick for responding to their letter concerning handicapped parking. Mr. Mahalchick stated that he would contact Mr. Quandel, owner of the Lofts to contact the owner of Life Geisinger to have their employees and transport vehicles park in their specified parking lot, freeing up spaces for the residents. Additionally, Mr. Crouse will investigate the constant barking of dogs in that neighborhood.

Approval of Minutes: Mr. Slovick made a motion to approve the minutes from the July 2, July 9 and August 6 meetings. Mr. Enders seconded the motion. The motion passed as presented.

Approval of Bills: Mr. Kuehn made a motion to approve the bills to be paid. Mr. Raffety seconded the motion. The motion passed as presented.

Mr. Slovick made a motion to approve a change in the agenda adding an invoice from the Multi Model project. Mr. Raffety seconded the motion. Mr. Slovick made a motion to approve the invoice, which is 100% reimbursable. Mr. Enders seconded the motion. The motion passed as presented.

Approval of Officers' Reports: Mr. Kuehn made a motion to approve the reports. Mr. Raffety seconded the motion. The motion passed as presented.

New Business: Mr. Crouse spoke about updating the sidewalk ordinance to include side streets. Mr. Raffety questioned how it was going to be enforced, perhaps looking at the main thoroughfare first. Mr. Crouse stated the most serious problems would be enforced first making sure sidewalks are in good repair. Mr. Slovick questioned the curbing and brick sidewalks. Mr. Crouse stated the most hazardous would be looked at first. He stated no trees should be blocking pedestrian sidewalks, we have to be consistent. He stated the Borough is liable is someone falls. Mr. Enders made a motion to pass the updated ordinance, Mr. Kuehn seconded the motion. The motion passed as presented.

Mr. Slovick made a motion to approve \$5000.00 from ARPA funds be distributed to the Lions Club. Mr. Raffety seconded the motion. The motion passed as presented.

Mr. Raffety made a motion to approve a budget revision of \$7000.00 CDBG funds from demo to rehab. Mr. Enders seconded the motion. The motion passed as presented.

Old Business:

Mr. Enders made a motion, following discussion, to place 610 Sunbury Street for sale for not less than \$130,000, with deed restrictions including buyer meeting DEP

Standards and the parcel not sitting vacant, forwarded by Mr. Mahalchick to council members. Mr. Raffety seconded the motion. The motion passed as presented.

Mr. Kuehn made a motion, second by Mr. Raffety to advertise for sale 150, 140, 142 and 144 Sunbury Street. On the question, the Solicitor stated bidders would need to know they need to go to the courthouse if they wish to consolidate the sale. The motion passed as presented.

The issue of hiring additional police officers was tabled. Currently the overtime is over the budget, however the part time budgeted amount is lower than budgeted. Mr. Mahal, Chief Bowers and the Mayor will look at costs considering healthcare.

The Mayor may have someone interested in the UCC Appeals Board opening.

Ian will contact the Transportation Secretary concerning the River Street wall.

Mr. Mahalchick presented a Change Order for Kowalchick for the lateral break at 309, 311 Sunbury Street that occur during the Street Scape Project. Mr. Kuehn made a motion to approve the change order. Mr. Raffety seconded the motion. The motion passed as presented.

Resident Kevin Wigoda questioned if there is any guarantee that the incident with sewage entering the Reber pond would not happen in the future. Though this is an issue for the Sewer Authority, Mr. Mahalchick stated than an updated auto dialer has been installed. The Mayor questioned if a permanent fix has been done. Mr. Wigoda stated this incident was in 2021. Mr. Mahalchick stated the Sewer Authority has worked with Mr. Reber since the incident with his engineers and most recently with his excavator with in excess of a half million dollars being spent to this point. Mr. Raffety stated that Don Cuff stated it was a loss of electricity and an emergency generator there would keep the pump running.

Mr. Raffety made a motion to adjourn. Mr. Enders seconded the motion.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Gloria Capik". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the typed name of the signatory.

Gloria Capik, Secretary