

August 6, 2024

A Meeting of the Council of the Borough of Minersville was held August 6, 2024. Chairman Ian Mahal opened the meeting with The Pledge of Allegiance.

Attendance:

The following Council members attended the August 6, 2024 meeting: Mrs. Donna Palmer, Mr. Jeff Enders, Mr. Joseph Slovick, Mr. Ian Mahal, Mr. Jamie Kuehn, Mr. Terry Raffety, Mr. Justin Frantz, Mayor Palmer, Solicitor Evans and Borough Manager Bob Mahalchick.

Communications:

Mr. Enders made a motion, second by Mrs. Palmer to approve the request of the Minersville Library to hold their annual doggie swim. The motion passed as presented. The swim will be held Saturday August 17.0

The Historical Society sent a thank you for the \$5000.00 in ARPA funds the Council allocated to them.

Mr. Mahalchick will respond with a letter to the Miners Lofts regarding their request for handicapped parking. It was suggested the Life Geisinger employees use their lot on Delaware Avenue freeing up spots for the residents.

New Business:

Bids will be advertised for the sanitation contract.

Mr. Enders made a motion second by Mr. Raffety to grant a lease to Schuylkill Reclamation for coal excavation. On a recommendation from resident Jeremy Olenick the motion was amended to include a clause with pictures of the roads that will be affected and enforcing restoring and maintaining the roads to their current condition. Mr. Slovick made that motion, second by Mrs. Palmer. The motion passed as presented.

The pool will be closing Friday, August 16.

Mr. Crouse is working on a new sidewalk ordinance.

Letters are being sent for heating oil quotes.

Mr. Slovick asked to allocate \$5000.00 in ARPA funds to the Lions Club.

Old Business:

Mrs. Palmer made a motion, second by Mr. Enders to increase the salary of Chief Bowers by 5% retroactive to July 2. The motion passed as presented.

The issue of applying to the county to consolidate 150, 140, 142 and 144 Sunbury Street for sale was tabled.

The vacancy on the UCC Appeals Board will be advertised again.

The Mayor sent the council emails with new-handicapped guidelines. Mr. Slovick questioned if we could follow Pottsville's guidelines of limiting handicapped parking to two spaces per block. Mr. Mahalchick will contact Pottsville.

Mr. Slovick sent council members and will send the solicitor ideas on amending the short-term rentals. Mr. Mahal has ideas as well.

Committee Reports-

Streets-Mr. Enders reported the sewer issue at 301 Sunbury Street was caused during the Street Scape Project. The engineer will contact the contractor. Jason Holley has been cutting grass at properties.

Mr. Mahalchick reported the roof of the borough hall has been repaired. 25 trees will be downed on Delaware Avenue at the end of the month. Borough workers will do the cleanup. Fire Hydrants have been marked. The 5th and 6th Street walkways have been prepared for the start of school. Demo will begin on 2 Sunbury Street and 16 Delaware Avenue on Monday, August 12, 2024

Mr. Enders made a motion second by Mr. Slovick to leave the closing of streets for the project to the discretion of Chief Bowers.

Law and Order-Mr. Raffety reported that there are lots of tickets being issued on street sweeper days. Chief Bowers reported that there is adequate signage. No action will be taken. Mr. Raffety stated we are short one officer. Chief Bowers stated he has informed 911 that calls from Cass Township will not be responded to unless the State Police ask for back up. Mr. Raffety stated the entry to the Borough Office needs to be updated, as too many people know the code. Mr. Mahalchick will address the issue.

Water, Sewer and Sanitation-Mr. Raffety stated the Water Authority has contracted with Green Energy. There will be a water line project on New Castle Street in January. The fire at the sewer plant is being addressed and repaired. An LSA grant was applied for to finance the UV light treatment. Mr. Raffety's statement that the issue of the Reber property being resolved met with comments from residents and the Mayor. The Mayor and resident Wigoda questioned if it will never happen again. Mr. Mahalchick stated the Authority is working on it.

Mr. Kuehn questioned the status of homes destroyed by the Second Street fire. Mr. Mahalchick will check the status.

The Council went into Executive Session at 8:19 for Personnel matters.

Respectfully submitted,

Gloria Capik, Secretary