

February 13, 2024

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

Attendance:

The following Council members attended the February 13, 2024 meeting: Mrs. Donna Palmer, Mr. Jeff Enders, Mr. Joseph Slovick. Mr. Ian Mahal, Mr. Terry Raffety, Mayor Palmer, Solicitor Evans, Kyle Crouse, Police Chief Combs and Borough Manager Bob Mahalchick.

Mr. Mahal once again stated that the meeting on January 2 was not a voting session and the Solicitor stated prior to the January 9 meeting that all appointments and votes were not legal.

Citizens' Comments:

Mr. Rob Lohin of Arlene Street, Teaberry Hill, presented a petition signed by Teaberry Hill residents opposing the potential sale of the Teaberry Hill playground. Mr. Lohin once again stated the dynamics of residents is changing with many young families moving into the area. Mr. Lohin stated he has experience with grant writing and residents have offered their help to revitalize the playground, which are currently just swings, a sliding board and basketball court with no nets. Mr. Enders stated he would like to work with Mr. Lohin and gave him his contact information. Mr. Kuehn stated the borough has not been active in maintaining our playgrounds. Mr. Raffety stated that the playground does not seem to be used and the borough is facing many expenses. Mrs. Palmer stated perhaps the playground was not being used because of the condition. Mr. Mahal congratulated Mr. Lohin for his interest. Mr. Lohin will form a committee of residents to explore grants and improvements.

Approval of Minutes:

Mr. Slovick made a motion, second by Mr. Enders to approve the minutes from January 2024. The motion passed as presented.

Approval of Bills:

Mr. Kuehn made a motion to approve the bills to be paid. Mrs. Palmer seconded the motion. The motion passed as presented.

Approval of Officers' Report:

Mr. Slovick made a motion to approve the officers' reports. Mr. Raffety seconded the motion. The motion passed as presented.

New Business:

Mr. Enders made a motion, second by Mr. Raffety to approve the ATV Agreement revision. On the question, solicitor Evans questioned asked if FRO will provide the police department with an ap for their key fobs to use for violations. The General Manager replied they will come to the police department and help with using the AP and Reading Outdoors security people will be helping. The motion passed as presented.

Letters for interest into the appointment on the Sewer Authority were received from Scott Hranchock and Jeff Rizzardi. Mr. Enders nominated Mr. Rizzardi. Mr. Kuehn nominated Mr. Hranchock. On a roll call vote, Mrs. Palmer, Mr. Slovick, Mr. Mahal, and Mr. Raffety voted for Mr. Rizzardi. Mr. Kuehn voted for Mr. Hranchock. Mr. Rizzardi will be the appointment to the Sewer Authority.

Mr. Raffety Made a motion, second by Mr. Enders to approve the repository sale of 28 and 30 South Street. The motion passed as presented

Mr. Raffety made a motion to authorize the Solicitor to negotiate an easement of at least \$2500 and then \$1000 per year until decommissioned or a lump sum of at least \$10,000. With Mr. Mahal authorized to sign the agreement. Mrs. Palmer seconded the motion. The motion passed as presented.

Mr. Kuehn made a motion, second by Mr. Raffety to sell the street sweeper and recycling truck for \$2600 including towing. The motion passed as presented.

The Mayor announced grant opportunities for all terrain vehicles and snowmobiles that closes 3/29 and a grant for motorized trails, which closes 4/3. The Mayor reported Famous Reading Outdoors is willing to help with the grants. Mr. Slovick made a motion, second by Mr. Enders giving permission to move forward with the application process. Information will be given at the March meeting. There is currently \$17,600 remaining in the off road account which can be used for a 20% match.

Old Business-

Mr. Mahal announced that committees are meant to meet and report to the chairman. Going forward, Mr. Mahal would like council members to express interest in projects in which they have goals. Members expressed concern over reporting on streets, water, sewer, etc. Following discussion, Mr. Mahal stated he would be in touch with members by email.

Mr. Enders would like to see a daily report from the Street Department. Mr. Enders questioned people being admitted into the borough offices. Mr. Mahal stated that borough policies need to be looked into for security. Mr. Mahalchick will delve into the policies for the March meeting.

Mrs. Palmer made a motion to adjourn, second by Mr. Enders.

Respectfully submitted,

Gloria Capik, Secretary