

June 13, 2023

A Meeting of the Council of the Borough of Minersville was held June 13, 2023. Chairman Ian Mahal opened the meeting with The Pledge of Allegiance.

Attendance:

The following Council members attended the June 13, 2023 meeting: Mr. Mike Firestine, Ms. Katielynn Milbrandt, Mr. Ian Mahal, Mr. Jamie Kuehn, Mr. Terry Raffety, Mrs. Ashley Securda, Solicitor Evans, Kyle Crouse, Police Chief Combs, and Borough Manager Bob Mahalchick.

Citizens' Comments:

Theresa Smith spoke about the ATV ride on Memorial Day weekend. She called it a disgrace. Mr. Mahal said the weekend was busier than had been anticipated. Mr. Mahal stated the ATV events would be looked at to see the revenue they are bringing to the town. Mrs. Smith stated she believes there are kickbacks to Council for the ATV events. Mr. Mahal assured her there are not. Teresa stated the council should be looking for activities for seniors, as they are the majority of the population. Theresa stated the apartment building on the corner by Rudnick's is being sold but the grass is high and the building is in disrepair. Mr. Crouse stated he called the owner about the grass. Theresa said she would be contacting legislators.

Mrs. Milbrandt of North Third Street stated there is a terrible sewer smell at her property. She has lived there for decades. She has spoken to Don Cuff, who told her samples would be taken. She brought samples to the meeting to speed up the discovery of the problem. Solicitor Evans sent a text to Don Cuff asking him to inspect the issue tomorrow.

Bruce Rutecky of New Minersville brought pictures to show the pigeon problem in New Minersville. Mr. Crouse stated it is a big issue. Someone is feeding them. Mr. Crouse and Chief Combs will check it out tomorrow.

Bruce Rutecky complained about Amazon delivery drivers parking in the street to make deliveries even when there is parking at the curb. Chief Combs said he would follow trucks when he sees them.

Resident Johnny Herrera stated there should be something for kids to do. Mr. Kuehn stated the borough had a youth center for three years and only eight children showed up. He stated there are sports groups and organizations.

A resident asked if there was a noise ordinance and what time it started. He stated neighbors are working on construction at 9:50 at night. He called police at 10:15 and no one came. He called back at 10:30 and was told an officer went by. They did not. An officer then came. The resident was told the ordinance started at 11PM. The gentleman suggested the noise ordinance be posted on the borough's web site. Chief Combs will look into who was on duty and lied to the resident.

Approval of Minutes:

Ms. Milbrandt made a motion, second by Mr. Raffety to approve the minutes from May 17, 2023. The motion passed as presented.

Approval of Bills:

Ms. Milbrandt made a motion to approve the bills to be paid. Mr. Raffety seconded the motion. The motion passed as presented.

Approval of Officers' Report:

Ms. Milbrandt made a motion to approve the reports. Mr. Firestine seconded the motion. The motion passed as presented.

Communications:

Ms. Milbrandt made a motion, second by Mr. Raffety to approve St. Nicholas Church request to post a sign advertising their annual picnic.

Ms. Milbrandt made a motion, second by Mr. Firestine to approve Mountaineer Hose Company's request to hold a boot drive on Friday, June 30 from 4:30-7:30pm.

New Business:

Ms. Milbrandt made a motion, second by Mr. Raffety to approve Application #3 to Kuharchick Construction in the amount of \$43,204.87 that is financed thru the grant. The motion passed as presented.

There will be a public hearing to adopt The Police Ordinance concerning parking on one side of certain streets.

M. Milbrandt made a motion, second by Mr. Raffety to approve the Fair Housing Resolution. The motion passed as presented.

Ms. Milbrandt made a motion, second by Mr. Kuehn to approve Murphy and Dittenhafer as the architectural Design firm for Phase 1 of the Borough Hall Project at no more than \$35,000. On the question, Mr. Mahalchick stated he has RFPs from all three firms for inspection by council member. The motion passed as presented.

Old Business:

There is nothing new to report on the River Street wall.

The 60-day extension by the demolition company for 28-30 South Street will expire soon.

We are waiting for quotes for the removal of cemetery trees.

Ms. Milbrandt made a motion, second by Mr. Raffety to authorize Don Cuff and Mr. Mahalchick to purchase parking meters and pole covers for the 100 and to the end of 200 block of Sunbury Street at approximately \$80,000 using funds from the Multi Model Grant. On the question, Mr. Firestine asked what we are going to do with the meters purchased from Pottsville. The motion passed as presented.

Mr. Raffety made a motion to see the parking meters purchased from Pottsville. Mr. Firestine seconded the motion. The motion passed as presented. Mr. Mahal stated we need a committee to focus on projects in the project area and to the end of the 300 block of Sunbury Street using remaining grant funds.

Mr. Mahalchick stated residents of the Sunbury Street property are still in residence. They are all expected to vacate by the weekend. The First floor rear residents will be sent an eviction notice. Mr. Mahal reported the Land Bank made a motion that once the occupants are out, they will be putting the demolition out to bid.

Council Committee Reports-

Police- Ms. Milbrandt questioned why council members were not given a list of officer applicants after requesting them. Chief Combs stated he would get a list to council. Mr. Firestine made a motion, second by Mr. Kuehn to name Ms. Milbrandt to the Civil Service Committee in case of a conflict of interest. Ms. Milbrandt and Mrs. Securda abstained. The motion passed as presented.

Community Updates- Mr. Firestine stated the pool would open on Friday. Ms. Milbrandt made a motion, second by Mr. Kuehn, on the recommendation of Mr. Mahalchick, to extend pool hours from 11am to 8pm if it can be staffed. The motion passed as presented.

Ms. Milbrandt made a motion to adjourn. Mr. Kuehn seconded the motion.

Respectfully submitted,

Gloria Capik, Secretary