

October 8, 2024

A Meeting of the Council of the Borough of Minersville was held October 8, 2024. Chairman Ian Mahal opened the meeting with The Pledge of Allegiance.

Attendance:

The following Council members attended the October 8, 2024 meeting: Mrs. Donna Palmer, Mr. Jeff Enders, Mr. Joseph Slovick, Mr. Ian Mahal, Mr. Jamie Kuehn, Mr. Terry Raffety, Mr. Justin Frantz, Solicitor Evans, Mayor Palmer, Kyle Crouse, Police Chief Bowers and Borough Manager Bob Mahalchick.

The Council went to Executive Session for legal matters. The council returned at 7:21. Vice Chairman Jamie Kuehn chaired the meeting at this time. Mr. Mahal recluses himself and stepped away from the chairman's seat.

Citizens' Comments: Sylvia Angelo of Slane Street, Teaberry Hill spoke on behalf of her neighbors. Mrs. Angelo presented a petition with 115 signatures asking for road repairs to the Teaberry Hill development. Mrs. Angelo stated that Lorraine Street is the worst of the roads. The roads have been cold patched repeatedly which deteriorates. Mrs. Angelo stated the development pays the highest taxes and take care of their properties and deserve to be taken care of. She stated drains are overgrown with weeds and there are dangerous sections of Slane Street where children could fall. Calls to the borough hall resulted in traffic cones being placed around the areas. Mr. Enders informed the neighbors that several streets in the development are on schedule to be paved in 2025.

Approval of Minutes: Mr. Mahal made a motion to approve the minutes from the September meeting. Mr. Frantz seconded the motion. The motion passed as presented.

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

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

Communications: Ms. Palmer made a motion to approve the requests of Pine Grove Borough and Tremont Fire Company for coverage by the Fire Police on October 19 and 20th respectively. The motion passed as presented. Mr. Laughlin of the Fire Police thanked the Council for their support.

New Business: Mr. Mahal made a motion, second by Mr. Raffety to apply for an LSA Grant to finance the completion of the lot and install bathrooms at Dustin's Park. Dustin's will not be using accessing borough sewer or water. The motion passed as presented. Mr. Mahal made a motion to accept the bids on the project. Mr. Raffety seconded the motion. The motion passed as presented.

Mr. Enders made a motion, second by Mr. Slovick to approve a DCED letter of intent for a Fire Study. Mr. Mahal recluses himself from the vote. The motion passed as presented.

Mr. Raffety made a motion, second by Mr. Mahal to approve renaming of SR 901 from Sunbury Road to Pottsville Minersville Highway for 911 mapping system. The motion passed as presented. Police Chief Bowers stated business owners would be informed of the change in their address.

Mr. Enders made a motion, second by Mrs. Palmer to approve addresses of playgrounds, fields and recreation facility as included in the packet for 911 mapping. The motion passed as presented.

Mr. Raffety made a motion, second by Mr. Frantz to approve the handicap parking at 408 Carbon Street. The motion passed as presented.

Mr. Mahal made a motion, second by Mr. Slovic to approve the Liability Insurance quotes. The motion passed as presented.

Old Business:

Mr. Mahal made a motion to adopt the Sidewalk Ordinance. Mr. Enders seconded the motion. The motion passed as presented.

Mr. Mahal made a motion to accept the bids for heating oil. Mr. Enders seconded the motion. The motion passed as presented. Mr. Raffety made a motion, second by Mr. Kuehn to award the bid for heating oil to Reedy's. The motion passed as presented.

Union Hall rental was discussed. The Little League will be contacted to attend a meeting to discuss their plans. The Public Property Committee will look into old leases. Mrs. Palmer stated the property needs to be checked by an engineer. Mr. Crouse stated he couldn't do that inspection. Engineer Don Cuff will be contacted.

The Amusement Tax Amendment draft needs to be studied by the Solicitor.

Mr. Mahal made a motion, second by Mr. Enders to authorize the Solicitor and Borough Manager to advertise 610 Sunbury Street r bid to be opened at the 11/12 council meeting.

Consolidating 150, 140, 142 and 144 Sunbury Street was tabled.

Mr. Mahal made a motion, second by Mr. Slovic to amend the agenda to approve the hiring of a full time police officer.

Police Chief Bowers presented Options for hiring a full time officer vs. coverage.

Mr. Kuehn stated his continuing concern over where the money will come from. Both the Mayor and Police Chief stated they would address the school districts shortfall in expenses for the SRO, which amounts to approximately \$50,000 per year. Mr. Frantz suggested using funds from the possible sale of 610 Sunbury Street. Mr. Enders suggested using revenue from possible sale or rental of the senior center. Mr. Raffety made a motion, second by Mr. Enders to hire Officer Searfross as a full time officer. The motion passed with Mr., Kuehn opposing.

October 8, 2024

Page 3

Mr. Raffety made a motion, second by Mr. Kuehn to approve the Municipal Lot Increase. The motion passed with Mr. Slovick opposing.

A committee to study Home Rule will be comprised of Mr. Slovick and Mrs. Palmer.

Community Updates: Halloween Parade is October 27 with rain date on the 29th. Staging is at 6:30 at the stadium. Forms to participate are at the Borough Office.

Trick or Treat is October 31 with rain date November 1.

Mr. Enders made a motion to adjourn at 8:38. Mr. Slovick seconded the motion.

Respectfully submitted,

Gloria Capik, Secretary