

COUNCIL MEETING

June 4, 2018

Council President, Beverly Wolfe, called the meeting of the Penndel Borough Council to order at 7:30 p.m. with the pledge of allegiance.

Present at the meeting

Mayor Robert Winkler
Council President Beverly Wolfe
Council Vice President Barbara Heffelfinger
Councilman John Stratz
Councilwoman Laura Germain - arrived late
Councilman Rich Flanagan - absent
Councilman Mark Moffa
Councilman Joe Dudash

Also present

Dave Truelove, Hill Wallack, Solicitor
Carol Schuehler, Value Engineering, Borough Engineer
Officer Sean Perry, Chief of Police
Marie Serota, Borough Secretary/Treasurer

Announcements

Beverly Wolfe thanked the Mayor for Community Day and the Penndel-Hulmeville Memorial Day Committee for the parade.

Mayor's Ice Cream Social will be on Sunday, June 10th from 2 - 4 p.m. at the Redeemer Lutheran Church lawn.

Motion Items:

MOTION BY BARBARA HEFFELFINGER TO PAY THE FOLLOWING BILLS FOR THE MONTH OF MAY 2018:

General Fund	\$28,943.21
Fire Tax Fund	\$24,752.87
Refuse Fund	\$14,745.65
Sewer Fund	\$44,887.99
Capital Reserve Fund	\$ 1,704.14
Police Pension Fund	\$ 1,925.00
Non-Uniform Pension Fund	\$ 2,400.00
Liquid Fuel Fund	\$ 1,997.25

Payroll

General Fund	\$26,100.16
Sewer Fund	\$ 2,323.20
Refuse Fund	<u>\$ 499.85</u>

Total	\$28,923.21
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Pre-paid Check

Check #11986 dated May 25, 2018 made out to Langhorne Postmaster in the amount of \$407.25 for standard mail permit and newsletter postage

Escrow Bills:

McManus:		
Value Engineering	\$	49.50
Mill Creek 2:		
Hill Wallack	\$	240.00
Value Engineering		\$1,707.75

SECONDED BY JOHN STRATZ. All ayes, carried.

MOTION BY LAURA GERMAIN TO APPROVE THE MINUTES FROM THE MAY 7, 2018 COUNCIL MEETING. SECONDED BY JOHN STRATZ. All ayes, carried.

MOTION BY JOHN STRATZ TO APPROVE THE MINUTES FROM THE MAY 21, 2018 WORK SESSION WITH THE FOLLOWING AMENDMENT: On Page 2, correct the response to Amanda Mieluch's comment to "we will try to make them available to everyone". SECONDED BY MARK MOFFA. All ayes, carried.

President's Report

In response to Frank Flower's question regarding grant application service costs. Council President stated that the total costs for the grant application preparation for inflow & infiltration reduction at Station #2 was \$5,099.62. Documents are available for review.

In response to Karen Flower's comment on Wawa upgrades on Hulmeville Avenue was discussed. Beverly did not find anything but she will continue to look.

The fee schedule is not completed yet. It definitely will be done by the next work session.

Mayor's Report - Mayor Winkler read his report, which is attached.

Code Enforcement Report – Mayor Winkler read the report, which is on file in the secretary's office.

Fire Marshal Report - Mayor Winkler read the report, which is on file in the secretary's office.

Chief's Report – Chief Perry read his report, which is on file in the secretary's office.

Solicitor's Report

Worked with council members and committees, professionals including engineer and new code enforcement/zoning office regarding updates to ordinances including the fee schedule. Also worked on code enforcement ordinance updates.

Met with officials regarding the Wawa project, which is progressing, on easements as discussed last month.

Met with the chief regarding some personnel and operational issues.

Met with various members of Council regarding numerous issues regarding public safety and code enforcement matters.

Engineer's Report – Carol Schuehler read the report, which is attached.

Committee Reports

Finance & Administration (Barbara Heffelfinger/Mark Moffa):

The committee will be meeting to go over a few matters. They met to familiarize newly appointed Council member Mark Moffa on borough matters.

Bev Wolfe recommends, since we are coming up on one half of the year, reviewing borough finances.

Insurance & Pensions (Mark Moffa):

No meetings yet. Mark will meet with committee member Rich Flanagan and review.

Public Safety (Joe Dudash):

There haven't been any meetings yet. Committee doing research on the police contract.

Community Development (Barbara Heffelfinger):

There will be Revitalization Task Force meetings on Tuesday and Thursday night this week.

The trail at Taddei Woods is very small due to recent rain. The Dept. of Health has already sprayed for mosquitos and will not be back until August. They have to wait for a dry spell until they can go in and assess matters to address.

Ordinance (Mark Moffa):

Committee Chair Mark Moffa is aware of certain matters to review. There haven't been any meetings yet.

Sewer (John Stratz):

All is well in the sewer department.

Streets (John Stratz):

Council received an estimate from Patch Management for \$1,800.00. There are thirty six potholes to fill. Twelve of which are at the intersection of Durham Road and Woodland Avenue. Three are in front of 150 Woodland Avenue, sixteen at the intersection of Monroe Avenue and Woodland Avenue, at the OLG Church lot on Monroe Avenue, and two in front of 25 Holly Avenue. Warranty repair on Crescent Street near the intersection at Bellevue Avenue at OLG church. Beverly Wolfe said that there is \$4,200.00 in the line for pothole maintenance in the liquid fuel fund.

MOTION BY BARBARA HEFFELFINGER TO FILL 36 POTHOLES IN NEED OF REPAIR AND COMPLETE WARRANTY WORK FOR \$1,800.00. SECONDED BY MARK MOFFA. All ayes, motion carried.

Arlene Harms asked if we contacted Middletown Township about the shared potholes on Woodland Avenue and Durham Road. Beverly Wolfe responded that the potholes mentioned are on the Penndel side.

Refuse (Joe DuDash):

The committee just met this week with Republic Services. The County is expanding the dump in Fairless Hills and the Tullytown dump is shutting down. The remaining dump in Fairless Hills will be shut down next year. China is not taking our recyclable waste. They take sections of trash from our shipments and inspect it. If it is contaminated with anything they don't want, they send the ships back. The trash haulers are getting fined, which passes down to us, local government. We are going to have to work with our next contractor to keep costs down. Another meeting will be scheduled to discuss this further. As of March, the Chinese have banned recycling newspapers. Republic Services has been taking recycled newspaper down to their waste center in Philadelphia and are stacking them up on the side of the building. They are being fined every day. They say if you aren't sure if it is recyclable, throw it away. Any food on recyclables needs to be washed off or it will not be accepted. Regulations are changing and we will all need to work together to keep costs down. Barbara Heffelfinger told the audience that before recyclables are disposed they need to be washed then dried. When disposing water bottles, the lids need to be removed and put in with regular trash. Some information was in the newsletter but recycling information will be sent out to residents.

Community Relations (Laura Germain):

The Borough Newsletter was sent out last week. The second one will be sent out in September to announce fall and winter events. Laura Germain said they intend to continue them in 2019. There should be more activity on the Facebook page this summer. She is planning movie nights, play dates and other activities for young children. Beverly Wolfe also suggested "Penn del's Got Talent" for residents possibly weekly. A couple of council members have some talents to demonstrate including Laura and her husband. Anyone interested should contact Laura after the meeting or by email. Beverly said she may be able to help provide lighting for the pavilion.

Recreation Board (Laura Germain):

As discussed at the last meeting, there is an issue with parking on the blacktop at the field. President of the recreation board is going to speak with the police department. They have started working on getting the playground mulch delivered.

Revitalization Task Force (Beverly Wolfe):

Bucks County Planning Commission will be attending their meeting on Thursday evening. The Committee will be scheduling another town hall meeting to review more information and ideas. All of the services provided by the MEDI program are at no cost to the borough.

Old Business

At the last meeting it was discussed that the current gas and electric supply contracts will be expiring. They have checked rates. New America Power has the best rates; they are far lower than others. Barbara Heffelfinger distributed the options to Council to decide the term of the contracts and lock in with the rates. For gas service the options are 12, 18 and 24 months. The electric service the options are 18, 24, 28, 30 and 36 months. Our current contract term was for 24 months for both gas and electric.

MOTION BY BARBARA HEFFELFINGER TO ACCEPT THE PROPOSAL FROM NEW AMERICA POWER FOR ELECTRIC SERVICE FOR A 30-MONTH TERM COMMENCING JUNE 2018 AT \$.0504 PER KILLOWATT HOUR. SECONDED BY JOHN STRATZ. All ayes, motion carried.

MOTION BY BARBARA HEFFELFINGER TO ACCEPT THE PROPOSAL FROM NEW AMERICA POWER FOR GAS SERVICE FOR A 24-MONTH TERM COMMENCING JUNE 2018 AT \$.501 PER THERM. SECONDED BY JOHN STRATZ. All ayes, motion carried.

MOTION BY LAURA GERMAIN TO APPROVE THE REQUEST FOR BALL FIELDS BY OUR LADY OF GRACE ON MAY 30, 2018 FOR SPIRIT DAY AS APPROVED BY THE RECREATION BOARD. SECONDED BY JOHN STRATZ. All ayes, motion carried.

MOTION BY BEVERLY WOLFE TO AUTHORIZE ADVERTISEMENT OF ORDINANCE #2018-3 AMENDING CHAPTER 322-SEWERS. SECONDED BY BARBARA HEFFELFINGER.

Council President explained that Council has been looking at the sewer late fees for a while and its' effect on the residents. Adding to resident's struggling is not something council is interested in. The proposed ordinance revises the penalty to 10%, which is in line with today's standards.

Mike Smith, 127 DeHaven Avenue, asked about the frequency of waiving penalties for repeat late accounts. Dave Truelove explained that each circumstance will be reviewed on a case by case basis.

Barbara Sodano, 126 W. Woodland Avenue, asked if the late fee is also reduced on past due refuse balances also.

Tom Sodano, 126 W. Woodland Avenue, if the late fees aren't same on the sewer portion as the refuse portion of the bills, it will create more issues in the billing process.

MOTION BY MARK MOFFA TO TABLE THE AUTHORIZATION OF ADVERTISEMENT OF ORDINANCE #2018-3 AMENDING CHAPTER 322 SEWERS. SECONDED BY JOE DUDASH. All ayes, motion carried.

Persons to be Heard

Arlene Harms, 408 Cynthia Avenue, trash is being put out too early.

Discussion:

Laura Germain will post it on the Facebook page from the refuse committee.

Mark Moffa asked who enforces that violation. President Wolfe said code enforcement addresses that. Mrs. Harms said there are a lot of code violations in town. Beverly Wolfe said that once the new company has settled in they will be out checking violations throughout the borough.

Mike Smith 127 DeHaven Avenue, where are the proceeds from the Mayor's Ice Cream Social going and why was it changed from the Heritage Society's Ice Cream Social?

Discussion:

Barbara Heffelfinger answered that the donations will go to the Heritage Society and that the change is saving them money.

Joe Dudash asked if we can contact Middletown Township regarding the potholes on Durham Road and Woodland Avenue that Arlene Harms asked about. Bev said they have been in contract with them and they were supposed to come out and fill theirs. She asked John Stratz to

let her know when Patch Management is scheduled to complete the potholes and we will contact Middletown to take care of their potholes at that time.

MOTION BY BARBARA HEFFELFINGER TO ADJOURN THE MEETING AT 8:29 P.M.
SECONDED BY LAURA GERMAIN. All ayes, motion carried.

Submitted by:

Marie Serota, Secretary/Treasurer