

East Stroudsburg Borough, March 1, 2016

A regular meeting of the East Stroudsburg Borough Council was held at the Municipal Building on Tuesday, March 1, 2016. The following members were in attendance: Donald Cross, Roger DeLarco, Maury Molin, William Reese, and Sonia Wolbert. Edward Flory was absent. Also attending were: Mayor Armand Martinelli; Solicitor John C. Prevoznik, Manager James S. Phillips; and Samuel D'Alessandro, P.E., Engineering Representative from RKR Hess, a Division of UTRS.

Call to Order/Pledge of Allegiance – President DeLarco

Council President Roger DeLarco called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. The pledge of allegiance was led by Nicole Murray.

Moment of Silence

A moment of silence and reflection was observed by all in attendance.

Minutes of February 2, 2016 and February 16, 2016 Regular Meetings

Mr. Molin made a motion, seconded by Mr. Reese, to approve the minutes of the February 2, 2016 regular meeting as submitted; the motion carried unanimously. Mr. Reese made a motion, seconded by Mr. Molin, to approve the minutes of the February 16, 2016 regular meeting as submitted; the motion carried unanimously.

Public Comments – Agenda Items

None.

Appointment of Alternate Engineer

Mr. Molin made a motion, seconded by Mr. Reese, to appoint Hanover Engineering Associates, Inc. as the Alternate Engineer for the Borough, based on their proposal dated 2/8/16 and their 2016 Professional Fee Schedule. The Alternate Engineer is utilized in the event of a conflict involving the regular Engineering firm, R.K.R. Hess Associates, Inc. The motion carried unanimously.

Proposed 2016 Road Paving Program

Mr. Phillips said Council had reviewed at the Committee meeting the proposed roads to be milled and repaved this year – Burson Street and a portion of Spangenburg Avenue. Mr. Molin made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Wolbert, authorize advertising for bid proposals for the proposed Road Paving Program. The motion carried unanimously.

Proposed Revisions to Cooperation Agreement with Monroe County for Administration of FY 2015 CDBG Program

Mr. Phillips said Council had adopted an ordinance in December approving the proposed agreement with Monroe County; but now the County has made changes to the agreement – eliminating a hold harmless provision. Mr. Prevoznik said the change is not in the Borough's favor; but the original provision was poorly written and it is doubtful that the County would allow reinsertion of such provision. After discussion, Mr. Reese made a motion, seconded by Mr. Cross, to authorize advertising of an amending ordinance for approval of the agreement. The motion carried unanimously.

Public Comments – New Business

Nicole Murray said she was present on behalf of the Board of Directors of the Eastburg Community Alliance, and that she is also Exec. Director of the Monroe County Realtors Association.

Correspondence

Mr. Phillips reported receipt of the following items of correspondence:

- i. Plenary Walsh Keystone Partners – Public Meeting to be held 3/8/16 at Chestnuthill Township on PennDOT Replacement Projects scheduled within County for 2016
- ii. PA DEP Bureau of Waterways Engineering and Wetlands – Seepage Monitoring and Investigation Report for East Stroudsburg Dam
- iii. PennDOT – Notice of Intent to Enter Borough property – SR 80 Exit 30-8 Interchange Reconstruction Project

Mr. Phillips briefly reviewed the history of the rehabilitation work done on the East Stroudsburg Dam, and the “boil” that had developed near the toe of the dam, which has been monitored on a regular basis; and is now the subject of the letter from DEP. The letter was accompanied by a report from Gannett Fleming Engineers, who had been contracted by DEP to investigate the matter. Mr. Phillips said he had met with Wayne Gross of RKR Hess and Peter Dudko of URS Corp. this morning, after they had visited the dam site, to discuss a plan of action.

Mr. Phillips said DEP obviously wants the “boil” monitored on a daily basis, so he had asked RKR Hess to start this immediately. After discussion, Mr. Reese made a motion, seconded by Mr. Cross, to ratify authorizing RKR Hess to perform this daily monitoring at the dam site, as discussed. The motion carried unanimously. Mr. Phillips said there are other issues regarding this matter that Council may want to discuss in executive session.

Reports

Mr. D’Alessandro reviewed his written Engineer’s Report previously submitted. Mr. D’Alessandro noted that Russ Scott from his office had spoken to PennDOT concerning the proposed Exit 308 interchange work, and it is anticipated that PennDOT will reimburse the Borough 90% of the cost for any approved utility relocations; since this is an interstate highway project. The Borough will need to submit a letter to PennDOT requesting its intention to design locally for any utility relocations required.

Mrs. Wolbert said the Comprehensive Plan Task Force Committee will meet tomorrow evening at 5:30 p.m. to discuss Recreation issues.

Mr. Molin suggested that the Borough sponsor an “April Cleanup month”. Mrs. Wolbert said that could be done in conjunction with the “Adopt a Street” volunteer groups at ESU.

Mr. Molin noted that a resident on Grove Street had complained to him about the loud noise early in the morning at the High School when the garbage dumpsters are emptied – this is in a parking area in back of several homes along Grove Street. Mayor Martinelli agreed it is very loud.

Mr. Cross commented on snow being piled high at the corner of Grove Street by the School District when they plow out their parking lot – it blocks the sight distance.

Mr. Phillips reported that the contractor for the building security renovations project is planning to begin construction March 21st. We have also received the first request for payment from the contractor - for bonds and mobilization, and that amount is on the List of Bills for approval.

Additionally, Mr. Phillips reported that the condition of Well No. 3 has been videoed, and it is recommended that the well screen be cleaned; at a cost of approx. \$16,000.

List of Bills Payable – March 1, 2016

Mr. DeLarco commented that the list of bills produced with the AMS software is much better for Council to be able to review the Bills and know what they are approving. Mr. Phillips said there is one addition to the List – a check for \$100 to ESSA Bank to open a new account for the 2016 Loan Project account. Mr. Molin made a motion, seconded by Mr. Cross, to ratify expenditures and payroll made through February 16, 2016 and approve the List of Bills Payable as submitted with the addition as mentioned; the motion carried unanimously.

Executive Session

Mrs. Wolbert made a motion, seconded by Mr. Molin, to adjourn into executive session at 8:22 p.m.; the motion carried unanimously.

At 9:18 p.m. Council members reassembled in the meeting room, and Mrs. Wolbert made a motion, seconded by Mr. Molin, to reconvene the public meeting; the motion carried unanimously. Mr. Prevoznik said the executive session was held to discuss a litigation matter and a personnel matter; and no decisions were made.

Approval of Repayment Agreements for Delinquent Water/Sewer and Garbage Accounts

Mr. Phillips requested ratification of approval of agreements with the following:

- Jaimese Wallace, 18 Elm Tree Court – W/S and G
- Randy Leister, 240 Harris Street – W/S and G

Mr. Reese made a motion, seconded by Mr. Molin, to ratify approval of these agreements as listed; the motion carried unanimously.

Exit 308 Interchange Project Utility Relocations

Mr. Cross made a motion, seconded by Mr. Molin, to request a proposal from RKR Hess Associates for utility relocation design work involved with the upcoming I80 Exit 308 Interchange work. The motion carried unanimously.

Adjournment

With no further business, Mr. Reese made a motion, seconded by Mr. Molin, to adjourn the meeting at 9:26 p.m.; the motion carried unanimously.

James S. Phillips, Secretary