

MINUTES FOR REGULAR MEETING
EAST STROUDSBURG BOROUGH COUNCIL
TUESDAY JANUARY 21, 2020 -7:00 p.m.

PRESENT: Manager Brian Bond, Solicitor John C. Prevoznik, Maury Molin, Roger DeLarco, Bill Reese, Sonia Wolbert, Mayor Martinelli, Don Cross, Codes Officer Marv Walton, and Public Works Director Brian Ace

ABSENT: Finance Officer Ken Konz, The Borough Engineer, and Carrie Panepinto

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

January 6, 2020 Minutes

A motion was made by Mr. Molin and seconded by Ms. Wolbert, to approve the January 6, 2020 minutes. The motion carried 3-0 with one abstention (Yea: Ms. Wolbert, Mr. Reese, Mr. Molin; Abstain: Mr. Cross)

2019 Borough Review

Mr. Reese presented the 2019 East Stroudsburg Borough Review to council and members of the audience. This was a recap of new things that have happened in the Borough in 2019, as well as anticipated 2020 goals.

Public Comments – Agenda Items

None.

SROSRC

Ms. Wolbert reported the commission is still in need of an alternate member.

Police Report

The December SARPD report will be given at the February 4, 2020 meeting.

East Stroudsburg Community Alliance

Ms. Wolbert provided an update on current ECA officers. President: Troy Nauman; Vice President: Deb Kuchinski; Treasurer: Roger DeLarco; Secretary: Sonia Wolbert.

The ECA finalized 2020 budget will be sent to the Borough by the end of the month.

150th Update

Mr. Molin presented council with the winning logo for the 150th Anniversary and requested approval to proceed with using the logo.

A motion was made by Mr. Cross and seconded by Mr. Molin to approve the 150th Logo as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Molin reported the request from the 150th Committee for a donation of \$5,000.00 from the Borough for the 150th celebration. The total budget for the 150th celebration is \$22,000.00.

A motion was made by Ms. Wolbert and seconded by Mr. Cross to approve the request from the 150th Committee for a donation of \$5,000.00 from the Borough for the 150th celebration. The motion carried unanimously.

Engineers Report

The Engineers Report was distributed.

Mr. Bond reported the recommendation from RKR Hess for the Borough to approve the final payment request to Heim Construction Company, Inc. for \$9,846.56.

A motion was made by Ms. Wolbert and seconded by Mr. Cross to approve the final payment request to Heim Construction Company, Inc. for \$9,846.56. The motion carried unanimously.

Public Comments – New Business

None.

Reports:

Brian Ace:

The DPW report was distributed.

Mr. Ace reported the small buildings necessary for the de-chlorination plan were delivered and placed at the sewer plant.

Marv Walton:

The Permits, Violations, Inspections and Parking Enforcement Reports were distributed.

Mr. Walton reported the request from the Comprehensive Task Force to forward the RNC Overlay Zoning Ordinance and Zoning Map to the ZORC Committee for review.

A motion was made by Mr. Molin and seconded by Ms. Wolbert to approve the request from the Comprehensive Task Force to forward the RNC Overlay Zoning Ordinance and Zoning Map to the ZORC Committee for review. The motion carried unanimously.

Ken Konz:

The December 2019 Borough Financial Statements were distributed.

Mayor Martinelli:

No Report.

Sonia Wolbert:

No Report.

Don Cross:

No Report.

Maury Molin:

No Report.

Roger DeLarco:

Late, no report.

Carrie Panepinto:

Absent.

Solicitor John Prevoznik

Mr. Prevoznik advised objections have been filed with PennDot regarding the condemnation of our landfill area. There is a meeting with PennDot scheduled for January 30 with DEP involvement to set assurances ahead of time that there are no damages, which would in turn damage the environment.

Mr. Prevoznik updated council about Benecon's provision that was recently given to the borough (Benecon manages the Borough's health care insurance). Benecon is making municipalities financially responsible for claims, attorney fees and associated costs of any dependents who are not legally supposed to be covered under the Borough's insurance plan. The Borough is working with other municipalities to push back against this provision. Stroud Area Regional Police Department requested the Borough to join them in sending a letter to Benecon objecting to this provision.

A motion was made by Mr. Molin and seconded by Mr. Cross to authorize the Borough to join in with SARPD in sending a letter to Benecon objecting to this provision. The motion carried unanimously.

Manager's Report

Mr. Bond requested approval of the 2020 Borough Fee Schedule.

A motion was made by Mr. Cross and seconded by Mr. Molin to approve the 2020 Borough Fee Schedule. The motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Bond requested approval for the treatment of the reservoir, Zacharias Pond, and Gregory Pond for algae, water lily and aquatic plants at a cost not to exceed \$4,000.00.

A motion was made by Mr. Molin and seconded by Mr. Cross to approve the treatment of the reservoir, Zacharias Pond, and Gregory Pond for algae, water lily and aquatic plants at a cost not to exceed \$4,000.00. The motion carried unanimously.

Bill Reese:

No Report.

Bills Payable

Ms. Wolbert had a question about the February health insurance invoice. A motion was made by Mr. Cross and seconded by Mr. Molin to ratify bills payable through January 21, 2020, with the exception of the health insurance invoice, unless the entire health insurance policy will be in jeopardy. The Borough Manager and Human Resource Officer are instructed to work with Benecon regarding this invoice. If the invoice can be paid without the golf department premium that was billed in error, the Benecon can be paid. The motion carried unanimously.

Executive Session

A motion was made by Mr. Molin and seconded by Ms. Wolbert to go into Executive Session at 7:49 p.m. The motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Ms. Wolbert and seconded by Mr. Molin to reconvene the meeting at 8:52 p.m. The motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Prevoznik reported a condemnation case and personnel litigation matters were discussed and no decisions were made.

Mr. Reese reported the Borough Manager's annual review was completed.

Mr. Bond requested authorization to utilize \$400,000.00 - \$500,000.00 from the 2016 ESSA loan for the demolition of the IBW property.

A motion was made by Mr. Cross and seconded by Mr. Molin to direct the Borough Manager, Solicitor and the Engineer to review bid specifications for the demolition of the IBW property.

Adjournment

A motion was made by Mr. Cross and seconded by Mr. Molin at 8:53 p.m. to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried unanimously.

NEXT REGULAR MEETING: Tuesday, February 4, 2020 @ 7:15 p.m.