

MINUTES FOR REGULAR MEETING
EAST STROUDSBURG BOROUGH COUNCIL
TUESDAY FEBRUARY 18, 2020 -7:15 p.m.

PRESENT: Manager Brian Bond, Solicitor John C. Prevoznik, Carrie Panepinto, , Bill Reese, Don Cross, Codes Officer Marv Walton, and Borough Engineer Russ Scott, Finance Officer Ken Konz, Maury Molin, Public Works Director Brian Ace, and Mayor Martinelli

ABSENT: Roger DeLarco, Sonia Wolbert

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Juan Saenz.

February 4, 2020 Minutes

A motion was made by Mr. Cross and seconded by Ms. Panepinto, to approve the February 4, 2020 minutes. The motion carried unanimously.

Public Hearing

Ordinance 1359, Chapter 151, Vehicles, Parking

A motion was made by Mr. Molin and seconded by Mr. Cross to recess the regular meeting and convene the Public Hearing. The motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Walton stated the Monroe County Housing Authority requested the borough to create a permit parking zone in the area of Normal, Taylor and Hill Streets. The proposed permit parking zone will be referred to as the Red Permit District, and the borough will issue red permit stickers to eligible residents who apply. The stickers will be placed inside on the windshield, on the lower-left corner above the inspection sticker. This location is an approved location according to the state code.

A motion was made by Mr. Molin and seconded by Ms. Panepinto to enter exhibits B1 through B5 into evidence. (B1 – Copy of Ordinance, B2 – Public Notice, B3 – Proof of Publication, B4 – Transmission to Pocono Record and Law Library, B5 – Sign in Sheet) The motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Mr. Cross and seconded by Mr. Molin to close the public hearing and reconvene the regular meeting. The motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Ms. Panepinto and seconded by Mr. Cross to approve Ordinance 1359, amending Chapter 151, Vehicles, Parking, as advertised. The motion carried unanimously.

Public Hearing

Ordinance 1360, amending the Non-Uniform Pension Plan

A motion was made by Mr. Molin and seconded by Mr. Cross to recess the regular meeting. The motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Ms. Panepinto and seconded by Mr. Molin to convene a public hearing on Ordinance 1360. The motion carried unanimously.

The Borough's retirement plans are through PMRS. This ordinance makes the plan tax compliant, and there were two minor changes to the cash balance plan. One change allows the members of the plan to deposit more into their account than the borough's contribution. The second change was defining Teamsters 773 as the current bargaining unit to the maintenance department.

A motion was made by Ms. Panepinto and seconded by Mr. Molin to enter exhibits B1 through B3 into evidence. (B1 – Copy of Ordinance, B2 – Proof of Publication, B3 – Sign in Sheet) The motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Mr. Molin and seconded by Mr. Cross to close the public hearing and reconvene the regular meeting. The motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Mr. Cross and seconded by Mr. Molin to approve Ordinance 1360, amending the Non-Uniform Pension plan, as advertised. The motion carried unanimously.

Intergovernmental Cooperative Agreement with the Brodhead Creek Regional Authority (BCRA)

Mr. Prevoznik stated the pump station will be designed so BCRA can transfer water to help the borough in the future, when the borough will undergo major construction. We may have the ability to run all our wells during the time our dam is shutdown, and may not need the transference of water. However, the borough has borrowed money, has a grant, and things are in place that require us to act immediately. To move forward, there are a few options.

Permanent Pump Station: The quickest option is to refurbish and upgrade our four wells immediately, which could be done within three to four months, and can be done while bids are prepared for the dam. Mr. Scott advised the wells are currently not making full capacity but we can maximize the wells and should be able to meet the borough's usage goals. This plan requires intensive monitoring and maintaining. We have grant money for a generator at well #3, but would need all other wells to have at least temporary generators installed. There is a potential of decreased water pressure and the borough would have to coordinate with the fire departments. Using water from the wells will probably create some aesthetic issues including tuberculation and rust, and also staining from manganese. The common remedy is to flush the water lines, but will not be able to perform flushing during this time. Mr. Prevoznik noted the maintenance on the wells will be money well spent. Mr. Horton from BCRA advised the pump station would take 12-18 months to complete, which includes permitting, design, bidding, and construction. Mr. Prevoznik asked if there is a reason why the borough would want the pump station beyond the four month period in which we need it, while the reservoir is lowered. Mr. Scott stated there is an advantage of having the pump station. The borough has two transmission lines about three miles long, one over 70 years old, the other over 100 years old, that run from the water plant to town. The plant operators feel confident that they can operate wells to provide the average daily flow and peaks, and can use the tanks and clear well on occasion when peak demands are higher than well output. The water storage tanks need fire reserve at all times. Mr. Prevoznik added that cooperatively building a pump station will provide periods of great use, and periods of no use. The estimated cost for this project is \$1.9 million, with BCRA contributing \$400,000.00 to \$500,000.00. Mr. Horton added a pump station is not on BCRA's scheduled capital improvement projects, and BCRA would only benefit from it five to ten years from now, but not immediately. BRCA can commit to providing the borough 700,000 gallons of water per day for four months to improve water quality during the dam construction.

Another option is do nothing about a pump station and fix the wells. The borough is mandated to make the repairs to the Middle Dam. The permanent generator at well #3 can be installed immediately, and all others should and could be done at the same time. All generators will be installed above ground, one permanently, the others mounted on trailers. Within two to three months this project can go out for bid, and hope it works to operate 100% on well water. The aesthetic issues will be higher using all well water without mixing with BCRA water.

The third option presented was to secure a location and build a temporary pump station. The preliminary cost is estimated to be \$1.16 million, with no funding shared by BCRA.

A motion was made by Mr. Molin and seconded by Mr. Cross to advertise the proposed Seventh Amendment to the Intergovernmental Cooperative Agreement with the Brodhead Creek Regional Authority for 7:20 p.m. on Tuesday, March 3, 2020 at the East Stroudsburg Borough Municipal Building, amending the motion from Monday, January 6, 2020, since council agrees to move forward with a permanent pump station and taking BCRA's agreement of water transference. The motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Mr. Cross and seconded by Ms. Panepinto to advertise and set a public hearing to enter into a repayment agreement with the Brodhead Creek Regional Authority for the acquisition and construction of a pump station authorized by the Seventh Amendment for 7:45 p.m. on Tuesday, March 3, 2020 at the East Stroudsburg Borough Municipal Building, amending the motion from Monday, January 6, 2020. The motion carried unanimously.

Public Comments – Agenda Items

None.

SROSRC

No report.

Police Report

The SARPD report will be given at the March 3, 2020 meeting.

150th Anniversary

Mr. Molin reported the committee continues to add volunteers and sponsorships; there are over twenty events scheduled so far, next committee meeting is February 27 and community meeting on March 5, 6:00 p.m. at ECA. The committee will have a small float in the upcoming St. Patrick's Day Parade to advertise the celebrations.

Mr. Reese appointed Carrie Panepinto to the 150th Anniversary Committee.

Veterans Park

Mr. Reese distributed another rendering of the mural for the fence, which seems to be the most favorable.

East Stroudsburg Community Alliance

No report.

Engineers Report

The Engineers Report was distributed.

Public Water System

Mr. Scott reported the recommendation for the Borough to advertise for bids for the installation of three Effluent Flow Control Valves and a Valve Control System at the Water Treatment Plant. The borough has already purchased the valves and the bid would be for a contractor to install them. The current valves are old, and in bad shape and we must comply with DEP standards.

A motion was made by Mr. Molin and seconded by Mr. Cross to authorize the Borough to advertise for bids for the installation of three Effluent Flow Control Valves and a Valve Control System at the Water Treatment Plant. The motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Scott reported the recommendation that the Borough authorizes the Borough Engineer to develop a strategic plan for immediate implementation to refurbish Borough Water Supply Wells 1, 2, 3, and 4 (including provisions for emergency power, spare pumps and parts, and screen cleaning) to allow for maximum use during dam rehabilitation project at a cost for Engineer's fees not to exceed \$14,000.00.

A motion was made by Mr. Cross and seconded by Ms. Panepinto to authorize the Borough Engineer to develop a strategic plan for immediate implementation to refurbish Borough Water Supply Wells 1, 2, 3, and 4 (including provisions for emergency power, spare pumps and parts, and screen cleaning) to allow for maximum use during dam rehabilitation project at a cost for Engineer's fees not to exceed \$14,000.00. The motion carried unanimously.

Emergency Generator for Well #3

Mr. Scott requested authorization to proceed with design, permitting and bidding of the Emergency Generator and automatic transfer switch, at a cost not to exceed \$22,000.00. This is within the budget presented in the grant application.

A motion was made by Mr. Cross and seconded by Ms. Panepinto to approve RKR Hess to proceed with design permitting and bidding of the Emergency Generator and automatic transfer switch, at a cost not to exceed \$22,000.00. The motion carried unanimously.

Public Comments – New Business

Juan Saenz of Legacy Barber Shop on Crystal Street asked council to consider parking passes for metered spots in the South Kistler Street Parking Lot for business owners. He stated there are empty parking spots throughout the day and suggested passes could be paid annually. Mr. Prevoznik advised a parking study is within the budget this year and will be performed for our parking issues throughout the Borough.

Jane Gagliardo of West Broad Street stated her street still has the parking restriction of midnight to 8:00 a.m. and requested it be changed back to the original restriction of midnight to 7:00 a.m. Council advised this issue will be passed along to ZORC for further review. Ms. Gagliardo also expressed her appreciation to council for doing what they do.

Laura Kessler of Analomink Street stated Mario Scavello advised her there is a bill on the table regarding the banning of plastic bags that may or may not pass. Ms. Kessler asked if the borough can help initiate an incentive for stores to stop using plastic bags.

Linda Dyche of Analomink Street expressed her concerns about living at a corner property and not being able to screen her garbage cans according to the ordinance. Mr. Bond advised this issue will be referred to ZORC for further review.

Reports:

Brian Ace:

The DPW report was distributed.

Marv Walton:

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

Mr. Walton requested authorization to set and advertise a public hearing to amend Chapter 157, Zoning, Ordinance 1361, for Tuesday, April 7, 2020 at 7:20 p.m. This ordinance would create a new C-1B Community Commercial Zoning District, including use and bulk regulations in the C-1B District.

A motion was made by Mr. Molin and seconded by Mr. Cross to set and advertise a public hearing to amend Chapter 157, Zoning, Ordinance 1361, for Tuesday, April 7, 2020 at 7:20 p.m. The motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Walton requested authorization to set and advertise a public hearing to amend Chapter 140, Subdivision and Land Development, specifically regarding sidewalks, Ordinance 1362, for Tuesday, April 7, 2020 at 7:50 p.m.

A motion was made by Ms. Panepinto and seconded by Mr. Molin to set and advertise a public hearing to amend Chapter 140, Subdivision and Land Development, specifically regarding sidewalks, Ordinance 1362, for Tuesday, April 7, 2020 at 7:50 p.m. The motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Mr. Molin and seconded by Mr. Cross to authorize the borough to forward the proposed ordinance to the Monroe County and Borough Planning Commissions for review. The motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Walton requested council to refer the RNC Courtland Overlay proposed ordinance to the Borough and Monroe County Planning Commissions for informal review. The RNC Courtland Street overlay would extend from West Broad Street, north to Independence Road. The Ordinance will also rezone an area south of East 1st Street from C-2 to OM-1, and will rezone the existing C-2 District along North Courtland Street north of the railroad crossing to a C-1 District.

A motion was made by Mr. Cross and seconded by Ms. Panepinto to refer the RNC Courtland Overlay proposed ordinance to the Borough and Monroe County Planning Commissions for information review. The motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Walton made a recommendation for council to extend the warning period for trash violations through March 3.

A motion was made by Mr. Molin and seconded by Mr. Cross to extend the warning period for trash violations through March 3. The motion carried unanimously.

Ken Konz:

The January 2020 Borough Financial Statements were distributed.

Mr. Konz reported the next Collections Committee meeting is scheduled for March 4th.

Fire Chief:

The January 2020 Fire Chief's Report was distributed.

Mayor Martinelli:

No Report.

Sonia Wolbert:

Absent.

Don Cross:

No Report.

Maury Molin:

No Report.

Roger DeLarco:

Absent.

Carrie Panepinto:

Ms. Panepinto reported she made contact with ESS regarding a junior councilperson. Mr. Molin will reach out to ESU.

Solicitor John Prevoznik

Mr. Prevoznik reported that Monroe County Conservation District advised PennDot's NPDES Permit for the landfill was rejected and PennDot needs to rewrite it. PennDot requested more time to reconsider the Borough's offers to incorporate the information into their revised permit application.

A motion was made by Mr. Cross and seconded by Ms. Panepinto to allow PennDot more time to reconsider the Borough's offers to incorporate the information into their revised permit application. The motion carried unanimously.

Manager's Report

Mr. Bond requested approval of Resolution 2-2020, amending the East Stroudsburg Borough Schedule of Fees to incorporate the Barry Isett Fee Schedule with a 15% administrative fee.

A motion was made by Mr. Molin and seconded by Mr. Cross to approve Resolution 2-2020, amending the East Stroudsburg Borough Schedule of Fees to incorporate the Barry Isett Fee Schedule with a 15% administrative fee. The motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Bond requested approval of the United States Department of Agriculture to continue the Waterfowl Damage Management Plan at Gregory's Pond, Zacharias Pond, Dansbury Park, and Terra Greens at the total annual cost of \$7,155.15.

A motion was made by Mr. Cross and seconded by Ms. Panepinto to approve the United States Department of Agriculture to continue the Waterfowl Damage Management Plan at Gregory's Pond, Zacharias Pond, Dansbury Park, and Terra Greens at the total annual cost of \$7,155.15. The motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Bond reported the request from East Stroudsburg JT Lambert/High School South PTO for a donation of round of golf for four with carts at Terra Greens Golf Course for a fundraising prize.

A motion was made by Mr. Molin and seconded by Ms. Panepinto to approve a request from East Stroudsburg JT Lambert/High School South PTO for a donation of round of golf for four with carts at Terra Greens Golf Course for a fundraising prize. The motion carried unanimously.

Bill Reese:

Mr. Reese and Mayor Martinelli met with the golf course superintendent to review the 2020 pricing and will report their recommendation to council at the March 3 meeting.

Bills Payable

A motion was made by Mr. Cross and seconded by Mr. Molin to ratify bills payable through February 18, 2020. The motion carried unanimously.

Adjournment

A motion was made by Mr. Cross and seconded by Ms. Panepinto at 9:15 p.m. to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried unanimously.

NEXT REGULAR MEETING: Tuesday, March 3, 2020 @ 7:15 p.m.