

MINUTES FOR REGULAR MEETING
EAST STROUDSBURG BOROUGH COUNCIL
TUESDAY JULY 6, 2021 - 7:15 p.m.

PRESENT IN PERSON: William T. Reese; Sonia Wolbert; Carrie Panepinto; Maury Molin; Don Cross; Borough Manager Brian Bond. Also present were: Solicitor John Prevoznik; Zoning Officer Marv Walton; Mayor Armand Martinelli; Public Works Director Brian Ace; and Borough Engineer Nate Oiler

ABSENT: Roger DeLarco

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Bill Frazetta.

Solicitor's Report on Executive Session

The Solicitor reported that an Executive Session was held on July 6, 2021 starting at 6:45 p.m., prior to the start of the council meeting. Mr. Bond, Mr. Prevoznik, and all members of council were present except Mr. DeLarco. Two personnel matters were discussed. No decisions were made. Executive Session ended at 7:12 p.m.

June 15, 2021 Council Minutes

A motion was made by Mr. Cross and seconded by Ms. Wolbert to approve the minutes of the June 15, 2021 council meeting. The motion carried unanimously.

Public Comments – Agenda Items

None.

SROSRC Report:

The SROSRC report was distributed via email.

Veterans Park:

Mr. Reese reported that the Borough applied for a grant through Giant Food Store. It also applied for hotel tax monies through the Monroe County Commissioners. If the grant and tax monies are received, they would be used with other donations to construct a sidewalk through Veterans Park. Mr. Reese thanked Brian Ace for mowing the grass and keeping the park looking great.

150th Update:

Family Fun Day is scheduled for Saturday, July 17, 2021, from 12:00 p.m. until 4:00 p.m. at Dansbury Park. The All-American Javelin Fest will be held Friday, July 16 and Saturday, July 17, 2021, at the East Stroudsburg South High School. Pocono Cinema's 150th movie series continues with a showing of Jaws on Saturday, July 17 at 4:00 p.m. The 150th Hoedown at the VFW on Fawn Road is scheduled for Sunday, July 18 from 3:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. Volunteers are needed for these events.

The winners of the Patriotic Decorating contest will be announced at the July 19th Music on Monday event.

The next Committee Meeting is scheduled for August 3rd at 4:00 p.m. in council chambers and via Webex.

Police Report:

The SARPD report will be presented at the July 20, 2021 Council meeting.

East Stroudsburg Community Alliance:

No report.

Engineer's Report:

The Engineer's report was distributed.

North Green Street Paving and ADA Ramp Project

Mr. Oiler requested authorization to issue the Final Award Notice and Execution of the agreement with Kobalt Construction in the amount of \$98,980.50, contingent upon favorable review of the bonds and insurance documents by the Solicitor, Engineer and Borough Manager.

A motion was made by Ms. Wolbert and seconded by Ms. Panepinto to authorize the issuance of the Final Award Notice and Execution of the agreement with Kobalt Construction in the amount of \$98,980.50, contingent upon favorable review of the bonds and insurance documents by the Solicitor, Engineer and Borough Manager. The motion carried unanimously.

Woods Road Tank Containment and Paint Removal Project

Mr. Oiler requested approval of Change Order No. 1, which represents a \$10,000.00 decrease in the Containment Structure Contract amount for deletion of the provisional bid item for an additional month of maintaining the containment structure. The structure is being dismantled and will not need to be retained for another month.

A motion was made by Ms. Wolbert and seconded by Mr. Cross to approve Change Order No. 1, which represents a \$10,000.00 decrease in the Containment Structure Contract amount for deletion of the provisional bid item for an additional month of maintaining the containment structure. The motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Oiler requested approval of Payment Request No. 2 in the amount of \$43,225.00 to Dynamic Sandblasting and Painting LLC, contingent upon the receipt of the notarized original documents. Upon approval of the Change Order and Payment Request. Mr. Oiler noted that the remaining balance to finish the project, including retainage, is \$18,400.00.

A motion was made by Mr. Molin and seconded by Ms. Wolbert to approve Payment Request No. 2 in the amount of \$43,225.00 to Dynamic Sandblasting and Painting LLC, contingent upon the receipt of the notarized original documents. The motion carried unanimously.

Public Comments – New Business

Bruce Smith of North Green Street complained about the fireworks that have been set off dangerously close to houses in his neighborhood. Mr. Smith stated that the police were called but only responded after the fireworks were over.

Joel Getz of East Broad Street asked why the fireworks were postponed until September 3rd rather than to a sooner date. Mr. Bond advised the fireworks contractor had no openings on July

3, 4 or 5th. The next holiday weekend is Labor Day weekend, which was thought to be a good date to reschedule the fireworks.

Margaret Muth of Prospect Street asked if the yard waste collection could be increased to every month from April through October, instead of every other month. Mr. Ace advised that as a result of being short staffed in all departments, it would be difficult to accommodate the request.

Ms. Muth asked if parking is permitted along South Courtland Street, between Teeter and Starbird Streets. She stated that it was hard for her vehicle to navigate around parked cars while driving in the left lane of South Courtland Street. Mr. Walton advised there is no prohibition of parking along that section of South Courtland Street. Mr. Bond added that when PennDOT painted the lines on the road, PennDOT did not make the lanes even, so the left lane is much narrower than the right lane. Mr. Martinelli asked if the Borough Manager could reach out to PennDOT to request that the road be restriped on South Courtland Street in order to resolve this matter.

Ms. Muth stated that at the 150th Committee Meeting, they talked about having a dunk tank at the Family Fun Day and asked Mr. Prevoznik if this would be allowed. Mr. Prevoznik suggested asking the Borough's insurance company to see if the policy covers this type of activity. Mr. Molin advised he already checked into this matter and since our policy does not cover that type of activity, the Borough could not sponsor a dunk tank at the upcoming event.

Bill Frazetta, owner of the business located at 186 S. Courtland Street, asked if anything can be done about the standing water within the CVS parking lot. Mr. Molin agreed that this poses a health hazard with mosquitos and the West Nile virus. Mr. Bond stated that since the issue is on private property, there might not be anything the Borough can enforce.

Mr. Frazetta expressed his concerns about the appearance of the fire-damaged property along Crystal Street. The fire happened in July 2020 and no improvements have been made yet. Mr. Walton advised he will take action on the banner which has been hanging on the building since the date of the fire. Mr. Walton further stated that the windows were boarded up in order to secure the building which is appropriate and not a violation of the Code. Mr. Walton further stated that the building is not structurally deficient and, therefore, is in zoning compliance but for the banner.

Mr. Frazetta asked if the volunteer fire department can become a paid fire department. Mr. Bond advised it would be more money than paying the police department. Mr. Molin added that the benefits, such as health insurance and retirement, make the proposal cost prohibitive.

Reports:

Brian Ace/Public Works:

The DPW report was distributed via email.

Marv Walton:

Mr. Walton's reports were distributed via email.

Mr. Walton requested authorization to approve a waiver for 43 Washington Street, SALDO, Section 140-7.c., to allow the plan to be considered as a preliminary/final plan subject to date and time approving the grant being placed on the plan.

A motion was made by Ms. Wolbert and seconded by Mr. Molin to approve the waiver for 43 Washington Street, SALDO, Section 140-7.c., to allow the plan to be considered as a preliminary/final plan subject to date and time approving the grant being placed on the plan. The motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Walton requested approval of Resolution 17-2021, approving the Land Development Plan for 43 Washington Street with conditions. Mr. Walton read aloud Resolution 17-2021 after which he asked whether there were any questions. Neither Council nor the public had questions.

A motion was made by Ms. Wolbert and seconded by Mr. Molin to approve Resolution 17-2021, approving the Land Development Plan for 43 Washington Street with conditions. A copy of the Resolution to be attached to the Minutes. The motion carried unanimously.

Finance:

The financial reports were distributed via email.

Mayor Armand Martinelli:

No report.

Sonia Wolbert:

No report.

Don Cross:

Mr. Cross mentioned the poor condition of Chestnut Street between First and Second Streets. He requested potholes to be repaired. Mr. Ace advised that work crews have been filling potholes throughout the Borough.

Maury Molin:

Mr. Molin asked Ms. Wolbert, as a member of the ECA, whether a food truck could be present for Music on Monday events. The idea was brought up at the 150th Committee meeting. Ms. Wolbert stated that the ECA encourages giving such business to the existing eateries near the event. Ms. Muth asked if a food establishment from Crystal Street could sell their food at Music on Mondays. Mr. Bond stated a food establishment would have to get approved through ECA to set up and serve food at the music site. Otherwise, they can prepare their food in their own establishment and have someone run the food over to the music site.

Roger DeLarco:

Absent.

Carrie Panepinto:

Ms. Panepinto relayed complaints from constituents about the potholes on Kiwanis and Lions Streets.

Solicitor John Prevoznik, Esq.:

No report.

Manager's Report:

Mr. Bond requested approval to ratify the hiring of Tim Neilan as a part-time seasonal pro shop attendant at \$10.50 an hour, effective June 23, 2021.

A motion was made by Mr. Cross and seconded by Mr. Molin to ratify the hiring of Tim Neilan as a part-time seasonal pro shop attendant at \$10.50 an hour, effective June 23, 2021. The motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Bond requested approval to ratify two gift certificate donations to the 150th Committee for a round of golf with a cart for two to be used as prizes for the Patriotic Decorating Contest.

A motion was made by Ms. Wolbert and seconded by Mr. Molin to ratify two gift certificate donations to the 150th Committee for a round of golf with a cart for two to be used as prizes for the Patriotic Decorating Contest. The motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Bond reported a request from ESU for a one-year extension of the Parking Management Plan submission to July 1, 2022, as the COVID-19 pandemic has impacted in-person learning.

A motion was made by Ms. Wolbert and seconded by Mr. Cross to approve the request from ESU for a one-year extension of the Parking Management Plan submission to July 1, 2022, as the COVID-19 pandemic has impacted in-person learning. The motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Bond requested approval to remove all discounts on the Twilight greens fees at Terra Greens as of July 15, 2021.

A motion was made by Ms. Wolbert and seconded by Mr. Molin to approve removing all discounts on the Twilight greens fees at Terra Greens as of July 15, 2021. The motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Bond requested authorization for the Borough Manager and the Borough Engineer to work together to set up a meeting with Ken Long to explain the Borough's role in the Ridgeway Street Multi-Modal Grant.

A motion was made by Ms. Wolbert and seconded by Mr. Molin to authorize the Borough Manager and the Borough Engineer to work together to set up a meeting with Ken Long to explain the Borough's role in the Ridgeway Street Multi-Modal Grant. The motion carried unanimously.

Bill Reese:

No report.

Approval of Warrant List 210706

A motion was made by Mr. Cross and seconded by Ms. Wolbert to approve Warrant List 210706 as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

Adjournment

A motion was made by Mr. Molin and seconded by Ms. Panepinto to adjourn the meeting at 8:06 p.m. The motion carried unanimously.

NEXT REGULAR MEETING: Tuesday, July 20, 2021, @ 7:15 p.m., in person at the East Stroudsburg Borough Municipal Building and virtually on Facebook on the East Stroudsburg Virtual Meeting page.