

MINUTES FOR REGULAR MEETING
EAST STROUDSBURG BOROUGH COUNCIL
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 4, 2022 – 7:15 p.m.

PRESENT IN PERSON: Sonia Wolbert; William Reese; Maury Molin; Carrie Panepinto; Erika Huber; Mayor Victor Brozusky. Also present were: Borough Manager Brian Bond; Borough Engineer Russ Scott; and Solicitor John Prevoznik.

ABSENT: Edmund Freeborn.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Report on Executive Session:

The Solicitor reported that an Executive Session was held on October 4, 2022, starting at 6:50 p.m., prior to the start of the Council meeting. All members of Council were present, with the exception of Mr. Freeborn. Mayor Brozusky, Brian Bond, and Mr. Prevoznik were also in attendance. Three personnel matters were discussed. Russ Scott, Borough Engineer, entered Executive Session at 7:05 p.m. A potential litigation and resolution regarding an existing contractual dispute for the Middle Dam project. Executive Session ended at 7:25 p.m. No decisions were made.

September 20, 2022 Council Minutes:

A motion was made by Mr. Molin and seconded by Ms. Huber to approve the Minutes of the September 20, 2022 Council meeting. The motion carried unanimously.

September 26, 2022 Council Work Session Minutes:

A motion was made by Ms. Huber and seconded by Mr. Molin to approve the Minutes of the September 26, 2022 Council Work Session meeting. The motion carried unanimously.

Public Hearing, Ordinance 1392, Chapter 150, Vehicles and Traffic, Article VIII, Schedules, Section 68, Schedule XVI, Parking Prohibited at all times; Section 69, Schedule XVII, Parking Prohibited certain hours, of the East Stroudsburg Borough Code of Ordinances

A motion was made by Ms. Panepinto and seconded by Mr. Reese to recess the regular meeting and convene a public hearing on Ordinance 1392. The motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Bond discussed Exhibits 1-3 (Ex. 1 – Sign in Sheet; Ex. 2 – Proof of Publication; Ex. 3 – Copy of Ordinance). He summarized the contents of the ordinance and explained why the changes were made. With no questions from Council or the public, the hearing was closed.

A motion was made by Ms. Panepinto and seconded by Mr. Molin to enter exhibits 1 through 3 into evidence. The motion carried unanimously.

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

A motion was made by Mr. Molin and seconded by Ms. Panepinto to approve Ordinance 1392, Chapter 150, Vehicles and Traffic, Article VIII, Schedules, Section 68, Schedule XVI, Parking Prohibited at all times; Section 69, Schedule XVII, Parking Prohibited certain hours, of the East Stroudsburg Borough Code of Ordinances, as presented and advertised. The motion carried unanimously.

Public Hearing for Ordinance 1393, Chapter 151, Vehicles, Parking, Article I, Residential Permit Parking, of the East Stroudsburg Borough Code of Ordinances

A motion was made by Mr. Reese and seconded by Ms. Panepinto to recess the regular meeting and convene the Public Hearing on Ordinance 1393, at 7:40 p.m. The motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Bond discussed Exhibits 1-3 (Ex. 1 – Sign in Sheet; Ex. 2 – Proof of Publication; Ex. 3 – Copy of Ordinance). He summarized the contents of the ordinance and explained why the changes were made. With no questions from Council or the public, the hearing was closed.

A motion was made by Ms. Panepinto and seconded by Mr. Molin to enter exhibits 1 through 3 into evidence. The motion carried unanimously.

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

A motion was made by Mr. Reese and seconded by Ms. Panepinto to approve Ordinance 1393, Chapter 151, Vehicles, Parking, Article I, Residential Permit Parking, as advertised. The motion carried unanimously.

Public Comments – Agenda Items:

None.

SROSRC Report:

A meeting with SROSRC and representatives from East Stroudsburg Borough, Stroudsburg Borough, and Stroud Township is scheduled for Wednesday, October 12, 2022, at 4:00 p.m. to discuss necessities and to receive feedback from each municipality.

Police Report:

The SARPD report will be presented at the October 18, 2022 Council meeting.

East Stroudsburg Community Alliance (ECA):

A debrief meeting with ECA and Pocono Chamber of Commerce is scheduled for November 2022 to discuss the recent Pickle Me Poconos Festival.

Engineer's Report:

The Engineer's report was distributed.

Middle Dam Rehabilitation:

Mr. Scott provided an update on the Middle Dam Rehabilitation project.

A motion was made by Mr. Molin and seconded by Mr. Reese to approve Payment Request No. 13 in the amount of \$172,870.93 to Pioneer Construction Co., Inc. for work completed through July 31, 2022, as recommended by the Engineer. Mr. Scott confirmed that there are no charges for disputed items in this invoice. The motion carried unanimously.

Brown Street Water Main Project:

Mr. Scott provided an update on the Brown Street water main project. The project has achieved substantial completion.

Dunkin Land Development Request:

Dunkin's Temporary Certificate of Occupancy expires on March 3, 2023. There is a required improvement escrow balance of \$24,433.70 and \$16,477.52 owed for professional services escrow fees.

A motion was made by Mr. Molin and seconded by Mr. Reese to table Dunkin's Land Development request. There were no representatives from Dunkin present. The motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Ms. Huber and seconded by Mr. Molin to accept the Engineer's Report as submitted and attach to the Minutes. The motion carried unanimously.

Public Comments – New Business:

Laura Kessler, of 126 Analomink Street, asked if the water issue with regard to high trihalomethanes has been resolved. Mr. Scott advised the Borough is maximizing the use of its groundwater wells and flushing the system.

Ms. Kessler has concerns about redevelopment standards in the Ridgeway/Prospect overlay area. Ms. Wolbert advised the Borough will implement design standards for redevelopment.

Gary Walck, of 33 Fulton Street, expressed his concerns with regard to Terra Greens Municipal Golf Course and the proposed 2023 budget for the course. Mr. Bond advised there is a budget meeting scheduled for Thursday, October 13, 2022, at 6:00 p.m. to discuss the Borough's 2023 budget. The information specific to the golf course will be broken out and available for better evaluation.

Bruce Smith, of 87 North Green Street, reported garbage that is not in specially marked bags is still being collected by Waste Management. Mr. Bond will reach out to Waste Management to ensure the crews are following the Borough's garbage ordinance.

Margaret Muth, of 271 Prospect Street, asked about the terms of the golf course consultant's employment. Mr. Bond stated the consultant was hired for the remainder of the 2022 golf season.

Reports:**Public Works:**

The Public Works Report was distributed via email. A motion was made by Mr. Molin and seconded by Ms. Huber to accept the Public Works Report as distributed and attach to the Minutes. The motion carried unanimously.

Zoning:

The Zoning Report was distributed via email. A motion was made by Ms. Huber and seconded by Mr. Reese to accept the Zoning Report as distributed and attach to the Minutes. The motion carried unanimously.

Finance:

The Finance Report was distributed via email. A motion was made by Mr. Molin and seconded by Ms. Huber to accept the Finance Report as distributed and attach to the Minutes. The motion carried unanimously.

Operations Committee:

No Report.

Utility Committee:

No Report.

Community Relations Committee:

A motion was made by Ms. Huber and seconded by Mr. Molin to approve reducing golf greens fees at Terra Greens Municipal Golf Course by 20% for the remainder of the 2022 golf season. The motion carried unanimously.

Zoning and Planning Committee:

No report.

Mayor Victor Brozusky:

Mr. Brozusky has received numerous complaints about the work being done on Route 209 in the Eagle Valley area. The work being performed is not a Borough project as the effected roadway is PennDOT's responsibility. Mr. Brozusky is working with Representative Brown's and Senator Scavello's offices for a resolution to the major traffic congestion that is being caused by the construction, especially during hours of school traffic. Mr. Bond will contact the Public Utility Commission (PUC).

Mr. Brozusky reported that the high school student drop-off and pickup location was recently changed to a different location, is running smoothly, and has decreased traffic congestion on North Courtland Street.

Mr. Brozusky received a request from East Stroudsburg High School South to utilize Terra Green's golf carts for their homecoming event on Friday, October 14, 2022. The carts would be picked up at noon on Friday and returned Friday night or Saturday morning. Terra Greens only has 25 operational golf carts.

A motion was made by Mr. Molin and seconded by Mr. Reese to deny the request from East Stroudsburg High School South to utilize Terra Green's golf carts for their homecoming event due to the golf course not having sufficient capacity. The motion carried unanimously.

Ed Freeborn:

Absent.

Bill Reese:

No report.

Maury Molin:

No report.

Erika Huber:

No report.

Carrie Panepinto:

No report.

Solicitor John Prevostnik:

No report.

Manager's Report:

A motion was made by Mr. Molin and seconded by Mr. Reese to approve setting and advertising an East Stroudsburg Borough Budget Work Session for Thursday, October 13, 2022, at 6:00 p.m. The motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Ms. Panepinto and seconded by Ms. Huber to ratify Resolution 18-2022, authorizing the Borough of East Stroudsburg to enter into a cooperative agreement with the County of Monroe for the fiscal year 2022 CDBG program administration. The motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Ms. Huber and seconded by Mr. Molin to approve Resolution 20-2022, authorizing the Board of Commissioners of Monroe to submit an application for FFY 2022 Community Development Block Grant Program funds in the amount of \$157,621.00, on behalf of East Stroudsburg Borough. The motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Mr. Molin and seconded by Ms. Panepinto to approve the request from the Monroe County Veterans Association to hold the annual Veteran's Day Parade on Sunday, November 6, 2022, from 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m., contingent upon all forms, documents, and fees have been provided. The motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Mr. Reese and seconded by Mr. Molin to appoint Dr. Peter Pappalardo to the Eastern Monroe Public Library Board of Trustees as the East Stroudsburg Borough representative, as recommended by the Eastern Monroe Public Library Board of Trustees. The motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Ms. Huber and seconded by Ms. Panepinto to ratify donating a round of golf for two with a cart to Terra Greens Municipal Golf Course for Breast Friends of Pennsylvania fundraiser, held on Sunday, October 2, 2022. The motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Bond reported that an ESU Veterans Day Event is scheduled for Friday, November 11, 2022, at 1:00 p.m. Mr. Reese and Mr. Molin will be attending the event.

A motion was made by Ms. Panepinto and seconded by Mr. Molin to deny the request by Jim Dellaria to waive water and sewer late fees for 14 properties owned by Mr. Dellaria due to the Post Office being closed and not receiving the bills until after the late fees were assessed. The motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Ms. Panepinto and seconded by Mr. Reese to authorize a drawdown for Payment Request No. 11 to Pioneer Construction Co., Inc. in the amount of \$172,870.93. The motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Mr. Molin and seconded by Ms. Huber to approve RKR Hess Invoice No. 113950 in the amount of \$34,392.61 for work on the Middle Dam Project, period ending September 2, 2022. The motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Mr. Molin and seconded by Mr. Reese to authorize a drawdown for RKR Hess Invoice No. 113950 in the amount of \$34,392.61 for work on the Middle Dam Project, period ending September 2, 2022. The motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Mr. Reese and seconded by Ms. Panepinto to ratify the termination of employment of Richard Widdoss. The motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Mr. Reese and seconded by Ms. Panepinto to ratify the employment agreement with Brian Ace as a Wastewater Operator A, with an hourly rate of \$32.90, effective October 5, 2022, as recommended by the Borough Manager. The motion carried unanimously.

Sonia Wolbert:

No Report.

Approval of Warrant List 221004:

A motion was made by Ms. Huber and seconded by Mr. Molin to approve Warrant List 221004, as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

Adjournment:

A motion was made by Ms. Panepinto and seconded by Ms. Huber to adjourn the meeting at 8:54 p.m. The motion carried unanimously.

NEXT REGULAR MEETING:

Tuesday, October 18, 2022, at 7:15 p.m.

NEXT BUDGET WORK SESSION:

Thursday, October 13, 2022, at 6:00 p.m.

NEXT WORK SESSION:

Monday, October 24, 2022, at 7:00 p.m.