

McKees Rocks Borough
Public Meeting
May 8, 2018

The meeting was called to order by President of Council, Mr. Paul Krisby. President Krisby requested roll call. Present were Council Shallegra Moye, Council Elizabeth Delgado, Council Maribeth Taylor, Council Leslie Gee, Vice-President Kathleen Evich, Council Craig Myers, Council Sarah Harvey, and Council Joe Mixer. Also present were Mayor John "Jack" Muhr, Controller Kimberly Bosetti, Borough Manager Ruth A. Pompey and Administrative Assistant LeeAnn Wozniak. Mr. Douglas Evans from NIRA Consulting Engineers and Borough Solicitor Ms. Megan Turnbull, of Goehring Rutter & Boehm was present.

Agenda Comments/Changes: None

Guest Speaker:

- Ms. O'Brien talked to Council about 20 % of the Borough being homeowners, and homeowners should feel comfortable speaking up with their concerns and ideas. Ms. O'Brien participated in the recent community clean-up event and commented on the amount of dirty needles picked up and wants to know "why" is it like this. Why do we have drug deals going on in broad day light? Why do we have blaring loud music day and night? She also commented that the community had 3 murders in 3 months, most recently the home invasion. She feels ordinances need enforced, and people need held accountable for their illegal activities such as drug dealing, trespassing/vandalism. Ms. O'Brien understands not everything can be stopped, but the community needs some reassurance that people are being held accountable for their actions.

Last Month's Minutes:

A motion was made by Council Myers and seconded by Vice-President Evich to dispense the reading of April 10, 2018 Public Meeting minutes. The motion was adopted by acclamation.

Committee Reports:

- Council Delgado read the April 2018 activity report from the McKees Rocks Independent Volunteer Fire Department. The Fire Department received a total of 25 calls. There were 6 false alarms, 4 at Hays Manor, 1 each at Buildings 3-4, 15-16, 19, and 22-23. Response also included 3 motor vehicle accidents and 4 smell of gas calls. There was also 1 technical rescue, 1 person trapped in the bathroom, 2 water conditions, and 1 diesel fuel leak. There were 6 structure fires, 1 trash fire, and 1 vegetation fire. No reported injuries on any calls.

Engine 189 responded to 15 incidents. Engine 189-2 responded 1 time. Rescue 189 response – no response, Truck 189, 3 times, Utility 189 – 2 times and persons in private vehicles responded directly to scene 24 times. VFD cancelled enroute 5 times. Mutual aid provided by Presston Station 277 on all calls. In addition, Stowe Station 275 provided aid to us 4 times, Kennedy Station 181, provided mutual aid 3 times, Seville Station 251 provided mutual aid 4 times all for possible structure fires, mostly minor and would have been cancelled enroute to the minor fires. VFD provided mutual aid to Stowe Station 275 2 times. Total person response from Station 189 to calls in April was 149, averaging 6 persons.

- Council Delgado read the monthly Activity Report from the McKees Rocks Police Department for April 2018. Chief Deliman reported a total of 779 events. There were 175 cases reported, 44 arrests, 38 citations (27 traffic, 8 non-traffic, 3 borough weight citations), and 11 impounded vehicles. Total mileage on patrol vehicles 4,780. Total money submitted to the Borough Manager was \$6,288.75.

Committee Reports:

Council Delgado, member of Communications Committee reported that the Borough website development is currently under way and there should be a drafted website ready for review in approximately a month or so.

Mayors Report:

Mayor Muhr reported that a Suboxen Clinic was operating without Borough approval for an Occupancy Permit in April 2018 at 909 Chartiers Avenue. The application for Occupancy at 909 Chartiers Avenue was received early April and denied by the Building Inspector for parking regulations. A phone call was received on April 17, 2018 that people were lined up at the door waiting to be seen by the doctor. The Mayor and Police Officers responded to the phone call complaint. Approximately 15 people were on premise including the physician and staff. All staff and patients were advised to leave immediately, for not having an approved Occupancy Permit to operate. The Mayor notified Sergeant Finerty of the illegal operating activity.

Mayor Muhr and Mr. Paul Gedeon, President of Lane Steel Co. met with Aaron Martin, of Channel 11 News, regarding the deplorable conditions of the bridge near Creek Road. They discussed how the bridge belongs to the City of Pittsburgh, and the Borough has not had any success working with the City of Pittsburgh for repairs. The Mayor has recently reached out to Representative Deasy's office for assistance, and the City of Pittsburgh has recently been in contact with plans to move forward that the City of Pittsburgh will repair the bridge properly, and turn the bridge over to the Borough for future responsibility.

The property owners of 708 Chartiers Avenue have recently been cited by the Building Code Official for safety violations from the structure fire in December 2017. The owners have yet to follow through with confirming a demolition company and alert Borough of a demolition start date.

Mayor also reminded all in attendance of the Grass and Weed Ordinance and Garbage Ordinance, as summer time approaches and complaints are already being documented at the Borough office. Grass must be cut on a regular basis, no higher than 6 inches. Garbage cans must have lids and not be left on the sidewalks. Property owners must return garbage cans to the rear of their property after weekly pick-up.

Mayor also asked Chief Deliman to alert his officers to start ticketing commercial vehicles that are parking in the Bottoms along Munson Avenue and Shingiss Street, which are in violation of Ordinance No. 1746. Officers need to also start ticketing people in violation of the Noise Ordinance, for loud music and barking dogs, which is becoming a common complaint of residents.

Borough Manager's Report: None

Engineer's Report:

Mr. Douglas Evans provided a written capsule report last evening to Council and there are no additional action items to discuss this evening.

Solicitor's Report: Ms. Megan Turnbull stated for meeting minutes recording purposes that she is requesting a closed executive session be held this evening after the public meeting to discuss personnel issues and pending litigation updates.

Controller's Report:

As of April 30, 2018 General Fund, both income and expenses have annual budget of \$3,781,218.00. Expenses totaled \$857,106.14; approximately 22.67% of annual budget. Balance remaining in the annual budget is \$2,924,111.86. Balance in the General Fund Checking Account is \$468,604.81.

As of April 30, 2018 Sewer Fund, both income and expenses have an annual budget of \$1,694,243.00. Expenses totaled \$385,114.46; approximately 22.73% of the annual budget. Balance remaining in the annual budget is \$1,308,928.54. Balance in the Sewer Fund Savings Account is \$447,152.79.

A motion was made by Council Myers and seconded by Council Mixter to accept the Controller's Report. The motion was adopted by acclamation.

Bills:

Council Taylor questioned line items 26987, 26989, 26993, 27003, 27010, and 27021 on the transaction list. Borough Manager Ruth A. Pompey discussed each line item at length.

A motion was made by Council Taylor and seconded by Council Gee to pay the bills. The motion was adopted by acclamation.

Agenda:

1. A motion was made by Council Moye and seconded by Council Gee to approve closing a portion of Bell Avenue on June 9, 2018 11am-4pm for the F.O.R. Community Block Party. The motion was adopted by acclamation.
2. A motion was made by Council Myers and seconded by Vice-President Evich to advertise 2018 sewer cleaning and televising sealed bid advertisement in the Pittsburgh Post-Gazette on 5/9/18 and 5/16/18, costing \$1,125.00. The motion was adopted by acclamation.
3. A motion was by Council Myers and seconded by Vice-President Evich to advertise the Part-Time Office Clerk position in the Gazette 2.0 on 5/8/18, costing \$100.00. The motion was adopted by acclamation.
4. A motion was made by Council Mixter and seconded by Council Gee to accept resignations of Police Officers: Brandy Harcha (also Ordinance Officer), Steven Gilbert, Steven Harris, and John Haas. The motion as adopted by acclamation.
5. A motion was made by Council Myers and seconded by Council Moye to advertise Part-Time Police Officer position in the Pittsburgh Post-Gazette. The motion was adopted by acclamation.
6. A motion was made by Council Myers and seconded by Vice-President Evich to approve Borough Ordinance No. 1750 Residential Rental Housing License. The motion was adopted by acclamation.
7. A motion was made by Council Myers and seconded by Vice-President Evich to approve Borough Resolution for RAAC (Redevelopment Authority of Allegheny County) Stairwell Grant of \$100,000.00. The motion was adopted by acclamation.
8. A motion was made by Council Gee and seconded by Council Harvey to replace the sign at Ranger's Field Basketball Court. The motion was adopted by acclamation.
9. A motion was made by Council Harvey and seconded by Council Gee to replace the Rules/Regulations sign at 3rd Street Park. The motion was adopted by acclamation.
10. A motion was made by Council Mixter and seconded by Council Myers to contribute \$100.00 to the Veterans for Memorial Day supplies/activities. The motion was adopted by acclamation.

11. A motion was made by Council Taylor and seconded by Vice-President Evich to form a group to advertise for animal control. The motion was adopted by acclamation.
12. A motion was made by Council Myers and seconded by Council Gee to approve Council Harvey to attend 1 day training at CCAC, \$50.00 fee at Borough's expense. The motion was adopted by acclamation.
13. A motion was made by Council Mixter and seconded by Vice-President Evich to retain the Zoning Hearing Board members, in accordance with Pennsylvania law as follows: Mr. Nicholas Radoycis three year term, Mr. Timothy Procak two year term, and Ms. Julia Palmer one year term. The motion was adopted by acclamation.
14. A motion was made by Council Myers and seconded by Vice-President Evich to approve the road closure request for the annual St Mary's Orthodox Church Festival 7/21/18-7/30/18 for festival activities/set-up/breakdown time. The motion was adopted by acclamation.

New Business:

A resident of Munson Avenue advised that the new property owner of 220 Munson Avenue converted a single family home into a 3 unit rental, and wanted to know if this was approved by the Borough. Council Taylor requested that the address be turned over to the Building Inspector for review and inspection, as this is a R-1 district.

Old Business:

Council Taylor asked if there are any updates on the street light installation along Grove Street. Mayor also commented a street light needs installed near the 400 block of Russellwood Avenue. Borough Manager advised that Duquesne Light has not contacted the Borough regarding the installation, since last discussion and will follow-up with Duquesne Light on the status.

Mr. Chaz Maritz asked if Council was going to vote to repeal Ordinance 1417 Amusement Tax. Borough Solicitor confirmed that if the Amusement Tax Ordinance was repealed by Council, the Borough could not get the amusement tax ordinance back on the books. Mr. Maritz then introduced the VFW's Commander in Chief to Council and requested his approval to speak. VFW's Commander in Chief discussed the history of the VFW, talking about how the non-profit organization has helped the community and continues to help the community and requests that the VFW be exempt from amusement tax collection as well as other non-profit organizations. Council Taylor initially motioned to amend Ordinance 1417 Amusement Tax Ordinance, that non-profit organizations in the borough be taxed at zero percent. With other Council members continued discussion/concerns, Borough Solicitor suggested to discuss this ordinance and any potential changes in an executive session. The Borough has not enforced this ordinance in many years, and making any drastic changes could economically affect the Borough in a negative way. Borough Solicitor also suggested that the next appropriate step in procedure would be to motion the Borough Solicitor to investigate the Amusement Tax Ordinance in detail and possibly draft an amendment for review at the next monthly meeting, once discussed in detail in the executive session. A motion was made by Council Mixter and seconded by Council Myers to table the discussion until next month meeting, while the Borough Solicitor researches the current ordinance and investigates an appropriate amendment. Council Taylor opposed, for record.

A motion was made by Council Taylor and seconded by Vice-President Evich to adjourn the public meeting and break for an executive session to discuss personnel issues and pending litigation updates. Meeting adjourned, by President Krisby.