

McKees Rocks Borough  
Virtual Special Public Meeting  
February 25, 2021  
7:00 PM

**Pledge of Allegiance**

**Roll Call:** Council President Brinza requested roll call. Councilmembers present: Vice-President Walker, Councilwoman Harvey, Councilman Mixter, Councilman Maritz, Councilman Myers, and Councilwoman Delgado.

Also present for this meeting were Borough Manager Ruth A. Pompey, Assistant Borough Secretary LeeAnn Wozniak, Borough Solicitor Megan Turnbull, of Weiss Burkhardt Kramer, LLC

**Moment of Silence:** In memory of Councilwoman Kathleen Evich who passed away on February 14, 2021.

President Brinza also expressed get well wishes for borough employee Verdeen Gary who is battling a severe illness.

**Agenda Comments/Changes:**

President Brinza - Item No. 8 Press release for the RACP Grant

Councilman Maritz – Item No. 9 COVID cleaning of the borough building

**Guest Speakers/Public Comments (3 minutes):**

1. Ms. Maribeth Taylor (Resident): Ms. Taylor was present to address Council beginning with discussion about a special meeting being scheduled due to the bills not being ready for the February meeting. She also made comments regarding bills from the January 2021 meeting that were not paid on time. Ms. Taylor also talked about item 6 on the agenda and suggested that council spend the money on advertisements and commercials to bring attention to the ALCOSAN issues instead of using it for litigation.
2. Ms. Samanta Levitzski-Wright (Resident): Ms. Levitzski-Wright was not present to address Council and her written comments were read into the record by President Brinza. In the written statement provided by Ms. Levitzski-Wright she expressed concern(s) regarding the possible public safety concerns, traffic and property values due to the GetGo project.
3. Mr. Nathan Colosimo (Resident): Mr. Colosimo was present to address Council urging them to not adopt the proposed strict parking requirements along Chartiers Avenue and that the parking restrictions will only deter future developments. He stated many examples of how the Borough may not flourish should the strict parking restrictions pass.

Discussion:

**Approval of Bills:**

Borough Manager Pompey presented the list of bills for January 13 – February 19, 2021 which was provided to Council in their packets. Council had no questions on the bill list.

A motion was made by Councilman Mixer and second by Councilman Radoycis to pay the bills. Motion was adopted by acclamation.

**Disability Retirement of McKees Rocks Police Officer:**

Borough Solicitor Megan Turnbull presented the retirement of Erica Lennon due to a workplace injury several years ago. She has applied for a disability pension and will separate her from Borough employment effective December 30, 2020. Officer Lennon has met all standards for disability pension. A motion was made by Councilman Radoycis and second by Councilman Myers to thank Officer Lennon for her service to the Borough and accept the Application for Disability. Motion was adopted by acclamation.

**Zoning Ordinance 1330 Amendment, Section 5.501 Off- Street Parking - Resolution:**

A motion was made by Councilwoman Walker and second by Councilman Mixer. Councilwoman Delgado asked for a discussion before the vote. She pointed out that the Resolution will affect current commercial development and will change the possibility of future commercial development in McKees Rocks. Borough Solicitor Turnbull explained there are two parts to the motion: 1. Authorizes the draft of the Zoning Ordinance Amendment to be sent to the Planning Commission for review and starting the adoption process. It can still be amended and changed. 2. Authorizes the advertising of the pending Zoning Ordinance Amendment which allows the enforcement of the Amendment until its final adoption.

Councilman Radoycis acknowledged the parking issues within our community and suggested starting a Parking Authority Committee to address parking issues. President Brinza agreed and suggested a committee will be put together at a later date to deal with these issues.

Councilwoman Harvey agrees there are many issues with parking, but it needs much more discussion before this is voted on. A motion was made by Councilwoman Harvey and second by Councilwoman Delgado to table the amendment until next month. Roll call requested, resulting in 2 -7 vote with only Councilwomen Delgado and Harvey voting to table the Amendment until next month.

Councilwoman Delgado asked when would the Amendment go into effect. Solicitor Turnbull responded it will go into effect upon advertisement of the Amendment. Solicitor Turnbull did let the council know this is a compound Amendment and it can be split into two votes if Council wishes to do so.

Councilwoman Delgado made a motion to separate the Amendment to vote on each part separately with a second by Councilwoman Harvey. Roll call requested, resulting in 2-7 vote with only Councilwomen Delgado and Harvey voting to separate the motions into two.

The original motion was brought back to the floor for a roll call vote to approve the Zoning Ordinance 1330 Parking Amendment. Roll Call resulted in 7-2 with Councilwomen Delgado and Harvey voting against the motion. Motion carries.

**Sale of Borough Street Department Vehicle:**

Borough Solicitor Turnbull presented the interest to sell a vehicle no longer used by the Street Department. The vehicle in question is the blue dump truck. The sale would help to purchase a street brush needed by the Street Department.

A motion was made by President Brinza and second by Councilwoman Walker to accept sealed bids for the sale of the vehicle. A roll call vote was taken and the motion was passed by a vote of 9-0.

**RFP for Delinquent Tax Collection:**

Borough Solicitor Turnbull presented to put out a RFP for a new third party company to collect for delinquent Real Estate tax. The current company is Portnoff Law Associates, which has a three year contract and runs on an automatic renewal. Weiss, Burkardt, Kramer did give written notice to Portnoff this month that the automatic renewal will not take place this year. This is a professional service so it does not have to be legally bid and the Borough will have a much broader discretion to select the company of their choice. With May 2021 right around the corner, it is important to put the RFP out now and start interviewing in March.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Walker and second by Councilman Maritz. A roll call vote was taken and the motion passed 8-0. Councilwoman Delgado not present for the vote.

**Authorization to Initiate Litigation:**

Borough Solicitor Turnbull presented the use of a Special Legal Council to assist in the review and potential claim against ALCOSAN and their use of the Crivelli parking lot for excavation purposes and possible structure demolition. Special Legal Council has prepared an injunction petition to file on behalf of the Borough and its residents. Special Council is seeking approval to go ahead with the injunction petition.

A motion was made by Councilman Maritz and second by Councilman Mixter. A roll call vote was taken and the motion passed 8-0 with Councilwoman Delgado not present for the vote.

Vice-President Walker asked if a letter or notification can be sent to the residents to make them aware that the Borough is doing something. A motion was made by Councilman Radoycis and second by President Brinza.

Councilwoman Harvey asked what the cost would be to send letters to each household. She suggested using the website to advertise the letter. It was noted that a majority of residents don't use or are unable to access the website. Borough Manager Pompey brought up the possibility of sending the letter along with the bill from west View Water.

A roll call vote was taken and the motion passed 8-0. Councilwoman Delgado not present for the vote.

**Get-Go/VFW Subdivision Plan Approval:**

A motion was made by Councilman Mixter and second by Councilman Meyers to approve the Get-Go/VFW Subdivision Plan contingent on a County 30 day review and resolution of Borough Engineer comments. A roll call vote was taken and passed 8-0. Councilwoman Delgado not present for the vote.

**Press Release for RACP Grant:**

President Brinza requested a motion to generate a press-release regarding the \$1,000,000.00 RACP Grant the Borough of McKees Rocks was awarded. President Brinza and Council also requested the press release be uploaded to the borough website.

The motion was made by Councilman Mixer and second by Councilwoman Walker.  
A roll call vote was taken and passed 8-0. Councilwoman Delgado not present for the vote.

**COVID Cleaning of Borough Building:**

Councilman Maritz presented a plan to have the Borough Offices cleaned for COVID for a cost of \$3,700.

A motion was made by Councilman Mixer and second by Councilwoman Walker.

Councilwoman Harvey asked for clarification on the name of the company and what will be provided for the cost. Councilman Maritz stated this would include the Borough Office, Police Department, Fire Department and Street Department. This is a one-time cleaning. He will send the company information to council via email.

A roll call vote was taken and the motion passed 7-1 with Councilwoman Harvey opposed.  
Councilwoman Delgado not present for the vote.

**Other Discussions:**

A discussion was had to put Council Committee assignments on the agenda for March 2021 and discuss a Parking Commission/Authority possibility.

President Brinza recognized Ms. Taylor (resident) who suggested also generating a press-release about the ongoing issue with ALCOSAN.

Meeting adjourned, by Council President Brinza.