

McKees Rocks Borough
Virtual Public Meeting
April 14, 2020
7:00 PM

The virtual public meeting was called to order by President of Council, Mr. Paul Krisby. President Krisby requested roll call. Participating by phone included Vice-President Kathy Evich, Councilman Joe Mixter, Councilman Archie Brinza, Councilwoman Elizabeth Delgado, and Councilwoman Leslie Walker. Councilman Charles Maritz and Mayor John "Jack" Muhr participated as well (in person).

Also present for this meeting were Borough Manager Ruth A. Pompey, Assistant Borough Secretary LeeAnn Wozniak, Borough Solicitor Ms. Megan Turnbull, of Weiss Burkhardt Kramer, LLC, and Borough Engineer Mr. Douglas Evans, of NIRA Consulting Engineers, Inc. (by phone).

Councilman Craig Myers and Councilwoman Sarah Harvey were absent.

Agenda Comments/Changes: None

Guest Speaker: Ms. Kim Turnley, Certified Public Accountant was present via phone to give Council a brief presentation regarding the 2018 McKees Rocks Financial Audit Report. Ms. Turnley discussed that the borough had another positive audit for the second year in a row, commenting revenues exceeded expenditures again under Borough Manager Pompey's administration. Ms. Turnley mentioned due to COVID-19s current restrictions, 2019 audit procedures will be delayed and handled differently with municipalities for picking up documents, etc. to review.

Reading of the Minutes:

A motion was made by Councilman Maritz and seconded by Vice-President Evich to accept the public meeting minutes from the March 9, 2020 Caucus meeting. Motion was adopted by acclamation.

A motion was made by Councilman Maritz and seconded by and seconded by Councilwoman Walker to accept the March 10, 2020 Public meeting minutes. Motion was adopted by acclamation.

Committee Reports:

- McKees Rocks Police Department March 2020 Activity Report (Attached)
- McKees Rocks Independent Volunteer Fire Department – No Report
- Council Committees – No Report
- Council of Government (COG) – Councilwoman Delgado reported the COG meetings for March and April were canceled due to COVID-19 and the annual dinner has been moved to Fall 2020. All of the COG staff, except the part-time bookkeeper has been laid off.

Dentons Cohen & Grigsby, P.C.: A written summary was provided by Ms. Kim Hileman for Council to review for recent work between the Dentons Cohen & Grigsby Public Affairs Group (Dentons C&G) and McKees Rocks Borough for April 2020.

Mayors Report: Mayor Muhr mentioned if any garbage complaints are heard in the community, Waste Management will not pick up any bulk items right now such as mattresses/night stands, due to COVID-19

restrictions and all bags must be secured in cans as well. The Borough Street Department will not retrieve these items either, as it's a safety hazard for our employees as well. Mayor Muhr also has towed several cars recently along Island Avenue, where there is a car repair shop that an owner doesn't want cars parked down there on private property but cannot issue citations right now with court closed.

Communications:

- Borough Manager – Borough Manager Pompey provided Council with 1st quarter 2020 Profit & Loss Budget vs. Actual Report for review, as previously requested by Council. Councilwoman Delgado asked if the line item budget amount numbers showing could be broken down from annual amount into quarterly. Borough Manager indicated it's not the best year to do it, but she can in the future.
- Borough Engineer – Mr. Douglas Evans read the Capsule Engineer's Report and is requesting Council consideration to approve design and bid repairs for Singer, Clever, Pine Hollow Road sewer defects. Mr. Evans also noted that the dirt and gravel certification trainings discussed during March Council meeting have been canceled until further noticed due to COVID-19.
- Borough Solicitor – Ms. Megan Turnbull has no specific feedback for tonight's meeting other than tonight is the borough's first virtual public council meeting and to anticipate another virtual public council meeting next month as well.
- Building Code Official Monthly Activity Report (Attached)
- Code Enforcement Officer Monthly Activity Report (Attached)

Controllers Report: As of March 31, 2020, General Fund, both income and expenses have an annual budget of \$ 4,648,048.00. Expenses totaled \$ 989,477.72 or approximately 21.29 % of annual budget. Balance remaining of the annual budget is \$ 3,658, 570.28.
Balance remaining in the General Fund Checking Account is \$ 475,606.44 as of March 31, 2020.

As of March 31, 2020, Sewer Fund, both income and expenses have an annual budget of \$ 1,958,446.00. Expenses totaled \$ 552,320.78 or approximately 28.2 % of the annual budget. Balance remaining of the annual budget is \$ 1,406,125.22.
Balance remaining in the Sewer Fund Savings Account is \$ 377,222.57 as of March 31, 2020.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Walker and seconded by Vice-President Evich to accept the Controllers Report. Motion was adopted by acclamation.

Bills:

A motion was made by Councilman Mixter and seconded by Vice-President Evich to accept the bills. Motion was adopted by acclamation

Agenda:

1. A motion was made by Councilman Maritz and seconded by Vice-President Evich to authorize Borough Engineer to design and bid repairs for sewer segment repairs on Singer, Clever, and Pine Hollow Road. Motion was adopted by acclamation.
2. Borough Solicitor presented a Resolution to Council to consider accepting the donation of three (3) parcels of vacant land on Woodward Ave, owned by Francis M. Bobro and deceased wife Sara L. Bobro in lieu of delinquent real estate taxes. Borough Solicitor explained that she will assist Council in moving forward in the process of best interest of use of land, if they would adopt resolution. Councilwoman Delgado asked question if the school district or county could object. Borough

Solicitor commented only if Borough would try selling the land for profit in future. A motion was made by Councilwoman Walker and seconded by Vice-President Evich to accept Borough Resolution 6109. Motion was adopted by acclamation.

3. Councilman Brinza presented the idea to Council to revisit floating a bond for street paving, without raising taxes and/or applying for grants because there are several streets in all three wards that need re-paved and hot patch just doesn't work. President Krisby responded to Councilman Brinza's idea suggesting a motion to authorize Borough Manager to research information regarding floating a bond without raising taxes. Councilwoman Delgado commented that during the December 2019 meeting, Councilwoman Taylor already motioned to float a bond for street paving as well as tearing down abandon houses that Council passed if not mistaken. Borough Solicitor confirmed that Council did pass this motion as a new business agenda item, but Borough Solicitor confirms that floating a bond is a complicated, multi-step process that typically involves consulting with bond professionals, putting out an RFP, et al. Councilman Maritz feels floating a bond should not even be considered right now, as we are still pulling the Borough out of the negative financial status and we can't afford it. The Borough should be looking for grants. Mayor Muhr commented that he proposed years ago to raise property taxes (by 2 mil) for street paving and property demolitions (such as other municipalities have done) and it would have worked well by now.
4. Councilwoman Delgado presented the revised draft of the Animal Ordinance to Council referencing a change to Section 2 - C and is requesting Council consideration to move forward on advertisement of the Ordinance for adoption. Borough Solicitor commented typically Ordinances. aren't voted and enacted until Council can participate again in a live "public" meeting, due to the current COVID-19 virtual meeting restrictions. Borough Solicitor is suggesting: Motion to authorize advertisement of Animal Ordinance in the future, pending the next live public voting Council meeting. In the meantime, the drafted Animal Ordinance can be put on the Borough website for resident review/input. A motion was made by Councilwoman Delgado and seconded by Vice-President Evich to authorize future advertisement of the Animal Ordinance. Motion was adopted by acclamation.

New Business:

None

Old Business:

None

A motion was made by Councilman Maritz and seconded by Councilwoman Delgado to adjourn the business portion of the public meeting. Meeting was adjourned, by President Krisby.