

McKees Rocks Borough
Public Meeting
June 11, 2019
7:00 PM

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, Vice-President Evich, Council Craig Myers, Council Sarah Harvey, and Council Joe Mixter. Also present were Mayor John “Jack” Muhr, Borough Manager Ruth A. Pompey, and Administrative Assistant LeeAnn Wozniak. Mr. Douglas Evans from NIRA Consulting Engineers and Borough Solicitor Ms. Megan Turnbull, of Weiss Burkhardt Kramer, LLC were present. Council Gee and Controller Chambers were absent.

Agenda Comments/Changes: None

Guest Speaker:

(None)

Ms. Denise Zellous – We are a Village Community Day – Use of lot next to Hollowood and Furnace Street Closure – **NO SHOW**

Last Month’s Minutes:

A motion was made by Councilman Mixter and seconded by Councilman Myers to accept the public meeting minutes of May 14, 2019. Motion was adopted by acclamation.

Committee Reports:

- McKees Rocks Volunteer Fire Department May 2019 Activity Report – not available
- Chief of Police Richard Deliman read the monthly Activity Report from the McKees Rocks Police Department for May 2019. Chief Deliman reported a total of 808 events. There were 128 cases reported, 28 arrests, and 16 citations (8 traffic, 6 non-traffic, and 2 borough weight citations). Impounded vehicles 14. Total mileage on patrol vehicles 3,385. Total money submitted to the Borough Manager was \$4,401.55.

Council Committee Reports: Councilwoman Delgado, member of Communications Committee re-introduced the Resolution that was tabled two months ago stating that a member of the Communications Committee (such as herself) should have full administrator rights to the Borough website at all times. Councilwoman Delgado feels that its best practice to have two administrators of the website between Council and Administration, and the administrative staff is not keeping the website up to date at all times. Councilwoman Delgado pointed out that the website still does not have any information regarding animal control, opportunity zone, taxes, outdated blighted property information, et al. A motion was made by Councilwoman Delgado and seconded by Councilwoman Taylor to accept the Resolution stating a member of Council/Communications Committee have full administrative rights to the Borough website. President Krisby motioned to table the Resolution for further discussion at a later time, possibly in executive session this evening. Councilman Mixter second the motion to table. Roll call requested, resulting in 4 Yes (Mixter, Myers, Evich, Krisby), 4 No (Harvey, Taylor, Delgado, Moye). Mayor Muhr’s vote as tie breaker – Yes, to table the Resolution for further discussion. Motion carries.

Council of Government (COG): Councilwoman Delgado commented that the Borough recently received two grants from COG for the Maennerchor demolition project and Island Avenue sidewalk replacement project. Councilwoman Taylor just wanted to comment that Council needs to think about what grants to apply for annually because any amount not covered by the grant, the Borough is responsible for payment of balance.

Mayors Report: No Report

Public Affairs Report: A written public affairs update for June 2019 was provided by Ms. Kim Hileman, Cohen and Grigsby, P.C for Council review. Ms. Hileman was not present. Councilwoman Taylor expressed concern again that Council would like Ms. Hileman to start attending meetings, at least quarterly to discuss the work that she is doing to the public.

Borough Manager's Report: A written Borough Manager's report was provided to Council including details regarding the following: paying off 2019 TAN loan, current Waste Management collection bill, Tri-Star Motors quote 2019 Ford F-350 truck, and print-out from Borough Code 2014 indicating change in reserve fund from 5 % to 25 %. Councilwoman Taylor commented that Council is in agreement that Street Department is in need of a new truck, but to consider looking into electric vehicles and possibility of installing a charging station in the police bay, to be eco-friendly and save money for the Borough moving forward in order to use the money saved towards ideas of hiring police, etc. Councilwoman Taylor mentioned there is an upcoming webinar regarding municipalities installing electric stations and using electric vehicles, that the Borough should be interested in registering for. President Krisby said we would look into if Tri-Star provides electric trucks and cost.

Engineer's Report: A written Borough Engineer's Capsule report was provided to Council during last evening's Caucus meeting and all actions items are included on the Agenda for voting.

Solicitor's Report: Borough Solicitor commented that the Act 20 Ordinance, which will permit Jordan Tax Service to do delinquent billing for the Borough will be ready for consideration at the July meeting. The Borough also must update the garbage Ordinance, to go along with the current garbage billing model. Borough Solicitor mentioned that Council should consider authorizing advertisement of amending the current garbage Ordinance, and draft will be available for Council review in approximately two weeks. Vice-President Evich commented that residents in her area are complaining about missed garbage pick-ups and scattered trash being left behind. Borough Solicitor suggested that if Waste Management continues to have pick-up issues, the Borough will have to take some steps as the Borough is fronting the payment for service. President Krisby commented that this monthly payment was not included in the budget, and we must do our best efforts to get billing reimbursement and make sure Waste Management provides the service. A light duty policy has also been drafted and sent to Council for review. The next step would be to talk to the bargaining units to see their input, prior to Council's adoption. The light duty policy will be sent to the appropriate parties.

Controller's Report:

As of May 31, 2019 General Fund, both income and expenses have annual budget of \$3,883,598.00 Expenses totaled \$1,193,599.32 approximately 30.73 % of annual budget. Balance remaining in the annual budget is \$2,689,998.68. Balance in the General Fund Checking Account is \$529,825.38.

As of May 31, 2019 Sewer Fund, both income and expenses have an annual budget of \$1,773,996.00. Expenses totaled \$428,725.35 approximately 24.17 % of the annual budget. Balance remaining in the annual budget is \$ 1,345,270.65. Balance in the Sewer Fund Savings Account is \$ 638,515.45. A motion was made by Councilwoman Taylor and seconded by Councilman Myers to accept the Controller's 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 Councilwoman Taylor and seconded by Councilwoman Delgado to place a temporary stop-sign at 3rd Street/Grove Street, and authorize amendment to traffic ordinance. Motion was adopted by acclamation.
2. A motion was made by Councilwoman Harvey and seconded by Councilwoman Moye to approve payment in the amount of \$500.00 to ACA Engineering, Inc. for geotechnical cores of paving, in preparation of the Gardner Street Replacement Contract. Motion was adopted by acclamation.
3. A motion was made by Councilman Mixter and seconded by Councilman Myers to authorize Borough Engineer to prepare bidding documents for Year Three CCTV/cleaning of sewers anticipated cost of \$30,000.00.
4. A motion was made by Councilwoman Taylor and seconded by Councilman Myers to reject bid for Phase II Stair Replacement in anticipation of rebidding in 3 to 4 months. Motion was adopted by acclamation.
5. A motion was made by Councilwoman Taylor and seconded by President Krisby to award JG Contracting Company, Inc as the low responsible bidder for the Construction Remedial System at Chartiers Ave. Ext in the amount of \$305,060.00, pending final design approval by Engineer and traffic detour plan. Motion was adopted by acclamation.
6. A motion was made by Councilwoman Taylor and seconded by Councilman Myers and seconded by Councilman Myers to authorize sealed bid advertisement on the 2007 Crown Victoria police car. Motion was adopted by acclamation.
7. A motion was made by Councilman Myers and seconded by Councilwoman Taylor to accept Officer Pelkington's retirement as of 12:01 AM June 15, 2019. Motion was adopted by acclamation.
8. A motion was made by Councilwoman Taylor and seconded by Vice-President Evich to accept the updated 2019 Civil Service Rules and Regulations, as recommended by the Civil Service Commission. Motion was adopted by acclamation.
9. A motion was made by Councilwoman Taylor and seconded Vice-President Evich to accept the Borough's Prohibition on Harassment/Discrimination Policy. Motion was adopted by acclamation.
10. A motion was made by Councilwoman Taylor and seconded by Vice-President Evich to accept the Borough's procedure for Employee Harassment/Discrimination Complaints. Motion was adopted by acclamation.
11. A motion was made by Councilwoman Taylor and seconded by Vice-President Evich to accept Borough Employee Harassment/Discrimination form. Motion was adopted by acclamation.
12. A motion was made by Vice-President Evich and seconded by Councilman Mixter to advertise Borough Ordinance 1761, Hedges, Trees, and Shrubs pending review of changes recommended by Council. A motion was made by Councilwoman Taylor to table the advertisement until next month once Council has chance to review all changes in detail. Councilwoman Harvey second the motion to table. Roll call requested, resulting in 8 Yes – 0 No. Motion carries.

13. A motion was made by Councilwoman Taylor to table authorizing Borough Manager to order a pick-up truck for Street Department until further information is gathered regarding the availability and cost of electric vehicles. After discussion with Borough Manager regarding the time frame it takes to purchase truck being possibly two to three months, President Krisby second the motion to table the purchase of truck until next month to give Borough Manager time to look into electric vehicle information. Motion carries.
14. A motion was made by Councilwoman Taylor and seconded by Councilman Myers to accept donation of historical photos from Eat N Park, on behalf of the Historical Society's request. Motion was adopted by acclamation.
15. A motion was made by Councilwoman Taylor and seconded by Councilwoman Delgado to accept Designation of July as Park and Recreation Month. Motion was adopted by acclamation.
16. A motion was made by Councilwoman Taylor and seconded by Councilwoman Moyer to allocate \$100,000.00 from the CSX fund for property demolition in the future. Motion was adopted by acclamation.

New Business:

Councilwoman Taylor motioned to re-hire Steven Gilbert as of June 15, 2019 12:01 AM, after Tom Pelkington's retirement for full-time officer employment. Borough Solicitor suggested his re-hire status be contingent upon a minimum of passing a physical exam and psychological evaluation as well as updating employment application. Councilman Myers commented this needs to be discussed in the executive session as it's a personnel matter. Councilwoman Taylor agreed to discuss in executive session, and then re-convene for voting on this matter. Councilwoman Taylor then motioned to create an eligibility list to begin the process of hiring other possible full-time officers as soon as possible. Borough Solicitor advised the entire process can take three to four months and suggested Council asking the Civil Service Commission to expedite the process of starting the process of advertising for civil service testing so a list can be created. A motion was made by Councilwoman Taylor and seconded by Councilwoman Delgado to authorize the Civil Service Commission to create an eligibility list in an expedited manner, for potential hiring of other full-time officers. Motion was adopted by acclamation.

Regarding Borough Solicitor's suggestion earlier to update and advertise a new garbage Ordinance to go along with the new billing model, a motion was made by Councilwoman Taylor and seconded by Councilman Myers to authorize Borough Solicitor to draft an updated Ordinance for Council review at next month's meeting. Motion was adopted by acclamation.

Old Business:

Councilwoman Taylor brought up Councilwoman Harvey's request from last evening's meeting asking for up to \$500.00 be used from the parks and recreations fund for planned community activities during the month of July at Ranger's Field and 3rd Street Park for Parks and Recreation Month. Councilwoman Taylor indicated that the Borough Manager sent an email to Councilwoman Harvey saying that the parks and recreation funds are allocated in the budget for street lighting only, though Councilwoman Taylor states the Finance Committee never delegated parks and recreation funds to pay for street lighting. None the less, Councilwoman Taylor did calculations and stated that there should still be at least \$500.00 available after paying for street lighting to use for July's community activities. Councilwoman Taylor motioned to allow up to \$500.00 for planned activities such as healthy eating, arts/crafts, and yoga in the park followed by a second motion by Councilman Myers with the condition that all receipts are turned into the Borough Manager for activities and/or vendors used during the monthly park celebration. Motion was adopted by acclamation.

Councilwoman Taylor also brought up the concern that 708 Chartiers demolition project is still not complete and there is an understanding that the owners applied for an extension of the demolition permit, as per Building Inspector. Councilwoman Taylor is asking the Borough Solicitor if there is a way Council can enact a Borough Ordinance to supersede the extension and demand the final clean-up be done sooner. Mayor Muhr commented that all local Ordinances should supersede other Borough code laws, and the main issue is the sidewalk being blocked for safety reasons. Borough Solicitor understands that the Uniform Construction Code cannot be challenged, but the Borough can work on other ways to try and work with the owners to speed up the completion.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Taylor and seconded by President Krisby to adjourn the business portion of the meeting and break for an executive session to discuss personnel and/or legal matters. Business portion of meeting adjourned at 8:20 PM.

Council returned to the business portion of the meeting from the executive session at 9:00 PM.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Taylor and seconded by President Krisby to authorize a job offer to Steven Gilbert as a re-hire of full-time police officer, with Borough Manager's and Solicitor determination of wages/etc. based on seniority as of June 15, 2019 12:01 AM. Motion was adopted by acclamation.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Taylor and seconded by President Krisby to adjourn the meeting. Meeting adjourned.