

Borough of Pitcairn Council
Workshop/Business Combined Meeting
Minutes
August 16, 2021
6:00 pm

Meeting called to order – President Dona Galia
Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Roll Call:

John Bova
Kevin Dick
Debra Freeman
Dona Galia
Lisa Petrosky
Jim Rullo
Michael Tobias
Mayor Margaret Stevick
All Present.

Mrs. Galia announced Council held an Executive Session at 5:30 pm to discuss personnel and legal matters.

Mayor Stevick read a letter of commendation to new Eagle Scout Dominic DiFuccia of Troop 220 who was in attendance. The Mayor thanked him for his project, a Flag Retirement Ceremony Fire Pit. Kristin Parady and David DiFuccia announced that Boy Scout Troop 220 meets in Pitcairn at the Fire Hall, inviting new members. They offered to assist with any future community service projects.

Mr. Dick motioned to approve Minutes from Borough Council’s Combined Meeting on July 12, 2021. Seconded by Mr. Rullo; motion carried unanimously.

Citizen Comment

Deb Marto thought the Monroeville Dispatchers could use more sensitivity when residents call 911 for power outages. She was out of the area without cellular service and could only dial 911, attempted to have them contact the police but they told her to call the electric company.

Mayor Betsy Stevick

Pitcairn Police worked 257 calls in the month of July, collected \$400 in borough fines, \$561.27 from the State, \$628.64 from Magistrate, \$50.54 from County, and \$75.00 Quality of Life fines.

Mayor Stevick asked Council to approve a request for a handicap parking space at 646 Third Street. Mrs. Freeman motioned to approve. Seconded by Mr. Tobias; motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Stevick attended Camp B’s celebration of its 75th anniversary, adding that Mike Tobias was elected the new President. Mr. Tobias described the weekend and banquet at Seven Springs, naming several Camp B life members who were there to share memories.

Personnel – Dona Galia

Mrs. Galia announced everyone is invited to walk over to the Park Building after tonight’s Council Meeting, to attend the Allegheny Together Meeting with County Economic Development consultants who need your input for improving Broadway and bringing more businesses to Pitcairn.

Streets – Kevin Dick

Mr. Dick motioned to adopt Ordinance #1044, amending Ordinance #1010 regarding Street Openings as advertised. Seconded by Mr. Rullo; motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Dick motioned to approve lowest quote of \$13,000 from Scala Concrete, LLC, for concrete work in new Public Works garage at 299 Second Street. Seconded by Mr. Tobias; motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Dick motioned to authorize the Solicitor to draft an Ordinance regulating Jake Braking within the borough. Discussion took place. Seconded by Mr. Tobias; motion carried unanimously.

Discussion took place of possibly adding 13th Street to Center and Hillside Paving Program in response to numerous complaints from residents. Engineer Don Black estimated \$25,000 to mill 1 ½ inches, add that back from Highland to Brinton. He felt it needed milled to facilitate proper drainage, too deteriorated for a seal coat or shooting and chipping which requires solid base. Mr. Dick asked the timeline for Center. Mr. Black is meeting with the contractor this week, they predict in the next couple weeks to begin. Mr. Bova suggested the alley off Robinson which has often been discussed. **Council asked the Engineer to obtain the contractor's price for 13th and the alley behind Robinson.**

Parks and Recreation – Debra Freeman

Mrs. Freeman motioned to approve request for field and concession stand use by John and Kerri Josephic for September 18th from 12:00 noon to dusk. She described the activities, free meal, planned for children, adding their church group volunteers will clean up the area when finished. Seconded by Mr. Bova; motion carried unanimously.

Mrs. Freeman motioned to approve request for field and concession stand use by Tri Boro Co-Ed Softball League. Seconded by Mr. Bova. Question on the motion: Mr. Dick said CCAC is asking to lease the fields in the Fall for the next three years, for 3 or 4 nights a week, \$2,000 to \$3,000 over the length of the contract. Mr. Dick explained a film production will be upgrading and using CCAC's fields. Mr. Dick offered to ask the two groups to discuss coordinating when they want the fields. Mrs. Freeman motioned to table the motion. Seconded by Mr. Bova; motion carried unanimously.

Mrs. Freeman motioned to adopt Resolution establishing a vendor fee of \$25 for borough sponsored events. Seconded by Mr. Tobias. Mrs. Petrosky explained the Night Market vendors will be charged this amount to cover the cost of the banners and band. Motion carried unanimously.

Mrs. Freeman motioned to authorize the Solicitor to draft an Ordinance regulating food trucks in the borough including fees to be established from time to time by Resolution. Seconded by Mrs. Petrosky; motion carried unanimously.

Finance and Economic Development – Lisa Petrosky

Mrs. Petrosky motioned to pay bills as presented. Seconded by Mr. Tobias; motion carried unanimously.

Mrs. Petrosky invited Council, Mayor, and the public to attend the economic development session Tuesday, August 17th from 5:30 pm to 7:30 pm at the Borough Building. The consultants are asking for your ideas for future events to bring in foot traffic, the Borough's identity or 'brand', telecommuting and youth engagement. She also reminded everyone to support the Night Market Friday, September 24th, 6:00 pm to 9:00 pm, describing some of the participating vendors and crafters.

Mrs. Petrosky announced Council is in receipt of the 2020 Financial Statements.

Mrs. Petrosky motioned to remain with brokers MRM/Hub International for property and liability insurance. Seconded by Mr. Bova; motion carried unanimously.

Health and Welfare – Michael Tobias

Mr. Tobias motioned to resubmit property at 721/723 Kay Street for a demolition grant. Seconded by Mr. Bova; motion carried unanimously. Mr. Black explained the properties were not awarded a grant during a previous round.

Mr. Tobias motioned to request the Solicitor investigate the possibility of Port Authority of Allegheny County reviewing alignment of existing bus stops. Seconded by Mr. Dick; motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Tobias motioned to grant the Port Authority of Allegheny County permission to replace the transit shelter at Broadway and 2nd Street. Seconded by Mrs. Galia; motion carried unanimously.

Electric – Jack Bova

Mr. Bova led a discussion regarding the possible motion to purchase and finance a new Electric Department bucket truck, from Altec for \$147,569, CoStars pricing, and to finance the purchase through S and T Bank at \$2,199.68 a month. This assumes a \$25,000 down payment. Mr. Bova: we are still exploring the options of repairing the existing truck, purchase a used vehicle. They are gone as quickly as they are advertised.

Mr. Bova motioned to approve sale of old bucket truck when appropriate and reimburse the General Fund for the loan down payment. Seconded by Mr. Rullo; motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Bova motioned to approve the use of Thompson Electric for emergency back-up. Seconded by Mrs. Petrosky; motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Bova thanked the employees involved in restoring the electricity in the wake of the storms. He added we were at the mercy of DQE, we appreciate Pitcairn Power customers' patience. We are exploring other options to augment our crew.

Public Safety – Jim Rullo

Mr. Rullo reported Council is still in negotiations with Wilmerding Borough regarding possible contracting of policing.

Mr. Rullo motioned to approve request for up to 30 days unpaid leave of absence for Officer Stefan Lawson from August 2, 2021. Seconded by Mr. Bova; motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Rullo motioned to accept resignation of part time Officer Robert Castro. Seconded by Mrs. Petrosky; motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Rullo nominated Rick Kemerer for Civil Service Commission Alternate. Seconded by Mr. Bova; motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Rullo motioned to adopt Chapter 25 of the Pitcairn Police Department Manual, utilizing NIMS. Seconded by Mr. Tobias; motion carried unanimously.

Solicitor's Report

Matt Kalina had no additional items.

Engineer's Report

Don Black: unless Council has any questions from his Report, he had nothing to add to previous Agenda items.

Borough Manager's Report

Ms. Dietz read aloud the bank fund balances and summarized the Tax Collector monthly report.

Police Chief Report

Chief Farally reminded drivers of school bus safety and violations for not observing the law.

Mr. Dick asked Chief if he has enough manpower to resume beat walking patrol. Chief Farally and Mayor Stevick responded, yes.

Referencing the recent closing of Phil's Pharmacy and Phil's retirement after 52 years, Mrs. Galia thanked Phil for his years of service to the community; he did try to find another pharmacist to come to Pitcairn.

Mr. Rullo motioned to Adjourn at 6:50 pm. Seconded by Mrs. Petrosky; motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,
Annette Dietz