

Oklahoma Borough Meeting
May 13th, 2024 – 7:00 pm
Oklahoma Borough Building

Meeting called to order with the Pledge of Allegiance by President Joe Cali.

Roll call taken: Present: President Joe Cali, Vice President Adam Lockhart, Councilman John Knittel, Solicitor Tim Miller, Mr. Braun from Senate Engineering and Secretary Alecia Sherbondy.

Absent: Councilwoman Christine Emerick, Councilman Charles Blair, and Mayor Emerick.

Zoning/Code Enforcement Officer Brenda Troup arrived at 7:02 p.m.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF VISITORS: Joyce Spillers and Amy Blair – observe.

Danika Bracken would like to pay the rental fee to use the park pavilion on August 3rd for the Healing and Hope event. Council feels that Ms. Bracken should fill out the rental paperwork and submit payment like a regular rental.

Matthew and Stacy Borichevsky of 1662 Hancock Avenue asked questions regarding the revocation of their permit to install a fence.

Cedric Stopansky asked a general question regarding zoning/code enforcement.

Todd Sherbondy gave positive comments regarding Council and the code enforcement process.

Brian and Tracy Dudley asked questions regarding the creek in front 220 South Pine Street. Mr. Dudley feels that this creek belongs to the borough and should be changed to divert the water flow.

MINUTES: Motion made by Mr. Lockhart to adopt the minutes from the April Council Meeting. Second by Mr. Knittel. Motion carried.

SOLICITORS REPORT: The PSAB Solicitor Division Membership will be tabled until the June meeting.

Mr. Miller feels the issue with the deed for 1572 Hancock Avenue is a private issue and should be addressed with Westmoreland County.

The Supreme Court has accepted the appeal of the case regarding agenda amendments and are in the process of making a decision possibly by the end of summer.

The UCC ordinance was sent to the Department of Labor.

Motion made by Mr. Knittel to approve the Solicitor's report. Second by Mr. Lockhart. Motion carried.

ENGINEER'S REPORT: The bid opening for the CCTV project was held on Thursday, May 9th and four bids were received. The low bidder was State Pipe Services in the amount of \$95,075.00. L.S.S.E. recommends accepting the bid from State Pipe Services.

The salt shed project has been completed.

Motion made by Mr. Knittel to approve Mr. Braun to research 220 South Pine Street to determine whether or not the borough owns the stream in question by Mr. Dudley. Second by Mr. Lockhart. Motion carried.

Motion made by Mr. Lockhart to approve the Engineer's Report. Second by Mr. Knittel. Motion carried.

MAYOR'S REPORT: None.

ZONING/ORDINANCE ENFORCEMENT REPORT: Copies of the report were provided to Council.

Ms. Troup provided copies of the new forms to be used as an application for building or zoning permit and a survey waiver.

Motion made by Mr. Knittel to approve the Zoning/Code Officer's report. Second by Mr. Lockhart. Motion carried.

SECRETARY'S REPORT: The Secretary would like to purchase a two-drawer filing cabinet for zoning/code enforcement along with several other office supplies. Motion made by Mr. Lockhart to purchase a two-drawer filing cabinet and other office supplies. Second by Mr. Knittel. Motion carried.

The Best Buy Total Tech package and Microsoft Office has been renewed.

Youth Day was a success, and the kids completed several small jobs for the borough.

The borough's insurance policy will be up for renewal in August. The cost for adding towing to the vehicle would be approximately \$40 per year. This will be included in the upcoming quote.

Notification was received from Compass Minerals that the borough did not take their salt volume for 2023-2024. Two loads were ordered in May to meet the minimum allotment to avoid storage fees.

Motion made by Mr. Lockhart to approve the Secretary's report. Second by Mr. Knittel. Motion carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT: The bank reconciliation for the period ending 4/30/2024 is as follows:

General Fund - \$244,107.26

Sewer Fund - \$461,856.76

Liquid Fuels - \$61,330.15

Special Road Fund - \$210,194.85

Motion made by Mr. Knittel to approve the Treasurer's report. Second by Mr. Lockhart. Motion carried.

TAX COLLECTOR'S REPORT: The amount of taxes deposited in the month of April:

Wage - \$4,617.17

Real Estate - \$12,123.40

Per Capita - \$666.40

Motion made by Mr. Lockhart to approve the Tax Collector's report. Second by Mr. Knittel. Motion carried.

READING OF THE BILLS: Copies of the bills were provided to the Council and the Mayor. In addition, two invoices have been received from DeBernardo, Antoniono, McCabe & Davis, P.C. with a combined total of \$1,150.00 for legal expenses. Compass Minerals in the amount of \$1,946.53 for a load of road salt.

Motion made by Mr. Knittel to approve the bills. Second by Mr. Lockhart. Motion carried.

COMMUNICATIONS: The Medic 106 2024-2025 membership drive information was received.

The Westmoreland County Boroughs Association Dinner and a Meeting will be held on May 23rd.

Information regarding the tax sale of 1478 Hancock Avenue was received from Westmoreland County.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

STREETS/SEWERS/SOLID WASTE: Mr. Lockhart presented a list of streets to consider for the 2024 Paving Program.

Mr. Braun feels that the photos of the sewer cap at 1681 Hancock Avenue are sufficient. The structure was demolished, and the property owner had the sanitary sewer capped and would like to discontinue sewer fund payments.

Motion made by Mr. Lockhart to remove 1681 Hancock Avenue from the Sewer Fund. Second by Mr. Knittel. Motion carried.

FINANCE: None.

PARKS AND RECREATION: The Apollo Kiski Little League has not been using the field yet this season. The port-a-potty has been removed. Their insurance certificate was received.

PUBLIC SAFETY/STREET LIGHTS AND ORDINANCES: None.

HUMAN RESOURCES: Mr. Knittel provided Council with information regarding a retirement plan through First Commonwealth Bank via email.

The Human Resources Committee would like to have Council members email Mr. Mowers with a description of what needs done and ask how soon the task can be completed.

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT COORDINATOR REPORT: None.

PRESIDENTS REPORT: The borough truck would not start so President Cali had it towed to Tom's Auto Body in Apollo. Tom's Auto Body replaced the fuel pump and a corroded relay switch. Tom's Auto Body felt the truck looks worse than it is and will pass inspection.

OLD BUSINESS: Mr. Lockhart recommends purchasing a new truck for the borough. Mr. Knittel will talk to Mr. Mowers to obtain an updated quote.

Motion made by Mr. Knittel to approve the set-up of an employee retirement fund with First Commonwealth Bank matching employees up to 3%. Second by Mr. Lockhart. Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS: Motion made by Mr. Lockhart to have L.S.S.E. prepare a bid package for the 2024 Paving Project that will consist of Hemlock St (Hancock to Thorn), Maple Street (Hancock to Middle), Hickory Street (Hancock to Thorn), Oak Street (Hancock to Thorn), Pine Street (Hancock to Thorn) and Larch Street (Middle Thorn) and add an alternate of Hickory Street (Hancock to Thorn). Second by Mr. Knittel. Motion carried.

Motion made by Mr. Lockhart to accept the bid from State Pipe Services for the CCTV project in the amount of \$95,075.00. Second by Mr. Knittel. Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Cedric Stopansky and Danika Bracken voiced positive comments and thanked the Council for their service.

Motion made to adjourn by Mr. Lockhart. Second by Mr. Knittel. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 7:55 p.m.

Joseph Cali, President

Alecia Sherbondy, Secretary