

Borough of New Stanton
Borough Council
Via Teleconference
October 6, 2020
Minutes of Meeting

Attendance

Council members: Todd Bartlow, Joshua Bennett, Alex Brown, Linda Echard, Ray Strosko, Tom Theis, Edwina Zack and Mayor Scott Sistik. Also: Borough Engineer Emil Bove, Borough Solicitor John Campfield and Borough Manager Jeffrey McLaughlin. Guest: Rob Cammarata.

Call to Order

President Ray Strosko called the meeting to order at 5:30 PM.

Prayer

Jeff recited a prayer.

Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge was recited.

Approval of Bills

Tom made a motion seconded by Edina approving the bills in the amount of \$27,045.39. Motion passed unanimously.

Approval of Minutes of September 15, 2020 Meeting

Todd made a motion seconded by Josh to approve the September 15, 2020 meeting minutes. Motion passed with all voting in favor with the exception of Tom who abstained.

Guest

Rob Cammarata

Rob reviewed the Chief's Report. He stated that this is Fire Prevention Week. The fire department would typically visit the schools, but because of the pandemic they will participate virtually this year. They will, however, be doing some presentations in area churches and day cares. He stated that the 2021 KME truck has not hit the assembly line yet, so it may not be completed until March or April of 2021. He said that a local fire department was interested in the 1999 KME Rescue truck and asked about the process of selling the truck. After a review of the Borough Code, John said that the borough would still need to accept sealed bids or auction the truck. Jeff stated that no agreement has been signed with Fire Line Equipment because after the last meeting, John pointed out that in order to sell the truck, council would need to pass a resolution.

Opportunity for Public Comment -- Items Not on the Agenda

There was no public comment.

Council Additions to Agenda

Linda asked that the Christmas lights be added to the agenda.

Opportunity for Public Comment -- on Agenda Items Only

There were no comments.

Agenda

1. Review of Quotes and M/V to Award Cortland Drive Patching Project

Todd made a motion seconded by Josh to award the Cortland Drive Patching Project to Nagy Construction and Asphalt Paving in the amount of \$19,250. Motion passed unanimously.

2. M/V on Res 2020-953 to List 1999 KME Fire Truck with Fire Line Equipment

Todd made a motion seconded by Alex to table Resolution 2020-953 to list the 1999 KME Fire Truck with Fire Line Equipment. Motion passed unanimously.

3. M/V on Ord. 2020-270 to Increase the Indebtedness of New Stanton Borough to Purchase a 2021 KME Rescue Vehicle

Todd made a motion seconded by Tom to table Ordinance 2020-270 and readvertise the ordinance for consideration at the October 20, 2020 council meeting. Motion passed unanimously.

4. Need to Adopt Resolution to Apply for Westmoreland CARES Municipal Grant

Linda made a motion seconded by Edwina to submit the Westmoreland CARES Municipal Grant. Motion passed unanimously.

5. M/V on Weiss Lot Consolidation

Emil stated that this is a fairly routine lot consolidation with the exception of the fact the two lots are in different zoning districts, but that there is nothing in the borough ordinances that would prevent such a consolidation. They may have to have the property subdivided in the future if they decide to build something.

Tom made a motion seconded by Josh to approve the consolidation of parcel ID # 64-06-01-0-029 and 64-06-01-0-030. Motion passed unanimously.

6. Christmas Lights

Jeff said that Todd was very helpful in getting the pole numbers on which the lights would be installed. These numbers were needed for the attachment agreement that was signed with First Energy. First Energy calculated that the monthly cost to power the lights would be \$12-\$15 per month, or less than \$200 a year.

Todd said that the manner in which First Energy would install the system for the Christmas lights is almost proprietary because, unlike a private contractor, First Energy would not need to install a meter or additional poles. Jeff stated that getting additional poles and meters would definitely complicate the project because permission would be needed from private property owners for the meter poles to be located on their properties.

Linda made a motion seconded by Edwina to contract with First Energy to install the system necessary to power the Christmas lights on 20 poles on N. and S. Center Avenue in the amount of at a cost 20,223.92. Motion passed unanimously

Reports

Administrative

Planning Commission

No report.

Borough Manager

Jeff asked if anyone had any questions regarding his monthly written report that was included in the agenda packet.

John made a couple of comments on Jeff's report:

- He has to submit case law regarding the UPS Special Exception to the Zoning Hearing Board solicitor and the UPS attorney by Friday.
- We are still waiting on the Broadview Estates documents.

Todd stated that the Budget Committee held its first meeting earlier in the day.

Code Enforcement

Ray stated that that Scott's report was in the agenda packet.

Solicitor's Report

John said that in June the County Commissioners adopted an Integrated Water Resources Plan which provides a model ordinance that the municipalities need to adopt by the end of this year. John said that the codification will have to be gone through to see what changes will have to be made to accommodate the new ordinance. He stated that Westmoreland Conservation District representatives would be willing to aid the borough in the process.

Engineer's Report

Emil reported that:

- The priority is to get the stormwater ordinance adopted by the end of the year.

- He, John Barnes and Jeff met with Jim Pillsbury at the houses at the base of Shelton regarding the water problems that have been occurring there. Some of the effected homeowners attended the meeting. Jim Pillsbury gave the homeowners some recommendations and also asked them to take photos when it rains. John said he would drive around when it rains to check on the effectiveness of the catch basins in the area.
- He has the signed right-of-way agreements for the Arona Road Culvert and is working on submitting the request for an erosion and sediment control plan permit to the DEP
- The Shrader Hollow culvert pre-construction meeting is to be held on October 8th. KGD, the contractor, wants to begin shortly thereafter.
- Work has begun on installing the erosion and sediment control at Broadview Estates.

Fire Department Liaison

Josh said that he had nothing to add given that the chief read his report at the beginning of the meeting.

Council President

Ray said that he would bring up what he had to report under the Public Works Report.

Mayor

Scott did not have a report.

Personnel/HR

Linda did not have a report.

Public Works/MS4 & Parks

Ray said that we are waiting on the tractors which have been ordered.

Special Events

Josh did not have a report.

Building and Real Estate

Tom suggested that the borough should appeal the real estate tax assessment for the old borough building to make the property more appealing to prospective buyers. John said that September 1st was deadline for appealing the 2021 assessment.

Safety Committee

Jeff stated that the committee met in September and will be meeting in October.

Financial Report

Jeff reviewed the financial report through September 30, 2020: the total balance of all checking accounts was \$538,372.52. The total of all savings accounts was \$1,758,742.95 and the amount of taxes remitted from August 25, 2020 through September 30, 2020 was \$24,380.75.

Jeff stated that the audit was in the agenda packet and he just received the management letter which was e-mailed out. Jeff stated that the auditors were not available for this evening's meeting but he would check to see if they were available tonight.

Additional Opportunities for Public Comment

Linda expressed her appreciation for the copy of the Resolution that was presented to her that council adopted in honor of her husband, Mayor Ron Echard. She said that the wording of the resolution was beautiful as well as the presentation.

Announcements

There were no announcements.

Adjournment

Todd made a motion seconded by Alex to adjourn the meeting at 7:36 PM. There were no objections.

Respectfully submitted,

Jeffrey McLaughlin
Secretary