

Borough of New Stanton
Borough Council
Via Teleconference
Minutes of Meeting

Attendance

Council members: Todd Bartlow, Joshua Bennett, Linda Echard, Scott Sistik, Ray Strosko, and Mayor Ronald Echard. Also: Borough Manager Jeffrey McLaughlin. Absent: Councilmember Tom Theis. Guests: Alex Brown, Tom Smith, Denise Smyda, Dr. Mark Wells and Edwina Zack.

Call to Order

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

Prayer

Linda recited a prayer.

Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge was recited.

Approval of Minutes

Josh made a motion seconded by Josh to approve the minutes of the June 2, 2020 meeting. Motion passed unanimously.

Opportunity for Public Comment -- Items Not on the Agenda

There were none.

Council Additions to Agenda

Ray asked if there were any council additions to the agenda. He also asked since this was the second meeting of the month, and they are typically shorter, if there were any items that council wanted to defer until the next meeting. It was decided to defer items:

4. *Discussion Regarding Storage of Unused 2019-2020 Salt Allocation and Amount to Order for 2021*
5. *Comcast Proposal Regarding Internet at Park*
6. *Proposal to Install IP Phones in Borough Building*
7. *2020 Spartan Central Season Complete Seeking a Multiyear Lease*

Opportunity for Public Comment -- on Agenda Items Only

There were none.

Agenda

1. M/V to Adopt Res. 2020-947 Appointing a New Member to Council

Jeff reported that one of the candidates pulled his name from consideration citing personal reasons. The other candidates were asked to tell a little about themselves and why they wanted to be on council.

After the presentations, Linda made a motion seconded by Scott to adopt Resolution 2020-947 appointing Edwina Zack as a council member until January 3, 2022. Linda, Scott and Ray voted yes and Josh and Todd voted no. Motion carried.

The Mayor swore in Edwina Zack as council member and Ms. Zack took her position on council.

2. M/V to Renew UPS Use of Temporary Parking Lot

Todd made a motion seconded by Josh approving an accessory permit for UPS providing an additional 90 days beginning on July 8, 2020 for a temporary parking lot along Westinghouse Drive on Parcel ID 64-03-00-0-073. Motion passed unanimously.

3. M/V to Issue BT-NEWYO LLC an Extension on the UPS (Permanent) Parking Lot Land Development Plan

Todd made a motion seconded by Scott issuing a 120-day extension beginning on July 15, 2020 to BT-NEYO LLC for its Land Development Plan. Motion passed unanimously.

4. Discussion on Whether to Proceed with Yard Sale on Sept. 19th

Scott made a motion seconded by Linda to table a decision on whether to hold the New Stanton Yard Sale until the August 4, 2020 meeting. Motion passed unanimously.

5. Update on WCBA Meetings/Officers

Ray directed council's attention to the Westmoreland County Borough's Association flyer regarding changes to their upcoming schedule because of COVID-19.

6. Discussion Regarding Format of Future Meetings

Jeff stated that because of the uncertainty caused by the virus, council has been deciding on a month-to-month basis the format of the meetings which has resulted in higher advertising costs. He asked if council wanted to set the location for the meetings for more than one month.

Scott made a motion seconded by Josh to advertise all meetings (i.e., council, zoning, and planning) in August and September as being virtual. Motion passed unanimously.

7. Update on Shrader Hollow & Arona Road Culverts

Jeff updated council on the culvert projects:

Arona Road

- Emil is to meet representatives from the CWCTC on July 23rd to discuss one of the Right of Ways (ROW) needed for the culvert.

- Emil met with the executor of the Farlow estate who is okay with the ROW. He is now waiting on final approval of the location of the sanitary sewer line and getting the Farlow tap from MAWC.
- Emil will be submitting the permit application to the Westmoreland Conservation District and the DEP. It could take 6 months to get DEP approval

Shrader Hollow

- Emil was to meet with a neighboring property owner adjacent to the Shrader Hollow culver regarding the ROW. If they are okay with the ROW, Emil will have John draw up the agreement.
- Emil will ask Council at the August 4, 2020 meeting to pass a motion to advertise the bidding of the Shrader Hollow culvert project.

8. Discussion Regarding Fire Trucks

Jeff reviewed the proposed financing for the fire truck: the total cost is \$590,716 which will be paid for by \$200,000 down payment (council approved this at the previous meeting), a \$195,716 private loan and a \$195,000 PA VLAP loan.

Todd made a motion seconded by Josh to adopt Resolution 2020-948 to serve as the Guarantor of a \$200,000 VLAP loan from the PA State Office of the Fire Commissioner while the New Stanton Volunteer Fire Department serves as the Maker of the loan. Motion passed unanimously.

Linda made a motion seconded by Josh to advertise and seek loan proposals from private lenders in the amount of \$195,000 for a 15-year term with a fixed interest rate or a 15-year term loan with a 5-year reset. Motion passed unanimously.

Given the fact that the meeting was not taking as long as anticipated, Ray asked if council would like to review the balance of the items that were originally skipped over. Council agreed.

9. Comcast Proposal Regarding Internet at Park

Jeff reviewed the proposal from Comcast to install internet service at the park. The cost would be \$12,875.41 but Comcast would write the cost down by \$7,500.

Josh asked about the speed of the internet. After discussion it was decided to get more information and to bring it back to the next meeting for consideration.

10. Proposal to Install IP Phones in Borough Building

Jeff reviewed the Vonage/Major Solutions proposals. After discussion, it was decided to table the decision until the next meeting so as to get a proposal from Comcast.

11. 2020 Spartan Central Season Complete Seeking a Multiyear Lease

After discussion it was decided to table this item.

12. Discussion Regarding Storage of Unused 2019-2020 Salt Allocation and Amount to Order for 2021

Jeff reported that the borough ordered a minimum 270 tons of salt for the 2019-2020 winter. Even though this was lower than some of the previous orders, the borough only used 138 tons leaving a balance of 132 tons. The borough must either pay for the balance and have it delivered or pay storage fees amounting to approximately \$400 through December and \$400 a month thereafter. Because the borough's salt dome is currently full, it was decided to pay the storage fee and to buy the salt and have it delivered as soon as there is space in the salt dome. Jeff said that he ordered a minimum of only 60 tons for the 2020-2021 winter since the dome is full and we still have to purchase the balance of the 2019-2020 salt. Council was in agreement with paying for the storage on the undelivered salt.

Additional Opportunities for Public Comment

There were no additional public comments.

Announcements

There were no announcements.

Adjournment

Todd made a motion seconded by Josh to adjourn the meeting at 7:00 PM. There were no objections.

Respectfully submitted,

Jeffrey McLaughlin
Secretary