

Borough of New Stanton
Borough Council
New Stanton Council Chambers
July 6, 2021
Minutes of Meeting

Attendance

Council members:

Todd Bartlow, Joshua Bennett, Alex Brown, Linda Echard, Ray Strosko, Tom Theis and Edwina Zack. Absent: Mayor Scott Sistik.

Also in attendance: Borough Solicitor John Campfield, Borough Engineers Steve Eby and Kerry Bell, and Borough Manager Jeffrey McLaughlin.

Prayer

Linda recited a prayer.

Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge was recited.

Call to Order

President Ray Strosko called the regular July 5, 2021 council meeting to order at 5:31 PM.

Approval of Bills

Alex made a motion seconded by Todd to approve the bills in the amount of \$35,055.87. Motion passed unanimously.

Approval of Minutes of June 1, 2021 Meeting

Linda made a motion seconded by Todd to approve the June 1, 2021, meeting minutes. Motion passed unanimously.

Guests

Jeff introduced the guests that were present for the meeting. They were all in attendance for items on the agenda.

Opportunity for Public Comment -- Items Not on the Agenda

Tom Smith asked about the status of the park survey. Ray stated that the survey responses are still coming in. Jeff stated that about 50 have been received to date. Jeff stated that after the surveys are in, the borough can begin to prioritize and determine the cost of improvements.

Council Additions to Agenda

Linda asked that *Discussion Regarding Veteran's Day* be added to the agenda.

Opportunity for Public Comment -- on Agenda Items Only

There were no comments.

Agenda

1. M/V on Res. 2021-973: Regarding the Sale of the 1999 Kovatch (KME) Fire Truck

Alex made a motion seconded by Tom adopting Resolution 2021-973 selling the 1999 Kovatch Fire Truck to the Yukon and South Huntingdon Volunteer Fire Department. Motion passed unanimously.

Ray left the meeting to sign the papers necessary to transfer ownership of the fire truck. As Vice President, Linda ran the meeting.

2. Review of SunCap Traffic Study Comment Letter

Christopher Prisk spoke on behalf of Langan Engineers, the firm that did the traffic impact analysis for the SunCap property warehouse.

Council formed a committee to review SunCap's comments.

3. SunCap Land Development Application Received to be Reviewed by Planning Commission on July 14th

Jeff wanted to make council aware that the SunCap Property Group has submitted a Subdivision and Land Development Application that will be reviewed by the Planning Commission at its next meeting on July 14, 2021.

Ray returned to resume running the meeting.

4. Discussion Regarding Installation of a Flagpole in the Rachael Dr. Roundabout

There was a discussion about the installation of a flagpole in the Rachael Drive Roundabout. Jeff reported that he is awaiting a response from PennDOT as to whether a flagpole would be permitted.

5. Veterans' Day

Linda asked council if they would be interested in holding the Veterans' Day event again. There was a general agreement that it should be held.

Reports

Administrative

Planning Commission

Jeff reiterated that the SunCap warehouse will be on the agenda at the July 14, 2021 Planning Commission meeting.

Borough Manager

Jeff reviewed his report:

- The stimulus grant application has been submitted in the amount of \$215,618.58.
- The farmers' market typically has 4 vendors and 6 in dry conditions. They have had as few as 10 customers and as many as 40.
- The gas company is having their contractor pave the areas where new gas lines were installed.
- Major Solutions is scheduled to begin installing the park wi-fi during the week of July 12th.
- West Penn Power's is speaking with vendors to see if they can develop a sensor that will lengthen the number of hours the Christmas lights will stay lit.
- Safety Committee and Staff meetings were held on June 25, 2021.

Code Enforcement

No report.

Solicitor's Report

John reported that the developer submitted the estimate of the infrastructure work to be completed but has not given the borough a listing of what has been done to date, which is needed to sign the Sequestration of Funds agreement. John said he would resend the developer's and sequestration agreements. Jeff reported that the developer submitted the overweight truck application for Broadview Road.

John stated that the state has changed the sunshine law requiring that agendas be posted prior to meetings. John stated that the act will take effect 60 days from adoption.

Engineer's Report

Steve stated that they are getting up to speed reviewing drawings and doing on-site inspections.

Fire Department Liaison

Josh reviewed the report that was included in the agenda packet.

Council President

No report.

Mayor

No report.

Personnel/HR

Linda said that the Personnel Committee will be meeting to review the borough handbook.

Public Works/MS4 & Parks

Ray would like to look into leasing trucks. He has John checking on prices. Linda suggested that Public Works talk to the staff that handles vehicle leasing for Westmoreland County to see what their findings are.

Special Events

Josh followed up on Linda's comment, saying that the next event would be Veterans' Day.

Building and Real Estate

Linda had nothing new. Jeff reported that the owner of the old borough building contacted him about a water bill that was sent there. Jeff stated that he contacted MAWC and had it redirected to the borough address.

Linda stated that she spoke to a former congressman who said that there is no reason we cannot have the borough building address changed from a Hunker zip code to a New Stanton zip code and served by the New Stanton Post Office. The congressman suggested contacting Senator Casey. Alex said he would first try to contact Congressman Guy Reschenthaler.

Safety Committee

Jeff stated that the committee continues to meet monthly, participating in webinars put on the PA Department of Labor and Industry, which are recognized by the state Safety Committee certification process.

Finance Report

Todd reported that as of June 27, 2021, there was a checking balance of \$617,939.18; the total of all savings accounts was \$1,672,636.72 and the taxes remitted from May 28, 2021 through June 27, 2021 totaled \$23,827.78.

Ray mentioned that the Public Works crew is widening a section of Broadview Road to improve visibility.

Public Comment

Tom Smith stated that the company installing the gas lines did not do a very good job with replanting grass disturbed by the work. He also asked if the Public Works crew could give advance notice about closing Broadview Road. Ray said that they are not able to give much notice because closing the road is weather dependent. Todd stated that the Broadview Estates developer has also been closing the road.

Announcements

There were no announcements.

Adjournment

Todd made a motion seconded by Alex to adjourn the meeting at 6:53. There were no objections.

Respectfully submitted,

Jeffrey McLaughlin
Secretary