

Muncy Borough Council Meeting Minutes
November 7, 2017

The Muncy Borough Council met at its regular meeting at the Muncy Borough building with the following members present: President Richard Baker, Dana Bertin, Ed Feigles, Elaine McAleer, Karen Richards and Linda Stein. Mayor Jon Ort was present.

Staff/Borough Officials present: Solicitor, Chris Kenyon, Treasurer Jeff Sholtis, Borough Manager Bill Ramsey, Police Chief Jim Dorman, Fire Chief 39 Jim Michael and Fire Chief 1-39 Scott Delaney and Streets Department Worker, Rick Umpstead.

Guests: See Sign-In Sheet

President Baker called the meeting to order at 7:04pm, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

President Baker announced that there was an Executive Session immediately preceding this meeting to discuss Personnel and Legal Issues.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There were no public comments.

MINUTES

E. Feigles motioned to approve the minutes of the October 19th meeting, as presented. E. McAleer seconded and motion passed 6-0.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Muncy Resiliency Project Update

Floodplain Housing Remediation Program - Nothing to report.

Stormwater W. Penn and Sherman Street Update - E. Feigles reported that water appears to now be flowing correctly and not pooling causing flooding in residents' yards.

Wireless Ordinance

Solicitor Kenyon reported that Mike Roberts, representing the Cohen Law Group, is finalizing this ordinance.

Budget 2018

E. McAleer, Chairperson of the Finance Committee, reported that the committee is changing its recommendation on a .3mil tax increase and is now recommending a .5mil increase (or a 40% increase). This is the result of one police officer requesting insurance coverage for a family (more than one (1) person). Increasing the millage to 5.3mil from the previously recommended 5.1mil will generate an additional \$20,000 in real estate tax revenue. The current (2017) Real

Estate Tax Rate is 4.8mil. All other tax (Local Services Tax and Personal Income Tax) rates will remain the same.

E. Feigles motioned to advertise the 2018 budget with a 5.3mil real estate tax rate and to make the budget available for public review for the required 30-day period. D. Bertin seconded and motion passed 5-0.

Brelsford Motors Petition to Vacate an unopened alley

Mr. Brelsford has indicated that he will cover all costs associated with the request. Solicitor Kenyon will draft an Ordinance for Council's approval and subsequent advertisement.

Muncy Area Volunteer Fire Department Report

Chief Michael reported that the discussions between the Fire Company and the Borough regarding the combined usage and related charges for use of diesel fuel have concluded. The diesel fuel tank will belong to the Borough and the diesel fuel will belong to the Fire Company. Solicitor Kenyon will prepare a Memorandum of Understanding regarding this agreement.

Chiefs Michael and Delaney asked if there was any information regarding the real estate transaction for property located at 213 North Main Street and North Washington Street. At this point, the buyer needs to submit a completed zoning application with the appropriate fees paid so that a Zoning Hearing can be scheduled.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Treasurer Sholtis presented the Treasurer's Report.

CHECK DISBURSEMENT REPORT

General Fund - E. Feigles motioned to approve checks #5332 through 5387, four (4) Electronic Funds Transfers (EFT) and five (5) Debit Charges (DC) for a total of \$182,817.97. E. McAleer seconded and motion passed 6-0.

Liquid Fuels Fund - E. McAleer motioned to approve checks #143 and 144 for a total of \$6,425.00. E. Feigles seconded and motion passed 6-0.

Green Street Park Fund - K. Richards motioned to approve checks #1013 through 1016 for a total of \$10,638.96. E. Feigles seconded and motion passed 6-0. K. Richards commented that the Recreation Committee is awaiting information from HRG Engineering so that a budget can be prepared for this project.

Employee Health Deductible Reimbursement Fund - E. Feigles motioned to approve check #11 for a total of \$1,000. E. McAleer seconded and motion passed 6-0.

Shade Tree Fund - K. Richards motioned to approve check #220 for \$15.00. E. Feigles seconded and motion passed 6-0.

BANK BALANCES REPORT

E. McAleer motioned to approve the Bank Balances Report as submitted. E. Feigles seconded and motion passed 6-0.

NEW BUSINESS

Tilly Noviello's Resignation

E. Feigles motioned to accept T. Noviello's resignation effective November 7, 2017. E. McAleer seconded, noting that it was "with regret". Motion passed 6-0.

Curfew Ordinance

Based on a recommendation from Chief Dorman, E. Feigles motioned to direct the Borough Manager to amend the Curfew Ordinance, Section 134.1, Definitions to define a minor as any person less than eighteen (18) years of age and to advertise the amended Ordinance. E. McAleer seconded and motion passed 6-0.

Non-Uniform Grievance #2017-001

K. Richards motioned to deny Grievance #2017-001 and refer the matter to the Personnel Committee to provide a written response to the non-uniform employee within seven working days. R. Baker seconded and motion passed 6-0.

CORRESPONDENCE/ANNOUNCEMENTS

First Community Foundation Partnership

Betty Gilmour, Director of Grantmaking, informed Council that the Foundation has approved an award of \$9,000 to support the construction of an ADA complaint playground for Green Street Park from the Margaret Waldron Fund. This is in addition to the previously announced grant award of \$50,000 for the same purposes and from the same fund.

Muncy Public Library

The library sent a letter of appreciation for the 2017 stipend (\$4,500) as well as a request to be included in the 2018 budget.

BOROUGH REPORTS

Borough Manager - Nothing to report.

Solicitor - The Solicitor provided information on personnel and legal issues to Council during the Executive Session which occurred prior to the meeting.

Police Chief - For the month of October, the Chief reported 83 incidents and 52 citations. Of the citations issued, 48 were traffic, 3 were non-traffic and one was ordinance. Citations issued by officer were, as follows: Williams - 12, Delp - 18, Flewellling - 12 and Kontz - 6. Mileage on the three police vehicles were as follows: 2016 Ford - 1,395, 2009 Tahoe - 996 and 2013 Ford - 659 for a total of 3,050 miles.

Fire Chief - No report provided.

Tax Collector's Report - Through November 6, 2017, Real Estate Taxes collected were \$485,000 or 99% of the budgeted amount; Real Estate Transfer Taxes collected were \$18,289 or 91% of the budgeted amount; Earned Income Taxes were \$246,519 or 101% of the budgeted amount.

Excavation Permits - No report provided

Zoning/Building Codes Officer - Codes Inspection, Inc. issued one (1) Construction Permit to John Palmer, P.O. Box 2157, Reading, PA 14608 for property located at 98 Carpenter Street, Muncy. No description was provided. Total fee collected was \$314.00 of which \$10.00 was payable to the borough. Two (2) Certificates of Approval were issued. One was issued on October 4, 2017 to Andritz, 35 Sherman Street, Muncy for installation of 325 foot chain link fence which is 8 feet tall and includes a one man gate. One was issued on September 18, 2017 to Muncy School District, 206 Sherman Street, Muncy to demolish a residential property (home) located at 227 Pepper Street, Muncy.

Public Works, Streets Department Report - Assisted WBRA with installation of new sewer lateral and water service line at Green Street Park, worked with Lycoming County on the flood mapping project, attended LTAP Salt and Snow Management training, assisted WBRA on storm drain blockage repair work at the intersection of Sherman and W. Penn Street, ran street sweeper for two (2) days among other activities.

Commission Minutes

MBMA met on September 25, 2017 and approved payment of \$10,102,30 from the Water Fund and \$134,162 from the Construction Account.

WBRA met on September 13, 2017 and received public comment from Jeffrey Allen, PA Department of Community and Economic Development. Mr. Allen discussed the Opera House and the proposed Center for Excellence and creating a Most Resilient Community Model. The Center would be the repository of resiliency concepts for distribution to other communities. It could also encompass the Ritz Theater. Eric Moore recommended that WBRA accept the donation of this property to be held for 3 or 4 years while a non-profit Resiliency Foundation can be formed. Mr. Moore reported that based on a risk analysis performed by staff, the potential risk is limited and the potential reward is significant. C. Leonard motioned to accept the ownership of the Opera House contingent upon no spending, other than ordinary and necessary costs and insurances. Motion passed with six (6) ayes, one (1) nay with one member absent. In other business, as the quote for the Penn and Sherman Street project is more than \$20,000, it is required to be put out for bids. The project will be placed on the 2018 calendar.

Muncy Public Library met on September 12, 2017 and discussed the success of the summer reading program with 261 children and 186 adults registered. Fall offerings include math based programs for grades K-2nd grade and 3rd through 6th grades and an adult soft yoga class. The library will celebrate its 80th anniversary in 2018.

ADJOURNMENT

Having no further business to conduct, D. Bertin motioned to adjourn the meeting at 8:10 PM. E. McAlear seconded and motion passed 6-0.

Respectfully submitted,



Karen A. Richards
Assistant Secretary