

**MUNCY BOROUGH COUNCIL
MINUTES
November 21, 2019**

The meeting of the Muncy Borough Council was called to order in the Borough Council Chambers at 7:00 P.M. by President Ed Feigles. Followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Council Members present: Ed Feigles, Scott Delany, Rick Umpstead, Richard Baker, Dana Bertin, Linda Stein, Elaine McAleer, and Mayor Ort. Absent were: None.

Staff Present: Police Chief - James Dorman, Jeff Sholtis- Sec./Treas., Borough Manager – Dennis Holt, and Victor Marquardt- Zoning/Code Official.

Visitors: Gary Williams and Jeff Siverling, Shade Tree Commission. On a motion by Mr. Delany, seconded by Mr. Umpstead and carried, Council proclaimed April 24th, 2020 as “Arbor Day” supporting the shade tree program in the borough. Mr. Williams reported that the commission is planning to plant (37) trees on the old Tommy’s lot and (40) shade trees along various streets. Mr. Williams also noted that there will be some tree pruning done next month and requested that the Borough send a “stump removal letter” to 302 South Washington Street. On a Motion by M. Feigles, seconded by Mr. Umpstead and carried, Council appointed Mr. Eric Rodgers, 328 South Main Street to the Shade tree Commission, term expiring December 31, 2019.

The Council President noted that Abby Groover will be serving as a Junior Council Person from the High School and will be attending council meetings in the future.

Codes – Mr. Marquardt updated council on the compliance status of properties with code violations in the borough. It was the consensus of Council and the Mayor to follow through with all enforcement remedies available making it imperative that these properties are cleaned up. The Mayor suggested that CII, Inc. to develop a cyber status board that council would have access to. Mr. Marquardt also reported that he has sent notice to the property owner of 120 East Water Street regarding the emergency demolition of a (2) story barn that has collapsed. The Borough may proceed with demolition as of November 20, 2019. The Manager has contractors standing by in case the owner does not demolish the structure by Monday, November 25th.

Minutes:

October 17, 2019 – Mrs. McAleer noted that Council approved Forty-eight Thousand Dollars for the purchase of a new police vehicle not (~~Forty-six Thousand Dollars~~). On a motion by Ms. Stein, seconded by Mrs. McAleer, and carried, Council approved the October 17, 2019 minutes as corrected.

Treasurers Report : On a motion by Mrs. McAleer, seconded by Mr. Bertin and carried, Council authorized borrowing \$106,592.00 out of the Capital Improvement Fund to pay Cable Services for concrete work at Green Street Park; the fund to be reimbursed with grant funds.

On a motion by Mrs. McAleer, seconded by Mr. Delany and carried, Council approved the check disbursement list for October.

Old Business:

New Business: 2020 Proposed Budget – The Secretary/Treasurer presented a balanced budget to council with no tax increased necessary. The Budget includes: removal of water revenue from MBMA, wages for part-time Streets staff, wages for part-time Office staff, 9% health insurance increase, increased cost associated with increasing pension payout back to 2%, removal of wages and benefits of a full-time Streets Coordinator, and additional expenses for utilities and insurance associated with police the office relocation. On a motion by Mr. Bertin, seconded by Mr. Delany and carried, Council authorized the public advertising of the \$1.08 M Proposed Budget.

Police Coverage for Brady Township – Chief Dorman reported that the Mayor, Council President and himself have been contacted by Brady Twp. to consider offering police services to the Township. The Chief reviewed an estimated budget with Council. The budget includes funds for (2) new part-time officers, \$20,000.00 dedicated each year for a vehicle, while guaranteeing at least (150) hours of coverage per week. Estimated revenue is at \$141,000.00 per year. Council discussed the matter for some time. Mr. Delany moved to proceed forward with negotiating an agreement, Mr. Umpstead seconded the motion. The motion was carried with Mr. Feigles, Mr. Delany, Mr. Umpstead, Mr. Bertin, and Mrs. Stein voting for the motion; Mrs. McAleer, abstaining, and Mr. Baker voting against the motion.

Street Sweeper – Mr. Umpstead proposed purchasing a used street sweeper from Loyalsock Township in the amount of \$30,000.00. The sweeper is manufactured by “Global” and is (7) years old. On a motion by Mr. Umpstead, seconded by Mrs. McAleer and carried, Council authorized the purchase of the sweeper for \$30,000.00.

Water System: The Mayor followed up on an earlier discussion brought up by Mr. Baker and Mrs. McAleer regarding taking back the ownership of the water system from MBMA. It was noted that Council just received a termination notice from MBMA stopping financial and billing services as of December 31, 2019. Council members explored Council's options and discussed the matter for some time. It was suggested that the Solicitor explain the Authority/Council relationship and options that are available at the next meeting.

With no further business the meeting was adjourned at 8:40 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Dennis Holt
Council Secretary