

**MUNCY BOROUGH COUNCIL
MINUTES
October 17, 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 - J. Dorman, Borough Manger – Dennis Holt, and Fire Chief- James Michael.

Visitors: None.

Minutes:

October 01, 2019 – It was noted that the wrong date was typed and that it should be changed to October 01, 2019. On a motion by Mrs. McAleer, seconded by Mr. Delany, and carried, Council approved the August 15, 2019 minutes as corrected.

Old Business:

Seasonal snow plowing employees – Council discussed utilizing Mr. Delany and Mr. Umpstead on an as needed basis to assist in snow plowing. On a motion by Mrs. McAleer, seconded by Mr. Bertin, Council approved an hourly rate of \$14.00/Hour for Mr. Delany, with Mr. Delany abstaining.

Appoint Streets Coordinator – The manager reported that the Personnel Committee is recommending the appointment of a current employee, John Gramling at a hourly rate of \$17.00 per Hour, with a start date effective, January 01, 2020. The qualifications of the applicant were discussed, as well as a probationary period. On a motion by Ms. Stein, seconded by Mr. Bertin and carried, Council appointed Mr. Gramling to the position at \$17.00 per Hour, and subject to a (3) month probationary period, with Mr. Umpstead voting no, and Mrs. McAleer abstaining.

The manager recommended an increase in Mr. June’s pay rate because he will be assuming more responsibility and duties with the upcoming reduction in the work force. Council discussed the matter for some time. On a motion by Mr. Baker, seconded by Ms. Stein and carried, Council approved an increase in Mr. June’s wages to \$16.50 per hour, subject to satisfactory performance reviewed daily, with Mr. Umpstead voting no, and Ms. McAleer abstaining.

Non-Uniformed Pension Fund – Increase Benefit rate – The Manager reviewed the Actuarial Cost Estimate prepared by the Pension Plan Administrator, R.J. Hall Company, Inc. of Carlisle, Pennsylvania. The results of the study showed the estimated cost increase for two proposals: I – an increase of the Benefit Rate from (1.5%) to (1.75%),
II – an increase of the Benefit Rate from (1.5%) to (2.0%)

An increase of approximately Ten-Thousand Dollars, and Twenty-Thousand Dollars for Proposals I and II respectively in the annual Minimum Municipal Obligation cost. Council discussed the matter for some time weighing the long term affect on the plan and fairness to current long term employees. On a motion by Mrs. McAleer, seconded by Mr. Bertin, and carried, Council authorized the Pension Plan Administrator to prepare a Pension Amendment utilizing the (2.0%) Benefit Rate, with Mr. Umpstead abstaining, and Ms. Stein voting no.

New Business:

Ms. Stein recommended creating a special committee to continue developing Green Street Park projects such as lighting, gazebo, and landscaping. On a motion by Ms. Stein, seconded by Mr. Bertin and carried, Council appointed Mr. Baker, Mrs. McAleer, Ms. Richards, and Ms. Stein to the new committee.

ADA Parking space in Municipal lot – Mrs. McAleer recommended marking an ADA parking space in the Municipal/ Public parking lot. It was the consensus to have the Streets Department mark-out the ADA parking space.

Re-naming Green Street Park – Mrs. McAleer recommended that because of all the support the Borough has received from the Waldron Foundation for improvements of Green Street Park; that the park should be named for Margaret E. Waldron. On a motion by Mrs. McAleer, seconded by Ms. Stein and carried, Council re-named the park to “Margaret E. Waldron Park”.

School Crossing Guards – Chief Dorman recommended the hiring of (2) School crossing guards; Jeff Feigles and Ben June. On a motion by Mr. Umpstead, seconded by Mrs. McAleer and carried, Council authorized hiring the (2) crossing guards.

The Borough Manager reported that he would have a draft budget for Council to consider at the November 5th, 2109 Council meeting. The Borough Manager asked clarification from Council regarding his pay rate. Whether it should be “Hourly” or “Salaried”. It was the consensus of Council that the Borough Manager will be paid based on an annual salary. It was also the consensus that the Manager be compensated for any back-pay to make his salary whole for the year. Mrs. McAleer volunteered to help the Borough Secretary/Treasurer calculate the pay.

New Police vehicle – Chief Dorman recommended the purchase of a new vehicle for the police department. It would replace a vehicle that has 115,000 miles on it. The new vehicle would be a Chevrolet Tahoe at a total estimated cost estimated at Forty-eight Thousand Dollars. And, be purchased this year. On a motion by Mr. Umpstead, seconded by Mr. Bertin and carried, Council authorized the vehicle purchase.

With no further business the meeting was adjourned at 8:13 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Dennis Holt
Council Secretary