

MOUNTVILLE BOROUGH COUNCIL  
MEETING MINUTES  
March 11, 2019

A meeting of the Mountville Borough Council was held on Monday, March 11, 2019, beginning at 7:00 p.m. in the Mountville Borough Hall, 21 East Main Street, Mountville, PA.

The following Council members were present: Richard D. Spiegel, Harry L. Morgan, Council President Lenny D. Heisey, Christine D. Eshleman, Michael A. Trimble and Charlie Thomas. Council member Jesse Hersh and Mayor Philip S. Kresge were absent. Also attending were West Hempfield Township Police Chief Mark G. Pugliese, I, Mountville Fire Company #1 Chief Dean R. Gantz, Jr., Alissa Harrison and Michael Reiner of Sager, Swisher and Company, LLP and Pamela J. Mitchell, Secretary/Treasurer.

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Council President Lenny Heisey who gave an invocation and led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

L. Heisey recognized resident Jonah Eastep, 21 West Main Street at this time. Mr. Eastep's residence is across from "Square Mile Public House". It has come to his attention that the establishment is hoping to expand its seating/serving area to the patio area between the front entry and West Main Street. With increased business, the street parking which is already minimal will become more of a problem. In addition J. Eastep is concerned about noise levels increasing. L. Heisey reported that after conferring with the Borough Zoning Officer, the addition of patio seating would need to be addressed by the Borough Zoning Hearing Board. Any hearing that is scheduled would be advertised at the property as well as on the Borough Hall door including the time and date.

L. Heisey recognized Dave Rohm at this time. Mr. Rohm is a member of the Mountville Welfare Association (MWA) which contributes to financing the summer concert program and the fireworks display held at Froelich Park at the 4<sup>th</sup> of July. Mr. Rohm expressed the MWA's appreciation for the 2018 contribution made by Council to the concert series. Mr. Rohm reported that he had learned that Council intended to support the concert series again in 2019 as well as making a donation to offset the costs of the fireworks display. Mr. Rohm, on behalf of the MWA, thanked Borough Council for their willingness to help financially support these community events.

At this time, L. Heisey recognized Michael Reiner of Sager, Swisher and Company, LLP, auditors of the Borough's finances. M. Reiner introduced Alissa Harrison, lead auditor. M. Reiner then reviewed the audit report with Council. M. Trimble added that the process of appropriating funds to balance the budget was a procedure that Mountville was unfamiliar with, but now understands and will use if necessary in the future. M. Trimble also reported to Council that the cost to place a lien on a property with uncollected trash fees would be approximately \$121 per property. The outstanding trash accounts will be reviewed to determine which if any should have liens attached. With no further discussion, H. Morgan moved to accept the audit report, C. Eshleman seconded the motion. Council was in accord and the motion carried.

## **Standing Committee Reports**

### Public Safety – Police/Fire/EMS

Chair R. Spiegel recognized West Hempfield Township Police Chief Mark G. Pugliese, I at this time. Chief Pugliese reviewed the monthly report which included 111 calls, of which 57 were reportable. The report also included issuing 14 citations and two parking tickets.

Chief Pugliese proceeded to review the 2018 yearend report and thanked Council for the opportunity to work with them cooperatively for the past 10 years.

R. Spiegel thanked Chief Pugliese for the reports and for the years of service, adding that his leadership on the force has been commendable.

M. Pugliese noted that his final day will be April 2, 2019. Interviews are continuing for a replacement, all parties interested are from outside the current police staff.

Chair R. Spiegel next recognized Mountville Fire Company #1 Chief Dean R. Gantz, Jr. Chief Gantz reviewed the February report which includes 19 calls in February. Chief Gantz reviewed the 2018 yearend report with Council and read the opening letter into the record. (Please see the attached letter)

R. Spiegel asked if there are any significant changes from 2018. L. Heisey asked why there appear to be frequent calls for service heading westbound out of Mountville that are quickly cancelled, or reversed. There are frequent false alarms emanating from the Comfort Inn on Abel Drive in West Hempfield Township which account for many of those.

R. Spiegel noted that the Borough has received a compliance audit report from the Auditor General's office. D. Gantz in an overview reported that none of the five findings are insurmountable hurdles and all should be resolved by the April 29, 2019 deadline.

In the absence of a representative from Susquehanna Valley Emergency Medical Services, there was nothing new to report.

### Public Safety – Planning/Zoning

In the absence of Chair J. Hersh, L. Heisey reported that one building permit, two zoning permits and five certificates of occupancy were issued. The status of the two inoperable vehicles located at 2 East Main Street is still being resolved.

### General Government

Chair M. Trimble asked if the replacement of the Borough Hall flag pole is being pursued. Quotes will be obtained from different sources after the height of the current pole has been confirmed.

L. Heisey asked if anyone had given thought to the disposal of the old video equipment. Council was in consensus that if a local church or other community service provider could use the equipment it should be donated.

#### Public Works – Streets

Chair C. Thomas reported on a request from John Hess for the closure of Clay Street from College Avenue to Orkney Road for the summer concert series from June 2 through August 18, 2019, 6 – 9:30 p.m. With no objections from Council, C. Thomas moved to close the street during the requested dates and times. H. Morgan seconded the motion, Council was in accord and the motion carried.

C. Thomas reported there are ongoing concerns regarding running water in the Village Drive/East New Street area. C. Thomas is still doing research and will try to determine if the water is from diversion or simply runoff.

C. Eshleman noted that tractor trailers are turning left on East Hoover Street at the traffic light at College Avenue. They then reenter College Avenue from Locust Street. Staff will research to verify that the current “no trucks allowed” ordinance includes East Hoover Street. If included, the street will be posted.

Council received a request for handicap parking on East New Street. After review of the request, Council questioned the need for an on street parking space when there is a driveway available.

#### Public Works – Health/Sanitation

Chair H. Morgan had nothing new to report at this time.

#### Culture & Recreation

Chair C. Eshleman reported on a meeting she and Mayor Kresge held with Andrew Stern, West Hempfield Township manager and Jeff Book, Hempfield Area Recreation Commission (HARC) director. West Hempfield Township and HARC are creating an agreement that would have HARC maintaining all of the township parks for a yearly fee. At the time of the original planning, Lake Grubb Park was included in the program by West Hempfield Township as their staff maintains the park for half of the season. C. Eshleman again met with Andrew Stern and Christine Maser (HARC) today to further discuss the agreement that was entered into on March 5, 2019. The program would not cost the Borough anything beyond the liability insurance, electricity and any future capital improvements. The signed agreement is to end December 31, 2020 and would be reviewed and renewed if applicable at that time.

C. Thomas and R. Spiegel both expressed the need for more information and the reason that Mountville Borough is not listed in the agreement, but is expected to allow the park at Lake Grubb to be part of the agreement. After further discussion, M. Trimble asked if the solicitor should be contacted to review the agreement on behalf of the Borough. C. Eshleman will provide the documents to the Borough solicitor for his recommendation.

#### **Special Committee Reports**

##### Borough Hall Renovations Committee

There is nothing new to report at this time.

Personnel Committee

There is nothing to review this evening.

Old Business

There is no old business for this evening's meeting.

Mayor's Report

In the absence of Mayor Kresge, there is nothing new to report.

Secretary's Report

The secretary reported that the spring newsletter will be a six page edition as there were multiple articles that are usually not featured.

At 8:30 p.m. an Executive Session was called to discuss a personnel concern. Council reconvened at 8:48 p.m.

H. Morgan moved to cancel the meeting of March 25, 2019. C. Eshleman seconded the motion, Council was in accord and the motion carried.

With no further business, H. Morgan moved to adjourn at 8:49 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Pamela J. Mitchell  
Secretary/Treasurer

Gallery:

Jonah Eastep  
Stephanie Lavenberg  
Steve Mitchell  
Dave Rohm