

MOUNTVILLE BOROUGH COUNCIL
MEETING MINUTES
July 8, 2019

A meeting of the Mountville Borough Council was held on Monday, July 8, 2019, beginning at 7:00 p.m. in the Mountville Borough Hall, 21 East Main Street, Mountville, PA 17554.

The following Council members were present: Richard D. Spiegel, Jesse Hersh, Council President Lenny D. Heisey, Christine D. Eshleman and Charlie Thomas. Council members Harry Morgan and Michael Trimble were absent. Also attending were West Hempfield Township Police Chief Lisa Layden, Mountville Fire Company #1 Chief Dean R. Gantz, Jr., Mayor Philip S. Kresge and Pamela J. Mitchell, Secretary/Treasurer.

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

C. Thomas moved to accept the June 10, 2019 minutes as distributed. R. Spiegel seconded the motion, Council was in accord and the motion carried.

R. Spiegel moved to accept the financial reports and distribution of funds as presented. C. Eshleman seconded the motion, Council was in accord and the motion carried. Referencing the distribution of funds, C. Thomas asked about the "general consulting" fees and plan reviews on the invoicing from Rettew. There was a discussion on lowering our zoning, planning and engineering fees. A list of frequently asked questions should be available on our website to discourage phone calls from residents directly to the offices of Rettew.

L. Heisey recognized recently retired Crossing Guard Dave Schaeffer. Mayor Kresge presented D. Schaeffer with a certificate recognizing his service and thanked him for the time he spent as a school crossing guard.

The Lancaster Public Library representatives have asked to be rescheduled and placed on the August 12, 2019 Agenda.

L. Heisey recognized Paul Kline, 460 Huntington Drive, who requested that Council find the party responsible for the Summit Hills sign at the entrance of Huntington Drive from Sylvan Retreat Road. Mr. Kline presented two proposals for maintenance of the area from Andrew Musser of Manor Landscaping. Mayor Kresge asked if the landscaped area belongs to the Borough, if so the public works staff will be asked to do the maintenance. C. Thomas does not think that the Borough has any claim to the property. Upon finding the property owner, they will be asked to weed and maintain the sign area.

Diane Silverman, 604 Hillside Drive, also expressed her desire to see the sign area properly maintained.

Mr. Kline also requested for the installation of a stop sign at Huntington Drive and Hillside Drive with the intent of slowing the pace of traffic. Mr. Kline was informed that speed may not be controlled by the use of stop signs. If another stop sign is to be placed anywhere on Huntington Drive, it will need the

approval of PennDot. A traffic study by the state and a confirmed list of reportable accidents will be required.

West Hempfield Township Police will install an electronic speed monitor to make motorists more aware of the speed traveled and a traffic study will be conducted by the Township Police.

Standing Committee Reports

Public Safety – Police/Fire/EMS

Chair R. Spiegel recognized Chief L. Layden who reviewed the June report which included six offenses against family and children, which is out of the ordinary. All six incidents were separate and unrelated. The necessary funds have been raised to finish the updates to the Police Humvee which will be used for public events. National Night Out is confirmed for Tuesday, August 6, 2019 at Leisure Lanes. There will be multiple vendors and displays as well as a dunk tank.

Recently in the vicinity of Lockard Park a vehicle was struck by pellets from a gun. Mayor Kresge asked if patrols could check the park if it appears that there is a crowd congregating. Vector Security, which maintains the surveillance system at the Community Park, will be contacted to see if there are any options for security cameras at Lockard Park.

Chief Dean Gantz Jr. reported that he is back to work following his recuperation from an injury to his arm. Chief Gantz reviewed the June report which included 34 calls for the month with a total of 165 for the year.

Mayor Kresge noted that there were fireworks all through the Borough during the recent July 4th holiday and wondered if the Fire Company had any related responses, but there weren't any calls for service due to fireworks.

Chief Gantz reported that the yearly Fund Drive is in place with \$13,000 received in the first three weeks. The air packs purchased with grant funds will be used for training beginning something next month.

R. Spiegel reported that the Borough needs to participate in the Lancaster County Hazard Mitigation Plan and therefore made a motion to adopt Resolution 2019 – 1 which states that Mountville Borough will comply with the plan provided by Lancaster County. J. Hersh seconded the motion; Council was in accord and the motion carried.

R. Spiegel reported that a three year amendment to the existing agreement with West Hempfield Township for continued Police Service for 2020, 2021 and 2022 has been received and reviewed. With no questions or concerns from Council, R. Spiegel moved to approve the amendment which includes a 5% yearly increase. C. Eshleman seconded the motion, Council was in accord and the motion carried.

R. Spiegel noted that the traffic related to the June 29, 2019 fireworks display was handled well and the restricted parking to one side of South Pearl Street appeared to be an improvement over previous event parking.

In the absence of a representative of the Susquehanna Valley Emergency Medical Services (SVEMS), there was nothing new to report

Public Safety – Planning/Zoning

Chair J. Hersh reported that the June Zoning Officer's report has been received. The report included notice that a letter has been sent to the owner of an inoperable vehicle at 17 East Main Street and the continuing issue of inappropriate trash storage as well as a junked vehicle and high vegetation at 5 East Main Street. The Zoning Officer will issue a Notice of Violation if the situation at 5 East Main Street has not improved by the end of July.

There is an unclaimed street or alley to the south of Froelich Avenue with an entrance from Fridy Street. The vegetation has gotten out of control and J. Hersh will conduct a deed search to see who is responsible for the maintenance of the "alley". The Borough staff will maintain the area until an owner can be identified.

The Borough has received a request for financial security release for 26 and 28 West Hoover Street. As all criteria have been met, J. Hersh made a motion to release the remaining \$5,677.78. R. Spiegel seconded the motion, Council was in accord and the motion carried.

General Government

In the absence of Chair M. Trimble, L. Heisey reported that estimates for the replacement of smoke and CO2 detectors are not yet available.

Council has received notification that State Bill 321 was signed into law as Act 63 of 2019. This allows municipalities to opt out of allowing video gaming terminals (VGTs). R. Spiegel moved to adopt Resolution 2019 – 2, to opt out of allowing VGTs within the Borough limits.

Karl Smith, 234 Froelich Avenue, asked why Council objects to the use of VGTs and felt that the Borough residents should be given some input to the decision. L. Heisey noted that VGTs are primarily located in truck stops, none of which are located in Mountville Borough. The addition of VGTs would not have any positive outcome that would be recognized at this time. R. Spiegel remarked that Council members are elected to represent the residents and if the actions taken by Council are not found to be in the Borough residents best interest that should be reflected at the time elections are held. Chief L. Layden noted that the VGTs have been found to be connected to criminal activity and have a negative impact on the areas economics.

Karl Smith asked what the status of the Mountville Wallpaper Factory facility is. The building is falling down and has a negative effect on the surrounding neighborhood. The building is owned by the Federal Small Business Administration. Contact information will be researched.

L. Heisey reported that there is a property line discrepancy regarding Mountville Elementary School and land owned by Field of Screams. Rettew is investigating on behalf of West Hempfield Township and Mountville Borough.

Public Works – Streets

Chair C. Thomas reported that the battery housing on the backhoe is barely functional. An estimate of \$793.79 for parts to repair/replace the housing has been received. Borough staff will be able to do the repair. C. Thomas moved to purchase the required materials in the amount of \$793.79, J. Hersh seconded the motion. Council was in accord and the motion carried.

C. Thomas reported that there are low hanging branches over Borough streets that need to be trimmed back. C. Thomas will address this with the public works staff.

Employee, Dave Pott, requested the purchase of “No Parking Signs” to be used in cones for special events. C. Thomas will ask D. Pott for more specific information.

Public Works – Health & Sanitation

In the absence of Chair H. Morgan, there is nothing new to report.

Culture & Recreation

Chair C. Eshleman addressed the email received from Danielle Brennaman who has reserved the large pavilion for August 17, 2019 to be used as a fund raiser. Ms. Brennaman has requested permission to use live bands and other amplified music during the event. Following discussion by Council it was determined that making this allowance against the uses provided by the Ordinance would set a precedent for future requests and by consensus, Council decided to deny the request. C. Eshleman will address the request denial with the event planner.

Stephanie Lavenberg, Borough representative to the Hempfield Area Recreation Commission (HARC), reported that things are going well and requested input regarding the maintenance being provided at the Lake Grubb Park. The HARC Board Members are working on the vision, mission and core values of the Commission.

Mayor Kresge asked that the possibility of installing a security system at Lockard Park be investigated.

L. Heisey reported that the public works staff has addressed the storm drain and swale concerns in Lockard Park.

Steve Mitchell, 30 Park Avenue, asked if there is a plan in place to address the weeds growing at the curb throughout the Borough. The appearance is not pleasing and the weed and grass growth could lead to damaged street surfaces. C. Thomas will look into the total cost of training staff, licensing, insurance and purchasing the chemicals to spray the weeds. P. Kresge asked if an estimate could be obtained from Tomlinson Bomberger as they already provide weed maintenance in the parks. L. Heisey stated that he is aware of the use of propane torches for this type of weed control and will investigate the cost of that option.

Special Committee Reports

Borough Hall Renovations Committee

There is nothing new to address at this time.

Personnel Committee

There is nothing to address at this time.

Old Business

There is no old business for discussion.

Mayor's Report

Mayor Kresge reported that East Petersburg will no longer be responsible for the hiring of school crossing guards however the school district is considering using an outside firm to provide the service needed.

Secretary's Report

The Secretary had nothing to report.

Miscellaneous

With no unfinished business, C. Thomas moved to cancel the Council meeting scheduled for July 22, 2019. C. Eshleman seconded the motion. Council was in accord and the motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Pamela J. Mitchell
Secretary/Treasurer

Gallery:

Paul Kline
Steve Mitchell
Diane Silverman
Karl Smith