

**MOUNTVILLE BOROUGH COUNCIL**  
**MEETING MINUTES**  
January 11, 2021

A meeting of the Mountville Borough Council was held on Monday, January 11, 2021, beginning at 7:00 p.m. in the Mountville Borough Hall at 21 E. Main Street, Mountville, PA.

The following Council members participated: President Lenny D. Heisey, Vice President Christine D. Eshleman, Matthew Auker, Jonah Eastep, and Jesse Hersh. Also attending were West Hempfield Township Police Chief Lisa Layden, Mountville Fire Co #1 Chief Dean R. Gantz, and Borough Manager Mark G. Pugliese I.

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

C. Eshleman moved to accept the minutes of the December 14, 2020 meeting as distributed. J. Hersh seconded the motion, motion carried.

J. Hersh moved to accept the financial reports and fund distributions as presented. C. Eshleman seconded the motion, motion carried.

**Public Safety – Police/Fire**

Chair R. Spiegel was absent from the meeting, therefore President Heisey recognized West Hempfield Township Police Chief Lisa Layden who reviewed the December Report which had been previously distributed. Chief Layden advised that there were 51 calls for service in the month of December, ten (10) of which were UCR offenses and forty-one (41) non-criminal offenses. She explained that she is attempting to make the report self-explanatory and if there is anything that council wanted to see in the report or had questions, they were to let her know. No questions on the report.

Chief Layden further advised council that the department was participating in the “Blue Bleed Challenge” which is a challenge among police departments to give blood. Anyone going in to give blood at LGH can indicate that they are donating blood in the name of W. Hempfield PD.

President Heisey recognized Mountville Fire Co #1 Chief Dean Gantz. Chief Gantz asked if there were any questions on the report that has been previously distributed. No questions on the report.

Chief Gantz stated back in October council agreed to renew the contract for the generator at the Fire Station. He reviewed a list of items that needed repaired outside of the contract which the fire company will look at paying for items such as replacement of the battery.

Chief Gantz further reported on the 2020 Fund Drive. They received \$47,539 in donations. They had budgeted for \$50,000 in donations. There was a total of 515 donors which equates to a 20.5% return.

He also reported on some end of year projects that had taken place at the fire hall which included keyless entry system, replacing lighting with LED lights as well as motion detectors for lighting.

Chief Gantz reported that they were looking at a grant opportunity through “Assist to Firefighters” which opened last week but is only open for a 30-day period. They would like to apply for this grant to replace their radios and they would be going together with three other fire departments (Columbia, West Hempfield, & Hempfield) to submit the application. They are jointly looking at hiring a grant writer with an expected cost to be approximately \$500.00 per department and would like to ask the Borough to cover the cost of the grant writer. He further mentioned that this is a matching grant. C. Eshleman made a motion for Council to cover the grant writing costs up to \$500.00. J. Eastep seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Lastly, Chief Gantz provided Council with the Mountville Fire Company No. 1, 2020 Year End Report. Chief Gantz read the cover letter to council. J, Hersh thank the members of the fire company for the service and asked how the 2020 numbers compared to previous years. Chief Gantz stated that calls were down during the beginning of the year but then increase towards the end making the year pretty much average comparably. L. Heisey asked if training events were canceled due to the pandemic. Chief Gantz replied that initially events were canceled, especially large training events however, now things are somewhat back too normal. Local training is still available at the Training Center.

L. Heisey again thanked the members of the fire company for their service.

### **Public Safety – Planning/Zoning**

Chair J. Hersh reported that 3 permits were issued.

#2194	270 Orkney Rd	Garage Construction	\$284.60
#2198	128 West Main Street	Concrete Pad	\$ 95.00
#2199	86 Spring Street	Privacy Fence	\$ 35.00

The Mountville Planning Commission did not meet as there was nothing new for review.

J. Hersh reported that he was still working with the Zoning Officer on the Rental Property ordinance reference fee schedules and verbiage.

Chair J. Hersh reviewed the service agreement with RETTEW for 2021. He mentioned that the rates were inline with 2020 and that the language pertaining to overtime was standard language although he can not think of when or why we would be paying them overtime. J. Hersh made a motion to approve the service agreement and retain RETTEW. Motion seconded by J. Eastep. Motion carried.

Following the vote there was discussion as to where John Schick’s rate fall into the service agreement. M. Pugliese will follow-up with Sam Meckley.

### **General Government**

Chair C. Eshleman asked Borough Manager, M. Pugliese, to update Council on the 2020 budget numbers. M. Pugliese reported that while the numbers are pre-audit numbers, revenue was up for 2020 and expenses were down leaving the 2020 budget with a surplus of almost \$100,000.

C. Eshleman reported that the 2021 meeting times, days, and locations were properly advertised as required in the LNP on January 10, 2021.

C. Eshleman further reported that our accounting firm of Sager, Swisher and Company, LLP, has offered to complete the Boroughs 1099's for 2020 as part of their yearly audit process. C. Eshleman made a motion for Sager, Swisher and Company for complete and file the Boroughs 1099 forms for 2020. J. Hersh seconded the motion, motion carried.

Lastly, C. Eshleman discussed a new copier/printer. M. Pugliese stated that last month council approved the purchase of a new printer to replace the copier at a cost of \$1,050.00. Subsequently, M. Pugliese had discussions with the salesperson from Toshiba Business Solutions and learned that the quote received was not for a multi-function printer as requested. Therefore, a second quote has been received for two multi-functioning printers at a cost of \$1,790.00 for the Lexmark XC4240 and \$2,150 for the Lexmark XC4143. Both would include service contracts. C. Eshleman made a motion to purchase the Lexmark XC4240 at a cost of \$1,790.00. Seconded by J. Eastep, motion carried.

### **Public Works – Streets**

Chair M. Auker provided an update to council on the new streetlight that is to be installed on Clay Street in that it is still scheduled for a January 18<sup>th</sup> installation.

M. Auker reviewed the invoices from DH Funk's for the services during the December snowstorm. Invoices were for \$4,312.50 for the state roads and \$2,420.00 for the sections of the Borough roads. M. Pugliese indicated that the state did provide the Borough with the full agreement amount in the contract and did not prorate it as expected. He further mentioned that DH Funks did do an good job on the state roadways however the concern is that the monies provided by the state would only cover one more significant snow event. Council directed the manager to contact Funk's and advise that the borough would cover all ice events on state roads. It was mentioned that there is a savings to the Borough since Main Street is being plowed properly that we do not have to go back and hire DH Funk's to clear the sidewalks.

M. Pugliese further mentioned that he felt that the Borough's Public Works staff did a good job during the snow event as well. We received few complaints and he only had to contact 4 residents in reference to clearing their sidewalks.

M. Auker then presented Council with the draft ordinance prepared by the Borough's solicitor for the "All-Way" stop intersection at Hoover and N. Manor Streets. M. Auker made a motion to advertise the ordinance for action at the next Borough Council meeting. C. Eshleman seconded the motion, motion carried.

With regards to Main and Manor Streets upgrades, M. Auker reiterated that the one pole supporting the intersection light is owned by Century Link and he and the manager are still waiting to hear back from them with regards to upgrading the light on that pole as well as the possibilities of installing a temporary second hanging intersection light. The louvers for east bound traffic signals at Main St. and College Ave. are still tentatively scheduled for the end of this month although Signal Services has not provided any updates. M. Auker reviewed other options that had previously been discussed however, no action was taken at this time. M. Auker advised that he would be having discussion with S. Meckley reference to applying for grants for the upgrade to the Main & Manor Streets intersection.

Lastly, M. Auker discussed estimates from DH Funks to repair the backhoe that is part of public works equipment. Costs for repairs was between \$3,200 & \$4,000.00. M. Pugliese reported that according to Dave Potts, Public Works, the

backhoe has never been serviced since he's been employed by the Borough. Council directed the manager to attempt to obtain additional quotes.

### **Public Works – Health/Sanitation**

Chair H. Morgan was absent. M. Pugliese reported that he had been in contact with an individual to fill the vacant Sewage Enforcement Officer position but the individual has not replied to any emails or phone calls. M. Pugliese will continue to look for a replacement but reminded Council that the last time the borough needed the services of a Sewage Enforcement Officer was in 2012.

L. Heisey requested that a sign be purchased to be placed in the area of the cardboard recycling dumpster to notify residents of its location. M. Pugliese will see that this is accomplished.

### **Parks & Recreation**

Chair J. Eastep reported that Mountville is still in need of an individual to serve on the Hempfield Area Recreation Commission (HARC) Board. A notice went out to our neighborhood distribution email notification list as well as being posted on our website. Additionally, Andrew Stern, Twp. Manager for W. Hempfield, and Jeff Book, HARC Executive Director, have been attempting to recruit J. Eastep to fill the vacancy as elected officials from other municipalities currently fill their respective municipalities positions.

J. Eastep reviewed proposal from Tomlinson Bomberger reference to weed control for the parks in the amount of \$3,875.74 for 2021. He mentioned that there is a 3% discount of \$116.26 if the Borough approves the agreement before Feb 26, 2021. J. Eastep made a motion to approve the contract with Tomlinson Bomberger with the 3% discount in the amount of \$3,759.48 for 2021. J. Hersh seconded the motion, motion carried.

### **Old Business**

L. Heisey advised that council had approved the purchase of an iPad for Pam Mitchell as a retirement gift from the Borough. The iPad has been ordered and is expected to arrive on or before Jan 18, 2021.

### **Mayor's Report**

Mayor was absent, no report.

### **Manager's Report**

M. Pugliese discussed the controlled substance ordinance that was presented to council at their November meeting. He asked that Council advise if they were still interested in discussing this or would like it removed from the agenda. He again mentioned that he was neutral on such an ordinance however, he feels that there would be the benefit in that this is the same ordinance that was passed by W. Hempfield Twp. and he would like to see consistency across municipal jurisdictions for the police department. When asked for additional thoughts, M. Pugliese stated that marijuana is still a federal controlled substance and having been found guilty of possession would prohibit and individual from certain

rights or privileges such as the purchase of a firearm. However, should a younger person be found guilty of an offense, then this would stay on their record and follow them forever and may prevent them from obtaining certain jobs, etc. Chief Layden mentioned that should there be other factors such as having larger quantities of marijuana, the individual would still be charged criminally rather than under the ordinance and that an individual can only be charged three times under the ordinance and subsequent violations would be criminal offenses. She further indicated that Manor Twp. has had an ordinance in place for some time now and have noticed an increase in prosecutions for individuals possessing a small amount of marijuana.

Several Council members indicated that they may be in favor of such an ordinance but would like to re-read the proposed ordinance. L. Heisey requested that the manager resend the ordinance to council members and action will be taken at the next Council meeting.

M. Pugliese then distributed a memorandum from Kara Kalupson, RETTEW, that indicated that the Borough was in line to receive two grants for the completion of the Dry Extended Detention Basin/Constructed Wetland Project for Spring Hill Park. Each grant is for \$200,000.00. M. Pugliese stated that he will be working with K. Kalupson in completing all the requirements and necessary documentation to obtain the grants. More information to follow.

#### **Personnel Committee**

L. Heisey reported that the Personnel Committee is scheduled to meet on Wednesday, January 13, 2021 at 8:00 am in the Borough Hall.

#### **Miscellaneous**

J. Hersh made a motion to cancel the January 25, 2021 meeting. J. Eastep seconded the motion. Council was in accord and the motion carried.

With no further business, J. Hersh moved to adjourn at 8:46 p.m. Meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

**Mark G. Pugliese I**  
Secretary/Treasurer

#### **Gallery:**

Steve Mitchell  
Rochelle Shenk