

MOUNTVILLE BOROUGH COUNCIL
MEETING MINUTES
February 8, 2021

A meeting of the Mountville Borough Council was held on Monday, February 8, 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, Richard Spiegel, and Jesse Hersh. Also attending were West Hempfield Township Police Chief Lisa Layden, Mountville Fire Co #1 Deputy Chief Andrew Kalbach, Zoning Officer Sam Meckley, 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 January 11, 2021 meeting as distributed. R. Spiegel seconded the motion, Council was in accord and the motion carried.

R. Spiegel moved to accept the financial reports and fund distributions as presented. C. Eshleman seconded the motion. Council was in accord and the motion carried.

Public Safety – Police/Fire

Chair R. Spiegel recognized West Hempfield Township Police Chief Lisa Layden who reviewed the January 2021 report which had been previously distributed. Chief Layden advised that there were 55 calls for service in the month of January. Chief Layden advised that the year-end report should be completed in time for the March meeting.

Chair R. Spiegel recognized Mountville Fire Co #1 Deputy Chief A. Kalbach. Deputy Chief Kalbach reported that there were 62 calls for the month of January. Volunteers put in a total of 63 hours for emergency calls.

Deputy Chief Kalbach reported that they are moving forward with the grant opportunity to replace the department radios as explained by Chief Gantz at the January meeting. He thanked Council for paying \$500.00 towards the cost of the grant writer.

Finally, Deputy Chief Kalbach advised that the fire company was planning on having the Mountville Days Carnival as in previous years in May but will be able to adapt should they need to due to the pandemic.

Public Safety – Planning/Zoning

Chair J. Hersh reported that 2 permits were issued.

#2200	99 Spring Hill Lane	400 sq ft deck	\$264.50
#2201	170 East Main Street	177 linear feet of fencing	\$ 35.40

The Mountville Planning Commission had nothing new for review.

Chair reported that Randy Geissler, a resident of the East Main Street has submitted a resume to fill the vacant position on the Planning Commission. J. Hersh made a motion to appoint Randy Geissler to a 5-year term on the Mountville Borough Planning commission. C. Eshleman seconded the motion, Motion carried.

If reference to the "Rental Property Ordinance", J. Hersh stated that he was reluctant to act on this ordinance now with the issues revolving around the pandemic and the ability of inspectors to actually inspect properties. He related that the original issue that Council was trying to resolve was the health and safety of the residents and properties. There was discussion in reference to doing an ordinance in parts and/or establishing the ordinance but have it become effective at some time in the future. Ordinance tabled for the time being while the committee chair continues to work on verbiage.

General Government

Chair C. Eshleman advised Council that 2021 is a municipal election year and that there are several positions up for election. These include Mayor, three (3) Council positions and tax collector. Proper paperwork has been submitted to the County.

Chair advised Council that the Lancaster County Board of Elections has asked to use the Borough Hall for both the spring and fall elections. C. Eshleman made a motion to authorize Mark Pugliese, Borough Manager, to complete the associated paperwork and agreement with the County to utilize the Borough Hall as a polling place. R. Spiegel seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Chair advised Council that the Mountville Community Service Foundation has requested that Council consider a donation to the Foundation to assist in covering the cost of the annual fireworks display that is scheduled for July 3rd this year. C. Eshleman advised that there is \$2,000 in the budget earmarked for the fireworks display. C. Eshleman made a motion to donate \$2,000 to the Mountville Community Service Foundation to assist in covering the cost of this year's fireworks display. M. Auker seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Chair advised that the new printer has been installed and is up and running.

Chair recognized Mike Gieniec from the Mountville VFW to discuss an initiative that they have been discussing. Mr. Gieniec advised Council that the VFW will not be sponsoring the Memorial Day Parade again this year due to the pandemic. Instead, they have been discussing funding a "Hometown Heroes" initiative which would entail hanging of banners from the utility poles throughout the Borough with photos and information about veterans. They are still putting together information on this but wanted to ensure that Council would not be opposed. There was discussion around taking down the current banners and replacing them with the veteran banners, rotating the veteran and Borough banners, or adding new banners throughout the Borough. Council was not opposed to the idea and asked that Mr. Gieniec work with the Borough Manager.

Lastly, C. Eshleman reported that the auditors were here and we should be receiving their report in the next month or so.

Public Works – Streets

Chair M. Auker reported that the new streetlight on Clay Street has been installed and that he received an email from the resident that requested the additional light thanking Council for acting on her request.

Chair wished to discuss any recent bills from DH Funks in reference to snow removal however the manager indicated that no recent invoices have been received, C. Eshleman asked how the Borough was being compensated by PennDOT for the snow removal of the state roads. It was explained that the State has already paid the Borough a lump sum as stated in the agreement. However, this fee is based upon a 5-year average of snow fall and related costs. There is a provision within the agreement that if the snowfall exceeds the 5-year average, the Borough may be entitled to additional compensation. M. Auker asked the manager to follow up on this.

C. Eshleman mentioned that everyone was doing a great job with snow removal this year. M. Auker echoed her comments complimenting the public works staff. Beth Hess, member of the gallery, thanked Council for signing the agreement with PennDOT and managing the state roads as she has not been getting the snow plowed back onto her sidewalks as she has in past years.

Chair advised council that the Borough Solicitor missed the cut-off date set by LNP to properly advertise the “All Way Stop” intersection for Hoover and N. Manor Streets. Ordinance discussion and adoption tabled until the March 8th meeting.

With regards to Main and Manor Streets upgrades, M. Auker reiterated that there is no update from Signal Services as to when the louvers will be installed at Main Street and College Ave. The manager has made several attempts to narrow down a timetable but all have been unsuccessful.

Chair asked Sam Meckley, Zoning Officer, for guidance on the ARLE Grant for the intersection of Main & Manor Street. S. Meckley advised that the grant usually runs through June with awards being announced in September. He was asked about the cost to have RETTEW complete the grant application and he advised that he would be able to get some pricing together and submit it to Council. L. Heisey asked if the Borough could start working on the intersection and get reimbursed for monies spent. S. Meckley reported that typically this can not be done. S. Meckley was further asked if RETTEW would be acting as construction manager for the project and if so, would that be above the previously submitted cost estimates. He indicated that it would be an additional expense.

Chair discussed the upcoming Borough paving projects set for 2021 and turned the meeting over to S. Meckley to discuss the proposed bid packets. S. Meckley reviewed the bid packet documents prepared by RETTEW for Fridy Street from Commerce Drive to Railroad and for Bridge Street from East Main Street to East New Street. The documents consisted of Preliminary Project Schedule, Probable Construction Cost Opinion, and Contract Documents. S. Meckley advised that the schedule is based upon the project being awarded at the March 8, 2021 Council meeting however, there is a little room for adjustments. The cost opinion comes in at approximately \$179,300. The project would be advertised in LNP and they will be utilizing “PENNBID” as the forum for contractors submitting documents, questions, and bids.

M. Auker again asked a question about a construction manager to which S. Meckley replied that that has not been discussed yet but RETTEW would charge by the hour. M. Auker asked if there would be monthly draws. Again, S. Meckley stated that has yet to be determined and could be spelled out by the contractors bidding on the project.

S. Meckley did advise Council that there will be some traffic interruption during the project which was to be expected.

There was general discussion as to when Commerce Street would be repaved but no determination was made.

M. Auker made a motion to authorize RETTEW to proceed with the advertising of the 2021 Roadway Projects as defined in the Contract Documents dated February 2021 as presented. C. Eshleman seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Chair discussed the repairs needed for the backhoe. No additional estimates were obtained due to the inclement weather and the need to utilize the equipment. Issue tabled until next meeting.

Public Works – Health/Sanitation

Chair H. Morgan was absent. M. Pugliese reported that there is still a need to fill the vacant Sewage Enforcement Officer position and that he is contacting other municipalities.

M. Pugliese requested that Council suspend the collection of late fees for trash collection due to interruptions in the US Postal system as well as the current pandemic. C. Eshleman made a motion to suspend the collection of late fees for the 2021 trash billing cycle. Seconded by R. Spiegel. Motion carried.

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. Staff will once again attempt to utilize social media and the website to find a volunteer.

Chair discussed the current condition of the “woodworks playground” and the ongoing needed repairs. There may be a grant opportunity available through the Lancaster County Redevelopment Authority that would have a minimum of a 20% matching in funds by the Borough. Chair stated that the manager would need to submit a letter of interest by February 26, 2021 if council would like to consider replacing either a section or all of the woodwork’s playground. There was general discussion that the playground could be replaced in phases.

Steve Mitchell, member of the gallery, advised that he helped build the current playground and that money could be solicited from area businesses. He also encouraged council to look at some of the playgrounds in neighboring communities.

Council authorized the manager to proceed with sending a letter of intent to the LCRDA.

Old Business

L. Heisey advised council that the iPad that was authorized as a retirement gift for Pam Mitchell has been received and was given to Pam. He also mentioned that the "Those Who Served" plaque has had the names of Susan Wile and Pamela Mitchell etched on it.

M. Pugliese mentioned that a sign has been installed at the cardboard recycling dumpster at the VFW Memorial Park as Council had requested.

Mayor's Report

Mayor was absent; however, he asked the Borough Manager to discuss the placement of portable restroom facilities at the borough parks as well as asked the Mountville Community Service Foundation to place one at Froelich Park. An estimate was received at a cost of \$120.00 per month per unit. After some discussion, Council asked if the manager could obtain an approximate cost of making the current comfort station at the Borough Park a year-round facility.

Manager's Report

M. Pugliese discussed the controlled substance ordinance that was presented to council at their November meeting. Council did their due diligence in discussing the issues relevant to the pros and cons of having such an ordinance and whether such an ordinance would encourage or discourage the use of marijuana. Council agreed to table this for 3 to 4 months until more information could be gathered.

M. Pugliese asked Council to re-institute a Building Committee as there are numerous items around Borough Hall that need addressed with some being more concerning than others.

M. Pugliese did discuss two quotes for termite control that included \$2,000 from Kirchner's Pest Control and \$3,180 from Ehrlich. M. Pugliese attempted to get a third quote from Tomlinson Bomberger but they indicated that the damage to the building was old and they would rather wait until spring to see if there is any live activity at that time. Council agreed to wait until spring prior to taking any action.

Upgrades to the current building were discussed and a committee of C. Eshleman, J. Hersh and M. Aufer was established.

Personnel Committee

L. Heisey reported that the Personnel Committee met on Wednesday, January 13, 2021 at 8:00 am in the Borough Hall. They discussed changes to the Borough's leave policy which included three weeks' vacation after five years of continuous service and four weeks' vacation after twelve years of continuous service. The committee further discussed an additional incentive program of allowing employees to receive a buy-out of a portion of unused sick time. Council reviewed a graph submitted by the manager who had garnered information from other municipalities. Council wished to table this until the next meeting giving them the opportunity to review it in more detail.

Miscellaneous

R. Spiegel made a motion to cancel the February 22, 2021 meeting. J. Eastep seconded the motion, motion carried.

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

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'MP', written in a cursive style.

MARK G. PUGLIESE
Secretary/Treasurer

Gallery:

Steve Mitchell
Michael Gieniec
Beth Hess