

BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
THURSDAY, AUGUST 8, 2019
7:00 PM
COUNCIL CHAMBERS

CALL TO ORDER: This meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM by President Joseph A. Pompa.

PRESENT: A quorum was present including members of Council as follows: Joseph A. Pompa; Patrick Plummer; Jeffrey Ketner; Mark L. Shawley; and Brady Leahey. Others in attendance: Borough Manager Jim Gehret; Borough Secretary Patricia J. Duron; Attorney Nathan Karn, Building Code Official Gerald Harbison, Director of Community Relations & Events Katrina Pope, Fire Marshal David Zeek and Sgt. William Sheehan . Councilwoman Joyce Lowe and Chief Estep were absent.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: President Pompa led the Pledge of Allegiance followed by a moment of silence.

MINUTES: The minutes dated July 11, 2019 were presented for approval. A motion was made by Mr. Shawley to approve the minutes, and was then seconded by Mr. Plummer. A vote was taken with the motion carrying in a vote of six votes to zero votes.

MANAGER'S REPORT: Mr. Gehret reported that his manager's report was in their agendas and that he had nothing more to report.

FINANCIAL REPORT: Mr. Gehret advised that there was nothing new to report in the financials.

PLANNING/ZONING/CODE ENFORCEMENT: Gerald (Jerry) Harbison advised that his report was in their agenda binders. He also advised that the Zoning Hearing board will meet on August 14th to hear two appeals for zoning variances.

COMMUNITY RELATIONS & EVENTS: Katrina advised of upcoming Borough events including an August 15th Downtown LIVE! Concert featuring a night time Farmers Market.

MAYOR'S REPORT: The Mayor asked for Council's support for the purchase of a steel door and bullet proof, tinted glass window in the police department on the first floor of the municipal building. He was advised to get some price quotes.

FIRE MARSHAL REPORT: Dave Zeek was not in attendance.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Richard Latker, 703 Allegheny Street, Hollidaysburg Watch Dog: advised that this organization

will be moving into a physical office on Allegheny Street; spoke negatively about the Presbyterian Sr. Living facility's request that will be before the Zoning Hearing Board, advising that his group will consider suing if the request is granted, spoke negatively about the Borough Solicitor, and about Section 508 of the Zoning Ordinance.

Bill Vanetta, 816 Montgomery Street: spoke about property next door to his address on Montgomery Street that is vacant and neglected.

William Helsel, 314 Garber Street: spoke negatively about the same property on Montgomery Street.

Robert Schaeffer, 606 Blair Street: spoke positively about plans that PENNDOT now has for water runoff near his home.

Regis Nale, 210 Jackson Street: spoke about parking signs in Gaysport that should be removed as they are no longer needed and should be changed to allow parking, and about changing the parking to both sides of Beaver Street.

OPEN AGENDA:

Mark Shawley: The bullet proof window, etc. for the police department should be added to the next agenda.

Sean Burke: Traffic Code amendments to be considered for the parking signs, etc. in Gaysport.

Mayor: The bullet proof window, etc. for the police department should be added to the next agenda. Support for a letter to the Blair County Commissioners about the police department investigating crimes at the prison.

RESOLUTION NO. 2019-19, CONSENT AGENDA: Resolution no. 2019-18, Consent Agenda, approves Bill List # 8 in the amount of \$99,938. A motion to approve Resolution No. 2019-19 was made by Mr. Ketner and was seconded by Mr. Shawley. A vote was taken with the motion carrying, six votes to zero votes.

DISCUSSION: COMPREHENSIVE PLAN: Councilman Burke advised that this item could be left on the agenda until next month.

DISCUSSION: CHOOSE CDBG PROJECT: Trina Illig, Blair County CDBG Coordinator was there to discuss the project for the 2019 CDBG application. A motion was made by Mr. Burke to apply to use the funds for housing rehabilitation. Mr. Leahey seconded the motion and all were in favor, the motion carried, six votes to zero votes.

DISCUSSION: PURCHASE OF THE FORMER METHODIST CHURCH ON ALLEGHENY

STREET: Mayor Dodson had suggested at a previous Council Meeting that the Borough purchase 500 Allegheny Street, which is currently owned by the HDD Group. The group discussed an engineer's report regarding cost for razing and building a parking lot as well as the asking price for the former church. It was suggested that the owner may donate it to the Borough. Mr. Gehret and Mayor Dodson will contact the owner regarding this possibility.

INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT FOR 911 ADDRESSING: Blair County has proposed an intergovernmental agreement so that the county may manage 911 addressing for municipalities. Borough Council was asked to consider their participation with this management agreement. A motion was made by Mr. Leahey to enter into this agreement and adopt a subsequent ordinance. This motion was seconded by Mr. Plummer. All present voted in favor. The motion carried, six votes to zero votes.

ADJOURN: President Pompa adjourned the meeting at 7:45 PM.

Patricia J. Duron
Borough Secretary