



BOROUGH OF DORMONT

**REGULAR MEETING OF THE DORMONT BOROUGH COUNCIL
HELD ON MONDAY, DECEMBER 7, 2015 7:00PM
IN THE DORMONT MUNICIPAL CENTER COUNCIL CHAMBERS**

Vice Council President Hodson called the Meeting of the Dormont Borough Council to order.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ROLL CALL

The following members of Council responded to roll call:

Onnie Costanzo, Jeff Fabus, Drew Lehman, John Maggio, Val Martino, Joan Hodson

Also present: Borough Manager Ben Estell
Borough Solicitor John Rushford
Mayor Phil Ross
Engineer Wayne McVicar

COMMENTS FROM THE MAYOR

(Nothing on the tape)

SWEARING IN OF JUNIOR COUNCILPERSON

Mayor Ross swore in the new Junior Councilperson Dana Nardozi.

COUNCIL COMMITTEE REPORTS

Finance and Legal: Costanzo stated that there is not a deficit. The budget looks good; currently there is a balance of over \$900,000.00. Costanzo thanked Bill McCartney for all of his hard work while on council.

Community Affairs/Recreation: Fabus stated that Cookies with Santa went well. The Holiday Decorating

Property, Supplies and Planning: Martino thanked everyone for the past four years as she served on council.

Public Safety/Service:

REGISTERED COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

COUNCIL PRESIDENT REPORT

Hodson stated that council needs to add a motion to the agenda to accept the resignation of Bill McCartney.

BOROUGH MANAGER'S REPORT

Estell stated that he has met with a number of businesses over the past month. He briefly went over the rest of his monthly report.

Estell gave a detailed overview of the 2016 Budget: software and hardware updates, new police officer, paid fire chief, personnel costs, rental from 1st floor (Lifespan moved out), Engineer fees for stormwater and sewer issues, HVAC at the Recreation Center, Potomac Avenue, Police Replacement Cruiser. The Sewer Fund will significant changes this year.

Seth Davis RE: TOD fees in the budget

Bob Palmieri, 2737 Espy Avenue RE: garbage fees and the budget

Estell briefly discussed the agenda. The resignation of Sergeant James Burke is effective 2019; he will go into the DROP Plan for 3 years starting February 2016.

COUNCIL POSITION VACANCY

Motion by Hodson, second by Costanzo to accept the resignation of Willard McCartney from Borough Council. Motion carried 6-0.

Hodson stated that there were two people interested in the position, Matthew Hamilton and Bob Palmieri. Hamilton could not be present tonight.

Palmieri gave a brief summary of interest in the position and his background.

Lehman gave a brief summary of Hamilton's background and interest in the position.

Maggio spoke briefly about Hamilton.

HODSON OPENED THE FLOOR FOR NOMINATIONS

Motion by Lehman, second by Maggio to nominate Mr. Hamilton.

Motion by Costanzo, second by Martino to nominate Mr. Palmieri.

Roll call: Martino, Palmieri; Maggio, Hamilton; Lehman, Hamilton; Fabus, Palmieri; Costanzo, Palmieri; Hodson, Palmieri. Motion carried 4-2 for Palmieri to replace McCartney.

SWEARING IN OF COUNCILPERSON

Ross swore in Robert Palmieri to the council position. (The Solicitor had to step out for a few minutes)

Fire Chief Jeff Arnold thanked everyone for their donation to the FD or PD for the Toys for Tots drive.

Fabus stated that the VFW donated of 6 ½ bags of Teddy Bears; 3 bags went to the FD drive and 3 ½ bags went to the KO bus drivers drive.

Ross thanked the FD for all their efforts for the Annual Christmas Parade. He also thanked the Recreation Board and staff for all their hard work for Cookies with Santa and Light up Dormont at the Recreation Center.

Fabus thanked the Hollywood Theater for the free movie after the parade.

The Solicitor returned.

CONSENT AGENDA

Motion by Costanzo, second by Fabus to accept the Consent Agenda Items A, B, C, D, E, F, G, (A. Motion to approve the written report of the Solicitor; B. Motion to approve the written reports of the Borough Officials; C. Motion to approve the Minutes of the November 2, 2015; D. Motion to approve the Warrant List for November, 2015; E. Motion to approve the nomination of Silvia Palmieri to the Cable Television Board; F. Motion to accept the recommendation of the Engineer to approve quote from Keystone Consultants Inc., in the amount of \$3,800.00, for physical and topographic survey of Potomac Avenue, from West Liberty Avenue to Espy Avenue; G. Motion to accept the recommendation of the Manager to accept the resignation of Sergeant James P. Burke from the Borough of Dormont Police Department, effective February 1, 2019). Motion carried 7-0; Fabus abstained from item G, Burke is his Brother-in-Law, and Palmieri abstained from item E, Sylvia Palmieri is his wife.

PUBLIC HEARING

Hodson opened the Public Hearing regarding the TMDL.

Wayne McVicar gave a description of the TMDL Strategy Plan. Lauren Smathers from Kelton Avenue, who is on the Stormwater Committee, spoke briefly.

Seth Davis, 3061 Latonia Avenue RE: discussed ways to decrease impervious areas.

Gary Young, 2800 Philadelphia Avenue RE: rain barrels and roof runoff.

Palmieri had questions for McVicar regarding the makeup of Dormont soil.

Hodson closed the Public Hearing regarding the TMDL.

ACTION ITEMS

Motion by Costanzo, second by Martino to approve Total Maximum Daily Load Strategy Plan.

Public Comment:

Council Discussion:

Motion carried 7-0.

Motion by Costanzo, second by Martino to approve a Resolution of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection Consent Order and Agreement.

Public Comment:

Council Discussion:

Motion carried 7-0.

Motion by Costanzo, second by Fabus to approve Ordinance #1612, Levying an Ad Valorem Real Estate Tax and Fixing the Tax Rate for Fiscal Year 2016.

Public Comment:

Council Discussion:

Roll Call: Martino, no; Maggio, no; Lehman, no; Costanzo, no; Palmieri, yes; Fabus, yes; Hodson, yes.

Motion failed 4-3.

Motion by Costanzo, second by Fabus to approve Resolution #13 to Establish Fee Schedule for FY 2016.

Public Comment:

Council Discussion:

Roll call: Martino, yes; Maggio, no; Lehman, yes; Costanzo, yes; Fabus, yes; Palmieri, yes; Hodson yes.

Motion carried 6-1.

Estell stated that Council must meet as soon as possible to pass a budget for 2016.

Rushford stated that 1309 of the Borough Code states that the borough does not have to advertise for 10 days again.

After some council discussion, Hodson stated that there will be a Special Meeting of Council on Monday, December 14, 2015 at 7pm to vote an adjusted budget.

Hodson asked Costanzo to set a Finance and Legal Committee Meeting for this week to discuss options to the budget. After council discussion, Hodson announced that there will be a Finance and Legal Committee meeting on Friday, December 11 at 6pm.

Motion by Costanzo, second by Martino to advertise Ordinance #1613, Repealing Ordinance #1563 and Re-implementing Chapters 12-1 through 12-8 to the Borough of Dormont Code.

Public Comment:

Council Discussion: Lehman questioned the timing of the legislation.

Roll call: Martino, yes; Maggio, no; Lehman, no; Costanzo, yes; Palmieri, yes; Fabus, yes; Hodson, yes.

Motion carried 5-2.

Motion by Martino, second by Costanzo to approve Resolution #14 to Authorize to Extend Exclusive Negotiation Period with Fore Property Company.

Public Comment: Seth Davis, Latonia Avenue RE: asked if this is going forward; it has been extended in the past.

Estell stated that this was a request from the Port Authority to extend another year.

Council Discussion:

Roll call: Martino, yes; Maggio, no; Lehman, yes; Costanzo, yes; Palmieri, yes; Fabus, yes; Hodson, yes.

Motion carried 6-1.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

Fabus asked about the monies from 1472 Dormont Avenue. Estell stated that the borough received their check last week; the agreement between Mrs. Lehman and the Conservator has been signed on the Broadway Avenue property.

Rushford stated that the borough was reimbursed for all its costs except for \$3,915.00; the total reimbursed was \$144,414.54. It was a success.

The borough is working on obtaining 1470 Dormont Avenue. There is a list of about 10 individuals interested in the Broadway Avenue property sale.

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

Seth Davis, Latonia Avenue RE: infighting turns people away. People can be intimidated when council fights with one another.

Bob Hutchison, 1332 Illinois Avenue RE: resident for 55 years.

Costanzo stated that anyone could have applied for the council position.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Hodson, second by Martino to adjourn.