



BOROUGH OF DORMONT

**REGULAR MEETING OF THE DORMONT BOROUGH COUNCIL
HELD ON MONDAY, MAY 2, 2016 7:00PM
IN THE DORMONT MUNICIPAL CENTER COUNCIL CHAMBERS**

Council President Maggio called the Meeting of the Dormont Borough Council to order at 7:00PM.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Maggio informed that there was an Executive Session to discuss a Personnel matter.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ROLL CALL

The following members of Council responded to roll call:

Robert Palmieri, Jeff Fabus, Kate Abel, Daniele Ventresca, Drew Lehman, Joan Hodson, John Maggio

Also present: Ben Estell, Borough Manager
John Rushford, Borough Solicitor
Mayor Phil Ross
Dana Nardozzi, Junior Council Member

REGISTERED COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

None.

PRESENTATION

Todd Pritchard – MRTSA Chief: MRTSA is ready to celebrate its 40th anniversary. It started with 11 full-time employees; now they have 29 full-time plus 10 part-time. He thanked Dormont Borough for all the support over the years. They are one of the best in Pennsylvania. Pritchard informed that during the year of 2015 MRTSA responded to 776 calls in Dormont. Average

response time using lights and sirens is five minutes and 42 seconds and without lights and sirens is just over a seven minutes. Pritchard briefed on community classes available and testing that MRTSA offers. “Stop the Bleed” is a new program offered. Another project is baseline concussion testing for student athletes. They are working with the school districts for onsite testing; also available at the MRTSA station. They will be participating in the Dormont Dash, Dormont Day and the Street Fair. All are invited to the facility for a tour.

COMMENTS FROM THE MAYOR

Ross briefed on some events he attended recently. He attended the DABA Opening Day Parade and a round table development meeting at the Library with Representative Dan Miller. Bisignani informed that during the month of April the Police Department responded to 204 calls of service. Bisignani stated that the Police Department participated in the DEA drug take back and received over three boxes.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Property, Supplies and Planning: Fabus informed that there was a committee meeting held to discuss the possibility of charging the Stormwater Authority a fee to utilize the Borough office, for staff and the Council Chambers for meetings. Discussion was also held to identify who uses the Borough facilities and who is charged fees. There was discussion of a potential dog park area and pet waste stations; currently the Memorial Drive tennis courts are used by residents. The committee also recommended putting together an ordinance to allow resident to own chickens and flightless ducks. He obtained copies of three ordinances from Mt. Lebanon. Fabus also mentioned the idea of making both Dormont and Beggs Snyder Parks smokeless.

Public Safety/Service: Abel informed that the DVFD just appointed their first Junior Firemen, Miles Massery. Abel briefed on the Ordinance for hiring a paid full-time Fire Chief.

Estell and Bisignani briefed on public safety concerns with the Potomac Project.

Community Affairs/Recreation: Ventresca informed that the first committee meeting will be held on Thursday, May 5th at 6:00PM in the Community Room. Ventresca briefed on a police and fire tour given to the Webelos Den from Pack 870, the Dormont Litter Clean Up and the upcoming Dormont Dash Saturday, May 28th.

Finance and Legal: Nothing at this time.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT’S REPORT

Maggio informed that he appointed Kate Able President Pro-temp and is now authorized to sign checks. Maggio briefed on Dormont being chosen on one of the online websites as the coolest suburb outside the City of Pittsburgh.

BOROUGH MANAGER’S REPORT

Estell briefed on the following topics:

Update on the Potomac Project; thanked the Hollywood Theater for hosting the meeting with the businesses regarding the project;

Improving signage for the Borough parking lots;

Main Street holding some events throughout the summer to help draw attention to the business district; the Borough will try and help offer shuttle service for those days;

Upcoming meetings with some local banks to discuss some short term loan programs to help the businesses out on Potomac Avenue with lead service line replacement. PA American Water will replace the lead service lines up to the service box, however, the last couple feet are the property owner's responsibility. The Borough is recommending to replace the lead services now, not after the new paver system has been put in;

Business District Advisory Committee meeting that was held this past week. Estell informed that there will be a Planning Commission meeting held this month to get some recommendations for which Potomac plan to come to Council with. A Special Meeting may need to be held during the agenda meeting this month;

The credit card machine is broken in the Borough Office. The Borough is required to switch to the chip machine and Estell asks Council whether or not they are in favor of passing the fees off to customers;

Estell updated the borough's Wikipedia website;

New signals being installed at the T-Crossings by the Port Authority;

House Bill 1394 passed through the Local Government Committee and will be on the Senate Floor next Monday;

Council requesting more information regarding certain items;

Public Hearing for Consent Agenda Item H to follow.

PUBLIC HEARING

Rushford opened the PUBLIC HEARING – Accepting the recommendation of the Planning Commission to approve the Dormont Athletic Booster Association's request for a conditional use at 1655 Dormont Avenue (Pop Murray Field), for a concrete pad and retaining wall located by the storage shed, to provide clean and dry area to store additional infield soil.

Rushford asked if any members of the public would like to make any comments or testify at this public hearing.

Rushford informed that this public hearing was advertised.

Solicitor Rushford closed the PUBLIC HEARING.

CONSENT AGENDA

Motion by Lehman, second by Ventresca to accept Consent Agenda Items A, B, C, D, E, F, G, H, I, J (A. Motion to accept the written report of the Borough Solicitor, B. Motion to approve the written reports of Borough Officials, C. Motion to approve the Minutes of the April 4, 2016 Council Meeting, D. Motion to approve the Warrant list for April 2016, E. Motion to accept the recommendation of the engineer to award 2016 Cured-In-Place Pipe Lining Contract to Insight Pipe Contracting, L.P., in the amount of \$99,643.13, F. Motion to accept the recommendation of the engineer to award 2016 Spot Lining and Grouting Contract to Robinson Pipe Cleaning, Co., in the amount of \$78,875.00, G. Motion to accept the resignation of Patrick Kelly, Building Code Official, effective July 29, 2016, H. Motion to accept the recommendation of the of the Planning Commission to approve the Dormont Athletic Booster Association's request for a conditional use at 1655 Dormont Avenue (Pop Murray Field), for a concrete pad and retaining wall located by the storage shed, to provide a clean and dry area to store additional infield soil, I. Motion to accept the recommendation of the Park Superintendent to hire the following individuals for seasonal employment with the Borough of Dormont Parks Department for 2016: Dominic Constantini, Luke Benson, Declan Hartnett, Benjamin Morton, Jordan Zange, J. Motion to accept the recommendation of the Public Works Superintendent to hire the following individuals for seasonal employment with the Borough of Dormont Public Works Department for 2016: Ian McFarland, Jacob Legge, K. Motion to accept the resignation of Darren Stroh from the Traffic and Parking Planning Commission). Corrections to be made to the Minutes of the April 4, 2016 Council Meeting, Abel's name was spelled wrong throughout. Hodson informed that she was never given a letter by the Council President as promised in the April 4, 2016 meeting Minutes; Maggio informed that he will get that letter to the rest of Council. Hodson also requested Estell give Council the letter that was distributed to the businesses in regards to the Potomac Project meeting held at the Hollywood Theater; Estell said he would get the letter out, if he hasn't already. Hodson informed that there are no meeting Minutes posted on the website for the February 11th Special Meeting to close the budget. Hodson had a question about the April 2016 Warrant List in regards to United Graphics for a total cost of \$2,466.75. Estell will inform at the end of the meeting as to what this purchase was for. Fabus thanked Pat Kelly and Darren Stroh for their years of service to the borough.

Motion carried 7-0 (Fabus abstained from Item H; Fabus is an active member of the Dormont Athletic Boosters Association.).

ACTION ITEMS

- A. Motion by Abel, second by Hodson to adopt Ordinance #1615, Amending Chapter 8 Second 39 of the Code of the Borough of Dormont, to create a method for hiring a Fire Chief through the Civil Service process.
 - i. Council Discussion: None.
 - ii. Public Comment: Bob Hutchison, 1332 Illinois Ave RE: Is the Fire Department comfortable with this decision.

Motion carried 7-0.

- B. Motion by Ventresca, second by Fabus to adopt Resolution #6, 2016 urging the General Assembly to increase the minimum wage within the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania to at least \$10.15 per hour with all deliberate speed.
 - i. Council Discussion: None.

ii. Public Comment: None.
Motion carried 7-0.

Rushford informed that during the Executive Session council discussed the issues presented in Action Item C and D, involving hiring of personal for the Stormwater Authority. Rushford briefed on the decision to enter into a memorandum of understanding with the Stormwater Authority to address Items C and D, as well as other issues outlined in Councils Resolution from the April meeting. Rushford informed that Council is considering tabling Action Items C and D.

- C. Motion by Lehman, second by Abel to table Agenda Items C (Motion to accept the request of the Dormont Storm Water Authority to authorize the necessary funds to allow for hiring of a full-time employee, beginning May 15, 2016 at a pay rate of \$15.00/hour with benefit options equivalent to other non-uniformed Borough of Dormont employees.) and D (Motion to accept the request of the Dormont Storm Water Authority to authorize the necessary funds to allow for the hiring of town interns, from June 2016 through August 2016 at a pay rate of \$12.00/hour.)
- i. Council Discussion: None.
 - ii. Public Comment: None.
- Motion carried 7-0.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

Discussion on making a motion at next month's Council meeting to vote on an Ordinance to allow residents to own chicken and flightless ducks, as well as no smoking in Dormont Park or Beggs Snyder Park.

Discussion on whether or not to pass credit card machine fees onto the customers. Council agrees to buy the new chip card reader machines and passing the fees onto the customers.

There is going to be a Special Meeting added to the May 31st Agenda Meeting to discuss the Potomac Project.

Hodson informed that she got a request from a business owner at Breaker's to hang banners in their back alley to advertise while the construction is going on. Estell informed that he will bring it up at the May Agenda/Special Meeting.

Email updates for the Potomac Project to the business owners.

Rushford briefed on his discussion with the Stormwater Authority Solicitor. Estell briefed on the budget of the authority.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Hollywood Theater birthday party is Saturday, May 14th; Breakfast and a Movie on Mother's Day; Dormont Historical Society hosting their dinner on Wednesday, May 18th at Peter's Place.

May 30th is the Memorial Day Parade; the Dormont Dash is Saturday, May 28th.

CITIZENS' COMMENTS

Michelle Ross, 3251 Beacon Hill Avenue RE: signage for no smoking in parks.

Finance and Legal Committee Meeting Thursday May 12th at 7pm.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Abel, second by Lehman to Adjourn.