

November 9, 2022

MOHNTON BOROUGH COUNCIL

Business Meeting Minutes of November 9, 2022

The meeting was called to Order at 7:00 PM by Council President, Jon Davis who presided. Pledge of Allegiance was said, and roll taken. Present were Mayor Eric Burgis, Gary Hafer, Jason Kercher, Brian Simmon, Kerry Hoffman, Alicia Bressler, Solicitor Jason Ulrich, Veronica Henry, Loretta Imbody, and Borough Engineer Jennifer Van Dyke from Technicon. Absent were Daniel McDevitt.

Public comment was opened with Fabiola Rivera stating her issues with her neighbor infringing on her property. Jennifer Van Dyke will be researching the issues.

Robert Lewis presented issues of cords of rotted wood on his neighbor's property causing infestation of his property with pests. He also stated there was a structure being built without a permit. Loretta Imbody will check for the permit and Jen Van Dyke will follow up on the complaint.

Evelyn Tinkl made a request for a stop sign to be installed at the corner of Walnut St. and Wyomissing Ave. Jason Kercher will be contacting the state for guidance on this. A possible traffic study may need to be conducted by the state.

Barbara and Johnny Flecta commented on problems with their neighbor infringing on their property including digging on their property and not allowing people to fish in the Wyomissing Creek, which is not on his land. Further, there is a bridge connected to his property that leads to the creek that he does not allow anyone to cross. The bridge is believed to be owned by the LLC. They were advised by Jason Ulrich to get a lawyer to resolve the issue.

Alan Reifsnyder also had complaints about the same neighbor indicating that the neighbor desecrated his property by digging a hole that now is sending water to Mr. Reifsnyder's basement. He was advised to join with the Flecta to obtain a lawyer since the neighbor is in the middle of both properties. Jennifer Van Dyke will be checking both issues.

Engineer Report

Jennifer Van Dyke submitted her (report attached) She indicated that the new fee schedule will offset the costs incurred by the Borough. A Resolution was prepared and a motion to accept the Fee Resolution was made by Gary Hafer, seconded by Alicia Bressler. Discussion ensued and a change to the registration fee to \$25 was made. The motion carried unanimously.

The issue of who is and who is not considered a renter was discussed regarding home -owner occupancy or lack thereof. Jason Ulrich will research wording and make a recommendation as to whether a change in wording is needed to clarify the issue.

Code Enforcement

Jennifer VanDyke indicated that the Giannotti property was inspected and notice of violation letter is being sent indicating the need to have a site visit.

Police Chief Report

Chief Pistilli gave his report (attached)

Fire Chief Report

Report attached. Memo to all for the upcoming pancake breakfast at the Fire Company social quarters on November 20 from 8-11. The Santa Run has officially changed to December 3rd. This is also the tree lighting ceremony.

Solicitor Report

Jason Ulrich reported that all municipal liens have been filed for 139 S Church Street and 37 Chestnut Street for violation of the Trash Collection Ordinance.

Council President's Report

The appointment of Sanitation Engineer is still pending.

A motion was made by Kerry Hoffman to donate \$100 to the Berks History Center and seconded by Jason Kercher. Motion was carried by unanimous vote.

A motion was made to amend the Agenda for November 9, 2022, meeting to include discussion of a new police vehicle was made by Gary Hafer, seconded by Brian Simmon, and carried by vote,

Motion to have Constable Jason Kercher serve demand letters to the residents who are delinquent in their trash and sewer bills was made by Alicia Bressler, seconded by Kerry Hoffman. The cost of \$75 per household served will be paid and included in the amount being demanded. The motion was carried by vote with Jason Kercher abstaining,

Council President Jon Davis reviewed the quotes and various bids on several vehicles obtained for a new police vehicle and discussion ensued with a final consensus on the Durango as the vehicle to purchase. A motion was made by Gary Hafer, seconded by Jason Kercher to purchase the 2023 new Dodge Durango with a cost not to exceed \$55,000 fully outfitted. The motion carried unanimously.

Mayor's Report

A motion was made by Jon Davis to begin hiring procedure for a full-time police officer. Brian Simmon seconded the motion and discussion of procedures began with Bonnie Betz- Civil Service Commission – indicating the changes the state has made to the procedure, Bonnie detailed the advertising costs and alternatives to reduce them for the Borough. The motion was carried by unanimous vote.

Finance & Administration Report

Veronica Henry reported on the shopping selective renewal and explained the 2 bids currently being worked on. A 3rd bid is being requested.

Secretary Report

Veronica Henry provided Minutes of last meeting October 12, 2022 (attached) to all council members. A motion to accept the minutes was made by Alicia Bressler, seconded by Kerry Hoffman, and carried by vote.

Treasurer's Report

Veronica Henry gave the financial report with status (attached). The report on delinquent Trash collections was made.

A motion to accept the Treasurer's Report was made by Kerry Hoffman, seconded by Brian Simmon and carried by vote.

A list of bills to pay was given and attached. A motion to pay the bills was made by Alicia Bressler, seconded by Jason Kercher, and carried by vote

A report was made by Veronica Henry on the recycling grant received. She also reported on a new grant opportunity for the playground from DCNR to be open in January and forwarded the information to Kerry Hoffman, Chairperson of the Recreation committee.

Personnel and Public Safety Report

Nothing to report

Buildings, Grounds & Zoning Report

Gary Hafer indicated that the playground has been winterized.

Recreation Programs Report

Nothing to report

Grants, Community Relations, Inter-government Cooperation Report

Brian Simmon had nothing to report.

Street and Lights Report

Nothing to report

Health, Sanitation, Water, Sewer Report

Nothing to report.

A motion to accept all reports was made by Brian Simmon, seconded by Jason Kercher, and carried unanimously by vote.

There being no other new business, old business, Comments or Notes from other Council Members nor any Action Items, a Motion to adjourn was made by Alicia Bressler, seconded by Brian Simmon, and carried unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 8:25 P.M.