

**BRADFORD WOODS BOROUGH COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING - February 10 , 2020
NOT APPROVED**

The Bradford Woods Borough Council meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by President Victoria Pongrace There were 6 people present in the audience.

The Officials in attendance were: _____

Victoria Pongrace, Council President
Charles Coltharp, Council Vice President
Thomas Kosmala, Council Member
Jennifer Griffin, Council Member
David Baldonieri, Council Member
Kevin Rhule, Council Member
Douglas Marsico, Mayor

The Official(s) absent were:

Todd Hipwell, Council Member

Natalie Thiess, Borough Manager
Chuck Means, Solicitor

CALL TO ORDER

1. Pledge of Allegiance
2. Roll Call

ANNOUNCEMENT OF EXECUTIVE SESSION

1. None

MINUTES

1. Ms. Pongrace called for a motion to approve meeting minutes from the regular Council Meeting held on January 6, 2020. Ms. Griffin motioned to approve the meeting minutes. Mr. Rhule seconded. Ms. Pongrace corrected the minutes: Ms. Pongrace should be the ACBA delegate.

Motion to pass the January 6, 2020 minutes with correction.

Aye: Victoria Pongrace
Kevin Rhule
Thomas Kosmala
David Baldonieri
Charles Coltharp
Jennifer Griffin

Motion Carries

PUBLIC COMMENTS REGARDING AGENDA

1. None

MAYOR'S REPORT

1. None

MANAGER'S REPORT

Borough Manager Natalie Thiess reported on the following:

1. Ms. Thiess introduced the North Hills Mutual Aid DUI Taskforce Agreement for multi-municipal cooperation for addressing DUI's. Mr. Rhule asked about the number of DUI's in the Borough. Chief Sicilia stated they have seen a decrease in DUI's in the area. Mr. Coltharp made a motion to approve the agreement. Mr. Rhule seconded.

Aye: Victoria Pongrace
Kevin Rhule
Thomas Kosmala
David Baldonieri
Charles Coltharp
Jennifer Griffin

Motion Carries

2. Ms. Thiess reviewed the financial aspect of the truck purchasing plan: there will be a lease through WesBanco that involves a down payment and additional three yearly payments. Mr. Turner stated he went to Co-Stars certified Jim Shorkey dealership for the bids. Mr. Turner recommends the 2020 Ram Reg Cab 5500 4x4 60CA, which is the lesser bid and the truck uplift package from Walsh/Stephenson Equipment, which is more expensive but it is better quality than the other beds. Discussion ensued regarding the current truck, new truck and truck uplift package. Mr. Baldonieri made a motion to approve the purchase up to \$80,000 for the 2020 Ram Reg Cab 5500 4x4 60CA and Walsh/Stephenson uplift package. Mr. Rhule seconded.

Aye: Victoria Pongrace
Kevin Rhule
Thomas Kosmala
David Baldonieri
Charles Coltharp
Jennifer Griffin

Motion Carries

Mr. Rhule asked about the time frame for ordering the truck. Mr. Turner stated it will be about 6-8 weeks for the truck to come from the factory then an additional 6-8 months for the uplift package to be built.

3. Ms. Thiess reviewed the January 2020 public works report. The report includes repairs and current salt orders/usage. Mr. Kosmala stated there is a driveway pipe on Bradford Road that is blocked and causing flooding on the road. Ms. Thiess stated a letter was written and sent to the resident. Mr. Baldonieri asked about the trench drain on Elm Road. Mr. Turner stated the drain is taking rain during an average rainfall. Mr. Turner stated the drain needs to be cleaned.
4. Ms. Thiess introduced Resolution 7 of 2020 appointing Susie Rhule to the Planning Commission to finish the remainder of Rick Mowery's term of one year. Mr. Coltharp made a motion to pass Resolution 7 of 2020. Ms. Griffin seconded.

Aye: Victoria Pongrace
Thomas Kosmala

David Baldonieri
Charles Coltharp
Jennifer Griffin
Abstain: Kevin Rhule

Motion Carries

- Ms. Thiess introduced Resolution 8 of 2020, regarding the disposition of financial records for the year 2011. Mr. Baldonieri made a motion to approve Resolution 8 of 2020. Mr. Rhule seconded.

Aye: Victoria Pongrace
Kevin Rhule
Thomas Kosmala
David Baldonieri
Charles Coltharp
Jennifer Griffin

Motion carries

- Ms. Thiess reported Governor Wolf's budget proposal that includes all municipalities in PA to contribute to State Police, regardless of having a municipal police force or not. Ms. Griffin asked what the cost would be for the Borough. Ms. Thiess stated she will find that information out (upon later research, the cost to the Borough is \$2,229.34). Mr. Kosmala asked how many municipalities in Allegheny County does not have their own municipal police force. Chief Sicilia estimated around 3-4 municipalities do not have their own force. Mr. Kosmala asked why the new proposal includes all municipalities and not just those who do not have their own force. Ms. Thiess stated one of the reasons presented was that State Police is taking Liquid Fuels funds that are intended to repair state infrastructure.

MUNICIPAL SEPARATE STORM SEWER SYSTEM (MS4)

- None

SOLICITOR'S REPORT

- Mr. Means updated Council on a new legislative update: intergovernmental agreements can now be adopted through resolution instead of an ordinance, which saves the Borough costs associated with ordinance adoptions. Mr. Coltharp asked about the minimum for purchasing bids. Mr. Means stated that purchases and contracts below \$11,300 require no formal bidding or written/telephonic quotations; purchases and contracts between \$11,100 and \$21,000 require three written/telephonic quotations; and, purchases and contracts over \$21,000 require formal bidding.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

FINANCE

- Ms. Thiess discussed the January check register. Ms. Thiess reported there were 24 checks, 7 paychecks, and 7 electronic payments. Ms. Thiess reported the largest checks included \$20,201 to Northern Regional Police, \$6,567 to Northland Public Library, \$6,508 to Liberoni Paving, \$3,579 to Bradford Woods Volunteer Fire Company for contribution and rent, and \$3,195 to Morton's Salt. Total for checks: \$56,286.

Mr. Kosmala made a motion to pay and ratify payments for January 2020. Seconded by Mr. Baldonieri.

Aye: Victoria Pongrace

Thomas Kosmala
Charles Coltharp
David Baldonieri
Kevin Rhule
Jennifer Griffin

Motion Carries

2. Ms. Thiess introduced the pre-ratified check list before Council for approval. Motion was made by Mr. Rhule to pre-ratify bills for February/March. Motion was seconded by Ms. Griffin.

Aye: Victoria Pongrace
Thomas Kosmala
Charles Coltharp
David Baldonieri
Kevin Rhule
Jennifer Griffin

Motion Carries

3. Ms. Thiess reported the January revenue and expense report. Ms. Thiess reported the total revenue is \$15,549 and total expense is \$59,544 and a cash balance of \$436,783. Ms. Thiess stated including roads and the CIP, the cash unspoken for is \$201,283.

SAFETY

1. Ms. Pongrace reported 2019 totals for the year: 187 calls; 37 traffic citations; and 49 traffic warnings. The majority of calls fall under the following categories: 53 assistance; 33 medical; 22 service alarms; 22 fire alarms; 12 animal complaints; 5 deer hit by cars. Ms. Pongrace reported the January police report as follows: 10 calls; 9 traffic warning(s); 5 citation(s).
2. Ms. Pongrace stated Chief Sicilia has initiated that an officer be present at each of the municipalities monthly meetings to address any questions or concerns pertaining to public safety. Chief Sicilia, Captain Dewick and Lieutenant Jones were present at the meeting.

FIRE

1. Mr. Cannella reported 34 total calls for 2019. Mr. Cannella reported January: 5 calls since last meeting; 3 car accidents; 1 carbon monoxide alarm; 1 false alarm at Woodlands.

ROADS

1. Mr. Baldonieri reviewed the 2020 roads project as follows: Commons, Market Court, Meetinghouse, Willow (for the grant project), and Bellaire as an alternate. Mr. Baldonieri stated the bid will be in conjunction with Pine Township's road project bid. The bid will be going on for February and opening in March. Ms. Pongrace asked about an agreement with Pine Township regarding joint bidding. Ms. Thiess stated she will look into that. Discussion ensued regarding paving projects.

PLANNING AND ZONING

1. Ms. Griffin stated no Planning Commission meeting was held and will be held in March 2, 2020 at 7 PM.
2. Permits
 - a. BWCC/BMP Grading Permit

PERSONNEL

1. None

COMMUNICATION /OUTREACH/ NORTH HILLS COG / PUBLIC RELATIONS / NORTHLAND LIBRARY

1. Ms. Thiess discussed items presented at NHCOC which includes creating goals for the organization and searching for a new Executive Director. The Cable Franchise Agreement is still being negotiated.
2. Mr. Kosmala reviewed the NPL items: structure plan update and restructuring contribution formula. Mr. Kosmala announced the Gala for fundraising for the Library. Mr. Kosmala discussed the new hire for the library.

ENVIRONMENT

1. Mr. Rhule reported next EPAC meeting is February 17 at 7 PM. Mr. Rhule reported the January 20 EPAC meeting where Tree Pittsburgh attended. Tree Pittsburgh assess tree canopy with LiDAR technology. The last report was between 2010 and 2015 where it showed a loss of six acres of trees (1% loss) in Bradford Woods. Radar only picks up trees 15 feet or higher. There will be another report in 2020. Mr. Rhule stated EPAC will be contacting Penn State for heritage tree protection. Mr. Rhule stated EPAC is looking into buffer zones, natural cover definition, re-planting requirements, and education for appropriate species plantings on website and newsletters.
2. Diana Greenberg, 603 Edgewood Rd, asked if Penn Power submitted the vegetation plan for Forest Road transmission line project. Ms. Thiess stated is has not been submitted.

OLD BUSINESS

1. Ms. Thiess stated she received a request by a resident to report on a private property tree issue. Ms. Thiess stated she talked with Ms. Diersen (solicitor) and Ms. Diersen recommended to not report on the issue as it is currently being investigated.
2. Barbara Hienz-Hannan, 805 Oak Road, spoke to Council regarding the proposing amendments to the tree ordinance. Ms. Hannan believes in private property rights and that the current ordinance is flexible in accommodating various situations. Ms. Hannan stated most people remove trees for a purpose (i.e. dead). Ms. Hannan stated there are numerous costs associated with caring for trees, as well as the increasing taxes, and creating additional costs associated with removal of trees with permits may cause extra financial burdens on those with fixed incomes. Ms. Hannan believes education on tree care and plantings by EPAC or the Conservancy would be a better alternative to amending the ordinance.

NEW BUSINESS

1. None

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

1. Mr. Kosmala acknowledges Mr. Rhule's detailed EPAC report.

ADJOURN

Motion to adjourn the public meeting at 7:54 P.M. by Kevin Rhule, seconded by Thomas Kosmala motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted,

Natalie Thiess, Borough Manager

Date