

Oakland Borough Council
380 State Street
Susquehanna, PA 18847
Regular meeting minutes
January 20, 2021

Council President Gary Boughton announced that the council had held executive session from 6:15 to 6:45 for personnel, contracts, and litigation.

The regular meeting of the Oakland Borough council was called to order at 7:00pm. Present were council members Gary Boughton, Valerie Senese, Debra White, Robert Muter, Brad Krayeski, and Patrick Gall. Also present was Borough administrator Rhonda Parfitt.

Present as members of the public were Sue and Doug Arthur, Kiera Hennessey, Rachael Thomas, and Kim Keyes.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited and a moment of silence was observed.

1. Ms. Parfitt requested to add approval of ordinance number 2021-1 to the agenda before adjournment. A motion to adopt the amended agenda was made by Ms. Senese, seconded by Mr. Muter, and approved by unanimous vote.
2. A motion to approve the December 16th minutes as presented was made by Ms. Senese, seconded by Ms. White, and approved by unanimous vote.
3. Rachael Thomas, Kiera Hennessey, and Kim Keyes were present as representatives of Susquehanna Area Little League. Collectively, they expressed that Little League was seeking help from the Borough concerning the Oakland Park's ballfield. They noted that the disrepair of the stairs and bleachers were major issues and they did not feel that the park could be used for games without these two items. They noted that there are approximately 150 kids from the area, including Oakland residents, that wanted to use the park. Little League is willing to help, but they feel that they have already donated enough money to the cause, having paid for mowing during a recent season and other miscellaneous expenses. Mr. Boughton stated that the Council would consider what could be done and would be in contact. Phone numbers were exchanged.

Resident Doug Arthur stated a concern about a ditch on Prospect Street not flowing properly, leading to water draining down the hill and to the concrete retaining wall on state street. He stated that if the water froze, it could affect the retaining wall and it would fall into State Street, which is obviously a major hazard. Mr. Arthur's comment was acknowledged.

4. A motion to approve the treasurer's report as presented was made by Mr. Muter, seconded by Ms. White, and approved by unanimous vote.
5. A motion to approve the bills list as presented was made by Ms. Senese, seconded by Mr. Muter, and approved by unanimous vote.

6. A motion to approve employee time sheets as presented was made by Ms. Senese, seconded by Mr. Muiter, and approved by unanimous vote.
7. There was no correspondence to note.
8. A motion to approve the codes report as presented was made by Ms. Senese, seconded by Mr. Muiter, and approved by unanimous vote.
9. Chief Creamer presented the police report, which included 15 calls for the Borough and 10 calls for the Township. A motion to approve the police report was made by Ms. Senese, seconded by Mr. Muiter, and approved by unanimous vote.
10. There was no DPW report due to Mayor Glover's absence.
 - a. No motion
 - b. A motion to accept the amended DPW job description was made by Ms. Senese, seconded by Mr. Gall, and approved by unanimous vote.
 - c. A motion to advertise for a part time DPW worker at \$15 per hour in the Mulligan's and on Indeed, not to exceed \$50 per avenue, was made by Ms. Senese, seconded by Mr. Muiter, and approved by unanimous vote.
11. A motion to approve the codes committee report was made by Ms. Senese, seconded by Mr. Krayeski, and approved by unanimous vote.
12. There was no community development committee report.
 - a. There was no motion.
13. There was no finance committee report for approval
14. There was no parks committee report presented.
 - a. There was no motion.
15. A motion to accept the volunteer committee report was made by Ms. Senese, seconded by Ms. White, and approved by unanimous vote.
16. Ordinance update
 - a. No information has been received from the solicitor on codification and no information has been received from the DCED about Phase Two of StMP.
17. Furnace update:
 - a. Mirabito Energy technicians determined that the outdoor sensor which tells the system to switch from the power venter to the oil furnace is damaged. They have ordered a new one and will be in contact when it is ready to be installed. They noted that when the original heating/cooling system was installed, the sensor was not installed properly.
 - b. A motion to purchase and hire Mirabito Energy to install the outdoor sensor was made by Mr. Muiter, seconded by Ms. Senese, and approved by unanimous vote.
18. Acceptance of the proposed 2021 budget
 - a. Per auditor recommendation, the Council needs to state clearly for the record what each employee shall be paid for each budget year.
 - b. A motion that with the passing of the 2021 budget, Rhonda Parfitt is to be paid \$615 per week as Borough Administrator; Pete Miller is to be paid \$20.00 per hour as needed for plowing and \$15 per hour as needed for general DPW work;

John Creamer is to be paid \$15 per hour as the chief of the Oakland Borough Police Department was made by Ms. Senese, seconded by Mr. Muiteer, and approved by unanimous vote.

19. Mr. Muiteer provided an update regarding training through the Pennsylvania Municipal League. He noted some difficulty in reaching someone who was helpful and stated that he was still waiting to hear a response about membership. He intended to follow the inquiry through until he was satisfied with the information received.
20. No motion was made to purchase the PSAB Plus Membership for the \$450 annual fee.
 - a. Mr. Muiteer stated that he was certain the membership could be entered at a later time, even though the due date was the end of January.
21. A motion to re-appoint Brian T. Kelly, CPA & Associates as auditor for the fiscal year 2020 for a cost of \$5,500 was made by Mr. Muiteer, seconded by Mr. Gall, and approved by unanimous vote.
22. No motion was made to sign a total of five-year contract with Brian T. Kelly, CPA & Associates, due to the council wishing to keep their options open. After the three-year agreement is done with this firm, the council can shop for a new rate.
23. A motion to send Rhonda Parfitt to Susquehanna Borough to negotiate on behalf of the Council regarding the police contract was made by Mr. Gall, seconded by Mr. Muiteer, and approved by unanimous vote.
24. A motion to approve ordinance number 2021-1 for advertisement and inspection was made by Ms. Senese, seconded by Mr. Gall, and approved by unanimous vote.
25. A motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:38pm was made by Ms. Senese, seconded by Mr. Gall, and approved by unanimous vote.