

COOPERSBURG BOROUGH COUNCIL
Regular Meeting Minutes
February 18, 2014

The meeting of the Coopersburg Borough Council was held on Tuesday, February 18th, in Council Chambers at Borough Hall. The meeting was called to order by Council President Felch at 7:00 p.m.

OPENING CEREMONIES

Opening ceremonies consisted of reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll call was taken by Manager Paashaus. Also present were Mayor Hovis, Council Members Balascak, Greenland, Lundy, Mack, Pica, Solicitor Gittinger, and Engineer Deily (For Bill Erdman). Council Member Walters was absent.

AGENDA

A Motion was made by Balascak and seconded by Lundy to adopt the Agenda without additions. **The Agenda passed by a vote of 6-0.**

PUBLIC COMMENT

Linda Minarik (Landis Street) gave Council an update regarding the Saucon Rail Trail. She is the Borough representative and stated that the committee is hoping to extend the trail further south to Springfield Township.

Council President Felch welcomed and recognized Lehigh County Executive Tom Muller.

CONSENT AGENDA

A Motion was made by Pica and seconded by Greenland to receive the Monthly Financial Statements, receive the Monthly Reports (Council information, Police Report & Vehicle Roster), and approve the Previous Meeting Minutes from December 17, 2013 and January 6, 2014. **Consent Agenda passed by a vote of 6-0.**

ACTION ITEMS

- a. A Motion was made by Greenland and seconded by Lundy to accept the resignation of Council Member Jon Walters. **The resignation was accepted by a vote of 6-0.**
- b. A Motion was made by Balascak and seconded by Pica to accept the resignation of Edwin Gruver from the Coopersburg Municipal Authority. Balascak stated his appreciation for Mr. Gruver and his years of service. **The resignation was accepted by a vote of 6-0.**
- c. A Motion was made by Mack and seconded by Lundy to accept the resignation of Leon Sterner from the Coopersburg Municipal Authority. **The resignation was accepted by a vote of 6-0.**
- d. A Motion was made by Mack and seconded by Lundy recognizing the service of Coopersburg Municipal Authority Member Edwin Gruver. **Resolution 2014-1 passed by a vote of 6-0.**
- e. A Motion was made by Mack and seconded by Lundy recognizing the service of Coopersburg Municipal Authority Member Leon Sterner. Balascak added that Mr. Sterner had served on Council and the Authority for a long time and his service was much appreciated. **Resolution 2014-2 passed by a vote of 6-0.**
- f. A Motion was made by Greenland and seconded by Lundy to appoint Dennis Balascak to be a member of the Coopersburg Municipal Authority. **The appointment passed by a vote of 6-0.**
- g. A Motion was made by Greenland and seconded by Pica to appoint Peggy Berndt to be a member

of the Coopersburg Municipal Authority. **The appointment passed by a vote of 6-0.**

- h. A Motion was made by Balascak and seconded by Mack to approve the Management Agreement between the Borough of Coopersburg and the Coopersburg Municipal Authority for the 2014 Calendar Year. **The Motion passed by a vote of 6-0.**
- i. There was no action needed on the Sewer Allocation request by Turkey Hill. This was information for Council's benefit.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

1. Infrastructure

- a. Council Member Balascak reported that the Borough road salt supply is sufficient for the rest of this winter and into next season. Council expressed their appreciation for the Public Works department and their diligence in clearing the roads during this difficult winter season. Balascak reminded Council that the Borough Hall had a generator and could be used as a shelter area in the event of a power outage.
- b. Council Member Balascak reported that the Infrastructure Committee is working on a proposal for sanitary sewer rehabilitation with the \$175,000 CDBG monies.
- c. Council Member Balascak reported that the water meter replacement project is coming to an end with less than 50 meters left to install.

2. Public Safety

- a. Council Member Mack opened a discussion regarding the future of the EMS building, located behind Borough Hall. Felch stated that Council had a desire to look at options for the building, such as: Police station, Fire department use, rental, or an option to sell the property. Balascak stated that it was a centrally located building that would benefit the Police with an expanded office space and training use. Lundy stated that useful space would be opening in Borough Hall if the Police moved their office. This would enable Borough Hall to have a Community Center use. Mack stated that he believed the EMS building's ideal use was for a Police Station. A Motion was made by Mack and seconded by Balascak to begin to convert the existing EMS building into a Police Station for the Coopersburg Police. **The Motion passed by a vote of 6-0.**

3. Administration and Finance

- a. No additional report

REPORTS OF PROFESSIONAL ADVISORS

- 1. Solicitor: Solicitor Gittinger stated that he was approached by an ADA regarding a youth soccer team using the Borough Hall for its planning meetings. The ADA will be in contact with the Borough Office. Gittinger also made a comment that residents spoke "glowingly" regarding the street cleanup in the Borough.
- 2. Engineer: No additional Report
- 3. Borough Manager: Manager Paashaus stated that Uninvest had given their annual pension report and that the Coopersburg Business Guide was finished. Felch asked the Administration and Finance Committee to review the report.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- 1. Compost site – Remains on Agenda

NEW BUSINESS

- 1. A Motion was made by Mack and seconded by Pica to rescind Resolution 2013-13 (A)

Resolution granting in part and denying in part an application for educational/institutional sewer capacity). Mack gave two reasons for his motion: The Council is a new Council and should not be held to a decision a previous Council had made, and that the Borough was under a threat of litigation from the applicant regarding the matter. **The Motion passed by a vote of 6-0.**

2. A Motion was made by Mack and seconded by Lundy to reject the preliminary plan submitted by Tom Williams for the property formerly known as Pinebrook Junior College based on not meeting zoning requirements. The Application did not have all the required information and fee. The preliminary plan did not comply with the property's zoning district. **The Motion passed by a vote of 6-0.**
3. Council held an Executive Session prior to the regular meeting. The Executive Session was regarding potential litigation.

ADJOURNMENT

Council Member Mack made a motion to adjourn which was seconded by Lundy. The meeting was adjourned at 7:35 PM.

Timothy Paashaus – Borough Manager

John Felch, Jr. – Council President