

**COOPERSBURG BOROUGH COUNCIL**  
**Regular Meeting Minutes**  
**June 20, 2017**

The meeting of the Coopersburg Borough Council was held on Tuesday, June 20<sup>th</sup>, in Council Chambers at Borough Hall and called to order by Council President Felch at 7:00 p.m.

**OPENING CEREMONIES**

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Roll Call was taken by Manager Paashaus. All present were Mayor Hovis, Council Members Felch, Balascak, Greenland, Poot, Solicitor Capehart, and Engineer Erdman. Council Members Pica, Snyder, and Thrapp were absent.

**AGENDA**

**The Agenda was adopted as written without any objection.**

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Joseph Lehnert, a representative with New York Life Insurance Company, introduced himself to Council.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

A Motion was made by Poot and seconded by Balascak to receive the Monthly Reports (Monthly Financial Reports, Council Information, Police report, Vehicle roster, and Zoning Report), and approve the previous meeting minutes from May 16, 2017. **The Consent Agenda passed by a vote of 4-0.**

**ACTION ITEMS**

1. A Motion was made by Greenland and seconded by Poot to publicly bid the purchase of six (6) Haenni (or equivalent) scales. Officer Nahrgang was present and stated that the scales would be able to be in service 24/7 and that four (4) officers were certified to use them for truck enforcement. There was further discussion regarding the location of enforcement, the percentage of any fine retained by the Borough, and the safety concerns of an overweight vehicle. Chief Struss was present to answer additional questions posed by Council. The Police have researched and found that Haenni scales are used by the State Police and have been used for well over 20 years without major issue. There was further discussion regarding the quality of scales, how many scales are needed to sufficiently weigh a vehicle, and the frequency of enforcement. The Borough Police currently partner with Emmaus for enforcement on a rare occasion throughout the year. Mayor Hovis stated that the Police need the right tools, and scales would help to protect people. There was further discussion regarding dangerous intersections and assisting neighboring municipalities in investigations. **The Motion passed by a vote of 4-0.**
2. A Motion was made by Balascak and seconded by Poot to approve the First Reading of an Ordinance to restrict parking on the east-bound lane of West State Street from Main Street to Liberty Street. Residents on West State Street presented a letter and petition opposing the Ordinance. Joy Kuhns, 804 W State Street, stated her disapproval and how it would be a negative effect on the residents. Kuhns stated that buses have plenty of room, and that excessive speed or driving under the influence is the only problem. There was further discussion regarding the narrowness of the road, routinely needing to cross the double yellow lines, several houses with no off-street parking, and the location residents could park if the restriction was approved. Chief Struss stated that he could see both sides of the argument, but that it is not a strong concern or the police. Struss stated that the on-street parking actually slows and calms traffic. Balascak questioned the Chief regarding the safety concern. There was further discussion regarding the history of damaged cars parked on the street, width of the cart-path, and the potential increase of traffic due to future development in the area. **The Motion Failed by a vote of 1-3 (Yay – Balascak, Nay – Felch, Greenland, Poot).** Balascak thanked Council and the audience for a spirited debate.
3. A Motion was made by Balascak and seconded by Greenland to approve the Waiver Request for 25A and 25B John Alley based on the Conditions of Approval from the KCE letter on April 26, 2017. Council discussed each point thoroughly including a landscape plan, plan notations, grammatical errors, size of the project, and environmental permitting. Erdman stated that there were no public improvement requirements, so therefore no development agreements were necessary. There was further discussion regarding future zoning concerns, impact on the Borough, municipal parking lots, history of the property, and corrections to the Waiver Request.

Solicitor Capehart suggested to have the developer resubmit a corrected request letter. A Motion was made to rescind the original Motion to approve the Waiver Request by Balascak and seconded by Felch. **The Motion was rescinded by a vote of 4-0.** Erdman will inform the developer.

4. A Motion was made by Balascak and seconded by Greenland to approve the EDU Purchase Agreement II with Upper Saucon Township. Paashaus gave a summary of the agreement and history since the original 2012 EDU Agreement. The Agreement would end the specific Moratorium Property monitoring and purchase a remaining 74 EDU's at the current Upper Saucon Tapping Fee. **The Agreement was approved by a vote of 4-0.**

### **REPORTS OF COMMITTEES**

1. Infrastructure
  - a. Council Member Balascak gave the following summary items from the committee meeting:
    - Water – The Authority received a final “clean” audit for 2016 with \$2.1 million in assets, a significant increase in revenue due to a water rate increase, and only a minor increase in expenses. Emergency Systems reviewed the current back-up generator at the reservoir property. The Authority is considering an upgrade to 100kw at a price estimate of \$33,700 and approximately five to seven thousand dollars for the electrical work. The Borough may want to consider purchasing the current generator for use at Borough Hall. DEP and the Solicitor were contacted regarding the replacement of the in-ground reservoir roof. The roof size is approximately 4500 sq feet and will need complete renovation. DEP is currently reviewing the blending permit for Well #3 after a face-to-face meeting occurred with staff and Ms. Wilkes from DEP.
    - Highway – The 7<sup>th</sup> Street waterline is almost complete and Stopp Lane will begin shortly. Oil & Chipping has been completed for 2017, and the West Fairmount Curbing Project is moving forward with anticipation of a September build at a cost approximately \$28 per linear foot.
2. Public Safety/Governmental Relations
  - a. No additional report.
3. Administration and Finance
  - a. No additional report.

### **REPORTS OF PROFESSIONAL ADVISORS**

1. Solicitor: No additional report.
2. Engineer: Engineer Erdman stated Oxford Ridge is no longer transferring ownership, and Cooper Farms is currently under review. There was further discussion regarding weeds at Cooper Farms, the Pinebrook Manor deficiencies, and other compliance issues from the same developer.
3. Borough Manager: No addition report.

### **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

1. Municipal Parking will remain on the Agenda.
2. RFP for Engineering/Code Enforcement will remain on the Agenda.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

A Motion was made by Greenland and seconded by Poot to advertise and postpone the July 3<sup>rd</sup> Committee meeting and reschedule it to July 10<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 PM. **The Motion was passed by a vote of 4-0.**

### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Council held a brief Executive Session regarding an employment matter at 9:00 PM.

Council resumed regular business at 9:16 PM. A Motion was made by Greenland and seconded by Poot to change Dennis Nace's hourly wage to \$28.85, effective July 1, 2017. This action was due to the change of his position to a single supervisor of the Public Works Department with more responsibility. **The Motion passed by a vote of 4-0.**

### **ADJOURNMENT**

Council Member Balascak made a motion to adjourn which was seconded by Felch. The meeting adjourned at 9:17 PM.

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Timothy Paashaus – Borough Manager

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John Felch, Jr. – Council President