

COOPERSBURG BOROUGH COUNCIL
Regular Meeting Minutes
December 19, 2017

The meeting of the Coopersburg Borough Council was held on Tuesday, December 19th, 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, Pica, Poot, Snyder, Thrapp, Solicitor Capehart, and Engineer Erdman.

AGENDA

A Motion was made by Pica and seconded by Poot to approve the Agenda with an addition - #8 to the Action Items regarding adding a Junior Council Position. **The Agenda was approved as modified by a vote of 7-0.**

PUBLIC COMMENT

Andy Lee, local small business owner, introduced himself to Council and stated that he would be running for State Representative of the 131st District. Lee is the owner of Taps Tavern and Braveheart. Lee has lived in Coopersburg for many years, is running as a Democrat, and gave his family background.

CONSENT AGENDA

A Motion was made by Pica and seconded by Poot to receive the Monthly Reports (Financial Statements, Council Information, Police report, Vehicle roster, and Zoning Report), and approve the previous meeting minutes from November 21, 2017. **The Consent Agenda was approved by a vote of 7-0.**

ACTION ITEMS

1. A Motion was made by Pica and seconded by Poot to adopt the 2018 Borough Budget for fiscal year January 1 – December 31, 2018. **Ordinance 660 was ordained by a vote of 7-0.**
2. A Motion was made by Balascak and seconded by Pica to fix salaries, bonds, and duties of Borough Officials, Appointees, and Employees for fiscal year January 1 – December 31, 2018. **Ordinance 661 was ordained by a vote of 7-0.**
3. A Motion was made by Greenland and seconded by Pica to establish the Real Estate Tax Rate at 5.34 mils for fiscal year January 1 – December 31, 2018. **Ordinance 662 was ordained by a vote of 7-0.**
4. A Motion was made by Pica and seconded by Snyder to appoint the Zoning Hearing Board Members for 2018. **Resolution 2017-19 passed by a vote of 7-0.**
5. A Motion was made Greenland and seconded by Pica to appoint the Coopersburg Municipal Authority Members for 2018. **Resolution 2017-20 passed by a vote 6-0 (Balascak abstained).**
6. A Motion was made by Balascak and seconded by Pica to approve the Management Agreement between the Borough and the Coopersburg Municipal Authority for 2018. **The Motion passed by a vote of 7-0.**
7. A Motion was made by Balascak and seconded by Pica to approve the Brinley Court Inter-Municipal Agreement Amendment. There was discussion regarding sewer capacity, legal language in the amendment, flow allocation returning to the Borough, and the fair-share contribution for a traffic signal. A Substitute Motion was made by Balascak and seconded by Pica to postpone any decision on the Agreement Amendment until the January Council Meeting. **The Substitute Motion passed by a vote of 7-0.**
8. Council President Felch opened a discussion regarding the Borough appointing a Junior Council Person. There was further discussion regarding the previous Junior Council Person and educational opportunities. Council gave general consent to advertise the position or positions to the public.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

1. Infrastructure
 - a. Council Member Balascak thanked Greenland for his many years of service to Council and the Infrastructure

Committee. Balascak also expressed his appreciation for the service of Pica and Snyder and wished Council a Merry Christmas. No further report was given.

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 that the two development projects are moving forward and being recorded.
3. Borough Manager: No additional report

NEW BUSINESS

1. The Minutes reflect that two (2) grants were approved for the Borough's Streetscape Program. \$300,000.00 was approved by the state to continue improvements on Main Street and Station Avenue. \$127,500.00 was approved by DCNR to improve the Liberty Bell Trolley Line.
2. Council President Felch reminded Council that the next meeting, January 2, 2018 at 7:00 PM, will be the swearing in of new Council Members and the reorganization of Council. Felch stated that it was a privilege to serve as Council President and thanked Greenland, Pica, and Snyder for their public service.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

3. Municipal Parking will remain on the Agenda.
4. RFP for Engineering/Code Enforcement will be reviewed by the Admin/Finance Committee and added to a future Agenda Item.

ADJOURNMENT

Council Member Balascak made a motion to adjourn which was seconded by Felch. The meeting adjourned at 7:30 PM.

Timothy Paashaus – Borough Manager

John Felch, Jr. – Council President