

COOPERSBURG BOROUGH COUNCIL
Regular Meeting Minutes
May 15, 2018

The meeting of the Coopersburg Borough Council was held on Tuesday, May 15th, in the office of the Borough Manager at Borough Hall and called to order by Council President Felch at 7:00 p.m.

OPENING CEREMONIES

Felch stated that May 15th was Police Officers (Peace Officers) Memorial Day. No other opening ceremonies were performed.

Roll Call was taken by Manager Paashaus. All present were Council Members Felch, Balascak, Craig, Dietz, Ellenberger, Poot, Thrapp, Solicitor Capehart, and Engineer Erdman. Mayor Hovis, Council Member Craig, and Jr. Councilperson Craig were absent.

AGENDA

A Motion was made by Thrapp and seconded by Dietz to approve the Agenda with one change – Action Item #3 was changed to RECON with a value of \$100,087.50. **The Agenda was approved as modified by a vote of 6-0.**

PUBLIC COMMENT

A representative from the group for Resolutions on Fair Districts introduced herself and stated that she was present for Action Item #4.

CONSENT AGENDA

A Motion was made by Thrapp and seconded by Dietz to receive the Monthly Reports (Monthly Financial Statements, Police report, Police Vehicle Roster, and Zoning Report), and approve the previous meeting minutes from March 20, 2018. The Quarterly Pension Report and Council Information Report were pulled from the Consent Agenda for discussion later in the meeting. **The Consent Agenda was approved by a vote of 6-0.**

ACTION ITEMS

1. A Motion was made by Balascak and seconded by Poot to approve a Waiver Request for the Stone Harvest (formerly Cooper Farms) development and their road construction specifications. There was further discussion regarding the same waiver being granted to another development and updating the Borough's specifications. **The Waiver was approved by a vote of 6-0.**
2. A Motion was made by Thrapp and seconded by Poot to approve a Waiver Request at 6657 Gun Club Road to build a fence in a Flood Plain Easement. There was further discussion regarding a structure in a Flood Plain Easement, gate access, who imposed the easement, and FEMA regulations. **The Waiver Request was denied by a vote of 0-6.**
3. A Motion was made by Balascak and seconded by Thrapp to award the West Fairmount Full Depth Reclamation contract to RECON Construction in the amount of \$100,087.50. There was further discussion regarding Peckham (lowest bidder) not being a responsible bidder. Peckham did not supply the required PennDot Prequalification Certificate. **The Motion passed by a vote of 6-0.**
4. A Motion was made by Poot and seconded by Thrapp to approve support of a Citizens Commission for Legislative and Congressional Redistricting. There was further discussion regarding redistricting, the political process to change the legislation, the Pennsylvania Constitution, the 2020 Census, and what a Citizens Commission is comprised of. Felch stated that this decision does not seem to violate their oath of office, but it was filled with Political processes. **Resolution 2018-14 passed by a vote of 5-1 (Felch = Nay).**
5. A Motion was made by Balascak and seconded by Thrapp to approve the Traffic Signal Application to PennDot for Station Avenue and Rt 309. Ellenberger stated that he believed adding crosswalks did nothing to increase visibility. **Resolution 2018-15 passed by a vote of 5-1 (Ellenberger = Nay).**
6. A Motion was made by Balascak and seconded by Thrapp to approve an agreement with PennDot for Reimbursement and Acceptance of the TAP (TASA) funding for the Borough's Streetscape Plan, Phase II. **Resolution 2018-16 passed by a vote of 6-0.**
7. A Motion was made by Thrapp and seconded by Dietz to approve an application for GTRP Greenways funding

of the completion of the Saucon Rail Trail. **Resolution 2018-17 passed by a vote of 6-0.**

8. A Motion was made by Thrapp and seconded by Dietz to approve Traffic Restrictions on certain roads during the Fire Company Carnival and the Fire Company Tree Lighting event. **Resolutions 2018-18 & 2018-19 passed by a vote of 6-0.**
9. An Omnibus Motion was made by Thrapp and seconded by Poot to approve contracting Michael Baker International as the design engineer for the DCED MTF Streetscape Project, the DCNR Liberty Trolley Line Trail Project, and the Storm Sewer Project (Main Street & Station Avenue) with a not to exceed amount of \$131,001.74. There was further discussion regarding the type of Motion and the cost of engineering. **The Omnibus Motion passed by a vote of 5-1 (Ellenberger = Nay).**

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

1. Infrastructure
 - a. Septic – Council Member Balascak stated that a major leak was fixed, and the main line between MH123 & MH124 was lined. A problematic lateral on Dogwood Lane was also fixed as a demonstration by National Water Main Cleaning.
 - b. Water – Council Member Balascak stated that the Authority has hired a leak detection company to find repairs throughout the water system. Several leaks were found and being fixed.
 - c. Highway – Council Member Balascak stated that the committee will investigate low-volume road grants. A Motion was made by Balascak and seconded by Thrapp to authorize the Council President to sign any contract documents with Recon Construction (Action Item #3). **The Motion passed by a vote of 6-0.**
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 Stone Harvest development was progressing quickly.
3. Borough Manager: No additional report.
4. Junior Councilperson: Not present.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Council Member Balascak stated that the Borough pension accounts took a loss in the first quarter. There was further discussion regarding the pension being healthy but needing to be watched closely. A Motion was made by Balascak and seconded by Dietz to receive the Quarterly Pension Report and Council Information Report. **The Motion passed by a vote of 6-0.**

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

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

ADJOURNMENT

Council Member Balascak made a motion to adjourn which was seconded by Dietz. The meeting adjourned at 8:33 PM.

Timothy Paashaus – Borough Manager

John Felch, Jr. – Council President