

COOPERSBURG BOROUGH COUNCIL
Regular Meeting Minutes
January 21, 2020

The meeting of the Coopersburg Borough Council was held on Tuesday, January 21st, in Council Chambers at Borough Hall and called to order by Council President Balascak at 7:00 p.m.

OPENING CEREMONIES

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

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

AGENDA

A Motion was made by Thrapp and seconded by Craig to approve the Agenda without changes. **The Agenda was adopted by a vote of 6-0.**

PUBLIC COMMENT

Lehigh County Executive, Phillips Armstrong, spoke to Council regarding the 2020 Census and its importance. There was further discussion regarding the Census, the new voting system for the general election, and the schedule of repairs to a PennDot bridge on Blue Church Road.

Colby Kent (528 E Station Avenue), Ken Smith (553 Thomas Street), and John Barone (534 E Station Avenue) spoke to Council regarding the new pedestrian lights on East Station Avenue. There was further discussion regarding the number of poles, brightness of the lighting, distance between poles, location on the sidewalk, and traffic on Thomas Street. Balascak stated that the Comprehensive Team was reviewing the concerns and will look at implementing measures to shield or change the lighting impact on the residential properties along East Station Avenue. Barone read a detailed letter regarding the history of his residence and concerns with the change in lighting. Craig requested that letter for distribution to Council Members.

Armstrong stated that the bridge on Blue Church Road will be fixed in the next few months, according to the latest information from PennDot.

Kevin Branco (Liberty Village, Upper Saucon Township) introduced himself to Council and stated that he was running for State Representative of the 131st District. Representative Simmons is not running for an additional term. Branco gave his background and website information.

CONSENT AGENDA

A Motion was made by Poot and seconded by Kane to receive the Monthly Reports (Monthly Financial Statements, Council Information), and approve the previous meeting minutes from December 17, 2019 and January 6, 2020. **The Consent Agenda was approved by a vote of 6-0.**

ACTION ITEMS

No Action Items.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

1. Infrastructure –
 - a. Highway/Development – Council President Balascak stated that a developer met with the committee to review a sketch plan for the Kratz property near West State Street & South 9th Street. The project would be single-family, detached, residential houses. The developer will make adjustments and submit a plan for review.
 - b. Water – Council President Balascak stated that the Reservoir Roof Project was complete, and the

Borough will be starting a new year with a brand-new reservoir. The Authority is researching if the property can have a timber harvest for additional revenue.

- c. Septic – Engineer Erdman stated that an Appeal Hearing is scheduled for January 24th but will likely be continued until a later date.
2. Public Safety – Mayor Hovis stated that the committee will be attending the next regularly scheduled Fire Company Members meeting. They desire to improve communication with the Fire Company. Balascak requested that the committee report the traffic concerns on Thomas Street to the police.
3. Administration and Finance – No additional report.

Council President Balascak requested a quarterly report from each Council Committee at future meetings.

REPORTS OF PROFESSIONAL ADVISORS

1. Solicitor: No additional report.
2. Engineer: Engineer Erdman stated that he is working on the Chapter 94 Report, that Stone Harvest was almost complete, and that developers are increasing their interest in urban communities.
3. Borough Manager: No additional report.

NEW BUSINESS

No New Business

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

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

ADJOURNMENT

A Motion was made by Thrapp and seconded by Craig to adjourn. The meeting adjourned at 7:55 PM.

Timothy Paashaas – Borough Manager

Dennis Balascak – Council President