

COOPERSBURG BOROUGH COUNCIL
Regular Meeting Minutes
August 18, 2020

The meeting of the Coopersburg Borough Council was held on Tuesday, August 18th, 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 Mayor Hovis, Council Members Balascak, Dietz, Ellenberger, Poot, Thrapp, Solicitor Capehart, and Engineer Erdman. Council Members Craig and Kane were absent.

AGENDA

A Motion was made by Thrapp and seconded by Dietz to approve the Agenda without changes. **The Agenda was adopted by a vote of 5-0.**

PUBLIC COMMENT

Donald Bicking, 331 S Main Street, questioned Council regarding the concern over large trucks and other vehicles speeding on Main Street. There was further discussion regarding the issue and concerns about safety.

CONSENT AGENDA

A Motion was made by Thrapp and seconded by Dietz to receive the Monthly Reports (Monthly Financial Statements, Council Information, Police Report), and approve the previous meeting minutes from July 21, 2020. **The Consent Agenda was approved by a vote of 5-0.**

ACTION ITEMS

1. A Motion was made by Poot and seconded by Ellenberger to extend a Public Works Crew Member employment offer to Adam Purfeerst. There was further discussion regarding the process of hiring, the applicants experience, and importance of a water license. **The Motion passed by a vote of 5-0.**

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

1. Infrastructure – Council Member Dietz gave an update on Valley Manor, monitoring sewer flows during the previous rain event, the MSK development proposal, and the culvert wash-out on Gun Club Rd. Capehart stated that Valley Manor will be completing an engineered plan for replacement. There was further discussion regarding the punch list for Stone Harvest, development inspections, and improvements to Hillside Dr / West State Street. Balascak stated that Meadow Park was being cleaned up and the Conservation District will give more options for future improvements. Council President Balascak stated that the Water Authority was made aware of an issue with the residential water meters in the Borough. There was further discussion regarding the battery failure, the types of meters, and how the Authority was hoping to resolve the issue. Balascak stated that a Small Water Grant was approved by the State to renovate the above ground reservoir. Council President Balascak stated that he inspected the Borough Hall building and established a basic maintenance bid for contractors to review. All sections of the bid are estimated to cost over \$40,000. However, the Public Works has completed several items to keep costs lower. This will be added to Old Business.
2. Public Safety – Mayor Hovis stated that everyone was concerned about the safety and speed of Main Street and all Borough roads. There was further discussion regarding truck traffic, what can be regulated on a state-owned roadway, police enforcement, pedestrian safety, and speed timing. Hovis stated that the Fire Company had not made any other financial requests.

3. Administration and Finance – Council Member Ellenberger stated that there was a drop in Earned Income Tax for the second quarter of 2020, that the Borough is currently in the “black” for the year to date, and that additional grant funding is expected to be received.

REPORTS OF PROFESSIONAL ADVISORS

1. Solicitor: No additional report.
2. Engineer: Engineer Erdman stated that the MSK multi-use development plan for Rt 309 is being modified after comments from PennDot and the engineering letter. Erdman stated that WB Homes will be submitting a full development plan for the Kratz Property near West State Street & South 9th Street.
3. Borough Manager: No additional report.

NEW BUSINESS

Council President Balascak reported information from LVPC regarding home sales and value in Southern Lehigh School District.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

1. Ordinance 671 – Fireworks – Solicitor Capehart stated that State Law may preempt the Borough’s proposed restriction. Further research needs to be done.
2. Ordinance 672 – Vacating several borough roads
3. RFP for Engineering will be sent to prospective companies in the next few months.
4. The Vacancy on the Saucon Rail Trail Commission needs to be advertised.

ADJOURNMENT

A Motion was made by Thrapp and seconded by Dietz to adjourn. The meeting adjourned at 8:15 PM.