

COOPERSBURG BOROUGH COUNCIL
Regular Meeting Minutes
October 19, 2021

The meeting of the Coopersburg Borough Council was held in Borough Hall on Tuesday, October 19th, & was called to order by Council President Balascak at 7:00 p.m.

OPENING CEREMONIES

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

All present were Mayor Hovis, Council Members Balascak, Dietz, Ellenberger, Kane, Poot, Thrapp, Solicitor Capehart, Manager Paashaus, Engineer Erdman, Solicitor Ulrich, & Police Chief Struss. Council Member Craig was absent.

AGENDA

A Motion was made by Thrapp & seconded by Poot to approve the Agenda with an Additional Action Item #3 – Resolution 2021-11 MTF Grant Application & adding the Police Report to the Consent Agenda. **The Modified Agenda was adopted by a vote of 6-0.**

PUBLIC COMMENT

Seth Pellegrini, Oxford Ridge, expressed his concern regarding the storm water management & rain gardens in the Oxford Ridge Development. Pellegrini stated that the developer was in violation of the Developer's Agreement. There was further discussion regarding actions taken by LCCD, withholding permits, enforcement, responsibility, inspections, & safety.

CONSENT AGENDA

A Motion was made by Thrapp & seconded by Dietz to receive the Monthly Reports (Monthly Financial Statements, Council Information, Police Report), & approve the previous meeting minutes from September 21, 2021 & October 4, 2021. **The Consent Agenda was approved by a vote of 6-0.**

ACTION ITEMS

1. A Motion was made by Poot & seconded by Kane to award the Town Center Park base bid to Grace Industries in the amount of \$280,369.00. There was further discussion regarding the base bid, concerns regarding any change orders, electrical costs, & construction schedule. **The Motion passed by a vote of 5-1 (Ellenberger = nay).**
2. A Motion was made by Thrapp & seconded by Ellenberger to approve the road closure request for the Tree Lighting on November 27th. **Resolution 2021-10 passed by a vote of 6-0.**
3. A Motion was made by Poot & seconded by Thrapp to approve an MTF Transportation grant application to continue the Streetscape Project. The application is for \$100,000.00 to construction curbing, sidewalk, & crosswalks along W State Street. **Resolution 2021-11 passed by a vote of 6-0.**

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

1. Infrastructure – Council Member Dietz gave updates on the following:
 - a. Ashford Reserve (WB Homes) will host a public meeting / Q&A with residents on November 18th. There was further discussion regarding who to invite, public advertising, & space needed.
 - b. Oxford Ridge has been inspected & received violation notices by the LCCD regarding the storm-water permits & rain gardens. Further steps will be taken to resolve the issues.
 - c. Liberty Bell School will be discussed at the next Infrastructure meeting.
 - d. MSK has an approved plan, but it has not been recorded to date.
 - e. Tuskes is almost finished & the As-built plans are being reviewed by the Water Engineer.
 - f. The culvert on the Liberty Trolley Trail needs full replacement. PPL will need to be involved in the discussion due to an easement & any construction requirement.
 - g. Stayer Property will receive an agreement & sketch for review to correct the drainage at 508 N

Liberty Street.

- h. Leaf Collection will begin this week.
 - i. Council President Balascak gave updates on the water system, meter replacements, a water leak repair on Main Street, the Pool request, & Quarry update.
2. Public Safety – Mayor Hovis & Chief Struss expressed their appreciation for a successful Halloween Parade. Chief Struss gave an update on the Police Department, number of calls, school involvement, & updated Council on a significant arrest. The Department will be participating in No-shave November & will be supporting families at Liberty Bell Elementary (as determined by the principal). There was further discussion regarding fireworks & enforcement.
 3. Administration & Finance – A Motion was made by Poot & seconded by Ellenberger to endorse the FIRST reading of the Borough’s 2022 Budget. Manager Paashaus gave a summary of the budget with specific differences year over year. There was further discussion regarding the continuation of the Streetscape Plan, salaries, & annual contributions to the Fire Company, Park, & Library. Kane stated his favor of increasing funding to the library. Ellenberger was against raising their contribution, based on eliminating fees. **The Motion to accept the FIRST reading of the 2022 Budget passed by a vote of 6-0.** The Second Reading is scheduled for November 16th.

REPORTS OF PROFESSIONAL ADVISORS

1. Solicitor: No additional report.
2. Engineer: Engineer Erdman stated that the Sheetz project will not move forward.
3. Borough Manager: No additional report.

NEW BUSINESS

No New Business

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

1. Ordinance *** – Vacating several borough roads – will remain on the Agenda.
2. Update to the Borough Employee Policy Manual – will remain on the Agenda.
3. RFP results for Borough Engineer – will remain on the Agenda.

ADJOURNMENT

A Motion was made by Thrapp & seconded by Kane to adjourn. The meeting adjourned at 8:35 PM.