

**COOPERSBURG BOROUGH COUNCIL**  
**Regular Meeting Minutes**  
**December 21, 2021**

The meeting of the Coopersburg Borough Council was held in Borough Hall on Tuesday, December 21<sup>st</sup>, & 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 Capehart & Ulrich. Council Member Craig was absent.

**AGENDA**

A Motion was made by Kane & seconded by Thrapp to approve the Agenda with an additional Action Item #8 – Drafted letter to Oxford Ridge Developer & move Action Item #6 to Item #4. **The Agenda was adopted by a vote of 6-0.**

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Elisa Pellegrini, Oxford Ridge, expressed her concern regarding the storm water management & rain gardens in the Oxford Ridge Development. Pellegrini stated that it was a safety concern for children. Balascak stated that Action #8 would address some of her concerns. Melissa Maser, Oxford Ridge, expressed her concerns regarding the size of the rain gardens. There was further discussion regarding the development concerns.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

A Motion was made by Thrapp & seconded by Dietz to receive the Monthly Reports (Monthly Financial Statements, Council Information, Police Report, Fire Report), & approve the previous meeting minutes from November 16, 2021. **The Consent Agenda was approved by a vote of 6-0.**

**ACTION ITEMS**

1. A Motion was made by Kane & seconded by Thrapp to approve the Zoning Hearing Board Appointments for 2022. **Resolution 2021-12 passed by a vote of 6-0.**
2. A Motion was made by Thrapp & seconded by Dietz to approve the Coopersburg Municipal Authority Appointments for 2022. **Resolution 2021-13 passed by a vote of 6-0.**
3. A Motion was made by Thrapp & seconded by Ellenberger to approve the updated Management Agreement with the Water Authority for 2022. **The Agreement was approved by a vote of 5-0 (Balascak abstained).**
4. A Motion was made by Thrapp & seconded by Ellenberger to establish the Real Estate Tax Rate of 5.4 Mills for 2022. **Ordinance 679 passed by a vote of 6-0.**
5. A Motion was made by Poot & seconded by Thrapp to adopt the 2022 Borough Budget. **Ordinance 677 passed by a vote of 6-0.**
6. A Motion was made by Thrapp & seconded by Poot to approve the salaries, bond, and duties of Borough Officials, Employees, and Advisors for 2022. **Ordinance 678 passed by a vote of 6-0.**
7. A Motion was made by Thrapp & seconded by Kane to award a contract of \$588,000.00 to Marino Construction to construct Phase 1B of the Borough's Streetscape Plan. **The Motion passed by a vote of 6-0.**
8. A Motion was made by Ellenberger & seconded by Thrapp to send a formal letter to the Oxford Ridge Developer, FPM / Fred Derby, to request a response to the multiple concerns regarding Stormwater Maintenance, rain gardens, and occupancy. There was further discussion regarding the letter, withholding permits, occupancy permits, and the LCCD. The letter will state a deadline to submit a plan of correction that will be reviewed by the Infrastructure Committee. **The Motion 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) hosted a beneficial public meeting / Q&A with residents on November 18<sup>th</sup>.
  - b. MSK has an approved plan, but it has not been recorded to date.
  - c. Tuskes is almost finished with Stone Harvest & the As-built plans have been reviewed. An N.O.T. will be the final step.
  - d. The culvert on the Liberty Trolley Trail needs full replacement.
  - e. Council President Balascak gave updates on the water system, meter replacement, the Soleco Pool request, & Quarry.
2. Public Safety – Mayor Hovis stated that the Fire Company Tree Lighting Event went very well with great attendance. Hovis wished everyone a Merry Christmas & Happy New Year.
3. Administration & Finance – Council Member Poot expressed his thanks for the Committee's diligence in budget control.

## **REPORTS OF PROFESSIONAL ADVISORS**

1. Solicitor: No additional report.
2. Engineer: Engineer Erdman expressed his gratitude to Council President Balascak for his many years of leadership.
3. Borough Manager: Manager Paashaus reminded Council of the Reorganization Meeting on January 3, 2022.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

Council President Balascak stated that he was honored to serve on Council for over 25 years. Balascak gave a charge to the future Council to look at issues, study, and look towards the future.

## **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 Dietz to adjourn. The meeting adjourned at 8:02 PM.