

COOPERSBURG BOROUGH COUNCIL
Regular Meeting Minutes
July 18, 2023

The meeting of the Coopersburg Borough Council was held in Borough Hall on Tuesday, July 18th & was called to order by Council President Poot at 7:00 p.m.

OPENING CEREMONIES

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

All present were Council Members, Dowdle, Ellenberger, Kane, Norman, Poot, Manager Paashaus, Solicitor Gross McGinley.

Council Member Dietz, Thrapp, McCarthy Engineering, & Jr. Council Bealer were absent.

AGENDA

A Motion was made by Dowdle & seconded by Norman to approve the Agenda as written. **The Agenda was adopted by a vote of 5-0.**

PUBLIC COMMENT

Seth Pellegrini & Jackie Farrell were present to request an update on Oxford Ridge. They both expressed frustration with the delay, drainage issues, grading, & the fact that no additional plan was submitted. At this time, the developer has not submitted an updated plan.

CONSENT AGENDA

A Motion was made by Dowdle & seconded by Kane to receive the Monthly Reports (Financial Statements, Council Information Report, Police Report, & Engineer Report. No Fire Report submitted), & approve the previous meeting minutes from June 20, 2023. **The Consent Agenda was approved by a vote of 5-0.**

ACTION ITEMS

1. Kane gave a summary of the hiring process and committee recommendations regarding the open Public Works Crew Position. The position was advertised on Indeed, FB, & the Borough website. After over 40 applications were reviewed, the committee interviewed several candidates. Second interviews were conducted by Kane, Purfeerst, & Paashaus. The committee made the following 2 recommendations: A Motion was made by Kane & seconded by Dowdle to offer a position to Richard Guers at a starting rate of \$23.50 per hour with an effective starting date of August 7, 2023, unless otherwise negotiated with the Public Works Director. **The Motion passed by a vote of 5-0.** Additionally, a Motion was made by Kane & seconded by Dowdle to offer a position to Adam Sine at a starting rate of \$23.50 per hour with an effective starting date of September 4, 2023. There was further discussion regarding a current pending retirement, staggering the training of 2 new employees, CDL training, & current workload. **The Motion was approved by a vote of 5-0.**
2. Manager Paashaus gave a summary of the current banking situation for the Borough. The General Fund was a victim of mail fraud in spring of 2023 and then again in June 2023. After correcting the issues, a new account was needed at Embassy Bank to keep operations current. The Borough will be applying for a new credit card account as well. The Borough was able to stop the fraud and did not sustain any monetary loss beyond a few fees and the printing of new checks. Embassy Bank has been very helpful in the transition. A Motion was made by Dowdle & seconded by Ellenberger to approve the opening of a new Credit Card Account, as well as transition of the General Fund & Capital Reserve Accounts to Embassy Bank. **The Motion passed by a vote of 5-0.**
3. A Motion was made by Dowdle & seconded by Norman to approve the purchase of a new police cruiser from New Holland Auto Group for \$39,575.00 plus the cost of equipping, utilizing LSA grant funding. **The Motion passed by a vote of 5-0.**

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

1. Infrastructure – No additional report.
2. Public Safety – Council Member Dowdle stated that the Police negotiations have progressed the “easiest they have ever gone”. The CBA will be finalized and confirmed in August.
3. Administration & Finance – No additional report.

REPORTS OF PROFESSIONAL ADVISORS

1. Solicitor: No additional report.
2. Engineer: No additional report. (Absent)
3. Borough Manager: No additional report.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS

ADJOURNMENT

A Motion was made by Dowdle & seconded by Kane to adjourn. The meeting adjourned at 7:36 PM.