

UTICA BOROUGH COUNCIL

Date: June 13, 2017

Location: Utica Fire Hall

Meeting was called to order by Vice President Bill Henze at 7:05 p.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance. In attendance in addition to B. Henze were Ken Bryan, Jack Foster, Shannon Osborn, Mayor MaryAnn Schell and Secretary/Treasurer Jody Burgert. Absent was Tod Elford, who was traveling in Norway.

B. Henze called for a motion to approve the minutes of the May meeting. Motion was made, seconded and approved.

B. Henze called for a motion to approve the May treasurer's report. Motion was made, seconded and approved.

B. Henze called for a motion that all bills be paid, including an invoice from Allen P. Clark for 17 hours of mowing and \$46 for gas. Motion was made, seconded and approved.

Recognition of Guests: A.P. Clark attended the meeting.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

RECREATION REPORT: Council complimented A.P. Clark for his work at the park.

ROAD REPORT: J. Foster reported that Frenchcreek Township did an excellent job of cleaning the ditches. He noted that some rocks supporting the bank by the bridge have slipped into Millcreek due to high water. No one is certain about DEP regulations but will investigate.

COMMUNITY LIAISON: Things are good.

FIRE DEPARTMENT LIAISON: J. Burgert asked for permission to contact Select Security to reinstall the security cameras that were taken down when the fire department remodeled that side of the building.

OLD BUSINESS

EMERGENCY SHELTER: B. Henze was given the Red Cross application for the emergency shelter to take to the fire department as several initials are needed.

MEADOR PROPERTY: J. Foster will investigate the property and notify J. Burgert about the letter than needs to be written, either releasing the property, requiring additional work, or bringing in the inspection officer. K. Bryan reiterated that he has dirt available for the Meadors to use with no cost except the fuel to transport the dirt.

DCNR PLAYGROUND GRANT: J. Burgert reported that the Borough received \$1,000 Walmart grant to cover items such as paint for the pavilion, signs, sealing of the basketball court, etc. In addition, bidding packages for the concrete work have been sent to four local contractors and others that EADS thought might be interested in the project. Bids are due to EADS by June 30. They will review for appropriateness and then Council will review the bids at the July 11 meeting and award the work to the lowest qualified bidder. Council approved the establishment of a savings account at Northwest Savings to satisfy the requirement to keep DCNR funds separate from the General Fund. Signers on the account will be Tod Elford, William Henze and Joanne Burgert

LIGHT UP NIGHT: J. Burgert reported that a representative from Hazlett Tree Service will look at the trees the Borough hopes to use during light up night, which are thought to have a disease. T. Elford has agreed to contact Mrs. McAvoy for her permission to decorate the trees.

STREET SWEEPING: The sweeping is scheduled for June 16 with Suit-Kote. K. Bryan offered a piece of equipment that would allow packed down dirt to be loosened before the sweeping. J. Foster is in charge.

FRENCH CREEK VALLEY CONSERVANCY: The FCVC Sojourn from Shaw's Landing to Utica is scheduled for Saturday, June 17. A dinner will be held at French Creek Farm. Mayor Schell will welcome the group with B. Henze agreeing to provide a brief and light-hearted history of Utica during dinner.

WELCOME TO UTICA SIGN: Caldwell Signage Solutions has created many of the signs around the area, including the Nicklin Church and the Galena Building. Extera is a wood look alike that lasts and can be freshened as time passes. A 4X6 sign would cost about \$1,400. A variety of locations for the sign was discussed.

UTICA FESTIVAL/BIG BASS TOURNAMENT: Information on the event was provided and discussed. The festival continues to grow and a new aspect this year will be the battle of the barrels by area fire departments on Sunday afternoon.

NEW BUSINESS

BLIGHT FUNDS: The county has received funds to help with blight and improvements for low income folks in Venango County. All municipalities will receive information on requirements for funding soon. In the meantime, Council members can approach residents about the possibility of home improvements at no cost to them.

MISCELLANEOUS:

- A thank you note, in appreciation of the \$300 donated by the Borough, was read from Andrew Holden, who worked at the Western Pennsylvania Conservancy boat launch for his Eagle Scout project.
- The annual clean-up of French Creek was discussed.

Meeting concluded at 8:16 p.m.

Respectively submitted,

Joanne C. Burgert, Ed.D.
Secretary/Treasurer