

Borough of Pitcairn Council
Combined Agenda and Business Meeting Minutes
December 13, 2021, 6:00 pm

Meeting called to order – President Dona Galia

Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Roll Call:

Kevin Dick

Dona Galia

Megan Law

Lisa Petrosky

Jim Rullo

Richard Tartaglione

Michael Tobias

Mayor Margaret Stevick

All Present.

Mrs. Galia motioned to approve Minutes for Council Combined Meetings, November 8, 2021, November 22, 2021 and Special Meeting December 6, 2021. Seconded by Mr. Tobias; motion carried unanimously.

Mrs. Galia announced that Council held an Executive Session to discuss personnel issues.

Citizen Comment

Referencing prior discussions, Evelyn Marto asked if the Fire Company would be given the Public Safety Fee money to pay their various bills themselves as opposed to the borough office and will Council audit their books. Mr. Rullo said that could be a condition of an agreement. Mrs. Law added the new Council would have to discuss. Mrs. Marto asked where the Fire Company got the \$12,000 that was mentioned. George Toth replied: that is State money the Fire Company receives every year. Deb Marto thanked the outgoing Council members for their service to the community and wished them the best. George Toth and Tom Dick, Jr. responded to Mrs. Marto that the Fire Company was audited in 2018 by an independent auditor at the direction of Council.

Mayor Report

Mayor Stevick reported the police worked 161 calls in November. She encouraged parents to come to bus stops and she summarized the school bus laws and fines.

Personnel – Dona Galia

Borough Offices will be closed one half day on December 23rd and a full day December 24th.

After discussion, Council decided to hold the January 3, 2022 Borough Council Reorganization Meeting in the Park Building at 6:00 pm. After discussion that included the newly elected Council members in attendance, it was decided to maintain one Meeting a month, on the second Monday at 6:00 pm as Council's combined meeting time and date. It was pointed out this can be adjusted if the new Council chooses to do that. The next Meeting will be January 10th.

Streets – Kevin Dick

Mr. Dick announced the Engineer has completed the Engineering Study to establish weights and size restrictions for various roadways in the borough. **Mr. Dick motioned to authorize the Solicitor to draft a local Ordinance. Seconded by Mr. Rullo; motion carried unanimously.**

Mr. Dick motioned to approve final \$2,000 installment to Century Engineering (formerly Interstate Acquisition Services) for finalizing all new title searches and updated right of way clearances as required by the Pennsylvania Department of General Services related to the Flood

Control Project. All work to be completed by January 31, 2022 if not sooner. Seconded by Mr. Tartaglione; motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Dick motioned to approve Change Order #1 from A. Liberoni, Inc. for Center and Hillside Paving Program in the amount of \$5,037.30. Seconded by Mr. Rullo; motion carried unanimously.

Mrs. Dick motioned to approve payment application #1 for Center and Hillside Paving Program to A. Liberoni, Inc. in the amount of \$70,850.96 to be paid from Capital Improvement Fund. Seconded by Mr. Tobias; motion carried unanimously.

Parks and Recreation

Mr. Tartaglione reported the holiday events went well. Over 100 bags of candy distributed; Santa was there, a bonfire. He thanked the police, fire company and all the volunteers.

Mr. Tartaglione motioned to approve new swing set with four swings to replace the wooden one at Summer's Field. Cost is \$6,567.70 to be paid from General Fund and installed by Public Works Crew. Seconded by Mr. Tobias; motion carried unanimously.

Finance and Economic Development – Lisa Petrosky

Mrs. Petrosky motioned to adopt the proposed and advertised 2022 General Fund Budget in the amount of \$4,516,013.76. Seconded by Mr. Rullo; motion carried unanimously.

Mrs. Petrosky motioned to adopt Ordinance 1046 amending Ordinance 917, fixing the salaries and rates of compensation for the appointive officers, monthly and hourly employees for 2022. Seconded by Mr. Rullo; motion carried unanimously.

Mrs. Petrosky motioned to adopt Ordinance 1047 fixing and levying the real estate tax rate for the year 2022 to remain at 9.25 mills. Seconded by Mr. Rullo; motion carried unanimously.

Mrs. Petrosky motioned to pay bills as presented. Seconded by Mr. Rullo; motion carried unanimously.

Mrs. Petrosky invited everyone to Planning Commission Meeting tomorrow evening at 6:00 pm and Economic Development Build Session with Fourth Economy to follow at 6:45 pm. The Planning Commission will hear a request for Group Homes in the B-1 Zone. Mrs. Petrosky thanked the departing Council members for their past and hopefully continuing guidance.

Health and Welfare – Michael Tobias

Mr. Tobias motioned to authorize the Engineer to submit the 2021 Wasteload Management Report to ALCOSAN. Seconded by Mr. Rullo; motion carried unanimously.

Nick Turner, the Code Enforcement Officer submitted his monthly reports to Council. He asked Council if they should vote to accept two tenant registration exemptions for properties that are no longer used as rentals but occupied by family members. Council responded there was no need to vote. Mr. Turner reported that the gas company will be finishing their work on 4th Street, moving on to 6th Street. They will attempt to impact as little sidewalk as possible.

Electric

Jim Comunale is requesting Council approve purchase of smart meters and software as previously discussed because the system will take three months to implement. The current meters were purchased in 2012 and must be read by an employee, turned off and on physically, the software is outdated and

unable to remotely pinpoint problems during outages, or provide detailed usage data for customers. In 2012 smart meters cost \$680,000. Mrs. Law motioned to approve Mr. Comunale's recommendation to purchase smart meters from Nighthawk for \$295,340 paid over the course of three years, no finance charge or interest. Mr. Dick asked Mrs. Law to rescind her motion which she did. **He then motioned to amend the Agenda based on new information he received within the last 24 hours. Seconded by Mrs. Petrosky; motion carried unanimously. Mr. Dick explained that Mr. Comunale late today reported a better quote from a competitor for the same meters. He then motioned to approve the purchase of meters up to \$295,340 over the course of three years, no finance charge or interest. Seconded by Mr. Rullo; motion carried unanimously.**

Mrs. Law thanked the outgoing Council members for their guidance, the path they paved and wished everyone happy holidays.

Public Safety – Jim Rullo

Mr. Rullo motioned to approve advertising a new Civil Service Testing. Seconded by Mr. Dick; motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Rullo motioned to approve conditional offer of part time employment to Police Officer Seth Haggerty. Seconded by Mrs. Petrosky; motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Rullo motioned to approve conditional offer of part time employment to Police Officer Alexander Caldwell. Seconded by Mr. Dick; motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Rullo thanked Mrs. Galia, Mr. Dick, and Mr. Tobias for their dedication and commitment; it has been a pleasure to work with them and wished them luck.

Solicitor's Report

Mr. Kalina echoed the same and he looks forward to working with the new Council members.

Engineer's Report

Don Black submitted his monthly report to Council. Liberoni will be laying a base course around the Public Works garage so it can safely be used; will return in Spring to finish the wearing course. Mrs. Petrosky asked when a utility company opens the road do they have a time frame to repair it. Mr. Black: that procedure would be in your local ordinance. Mr. Kalina offered to look at the newly updated street opening Ordinance. Mrs. Petrosky: there is a substantial drop on 6th Street. Mr. Dick said they milled that and a few other streets but did not return. Mr. Black offered to get involved if need be. Mayor Stevick said at Agatha and Center they left stone and it is hard to walk on. Mr. Black pointed out they will have warm weather to take advantage of. He offered to look into it.

Police Chief Report

Chief Farally thanked the departing and current council members for their support and friendship through the years and many challenges and changes.

Mr. Dick thanked his fellow council members individually; we put a lot of time into this, very involved. He thanked the Chief, the Manager, all the employees who work hard, the Mayor, naming the past Council members he served with, thanked the Solicitor, the Engineer for both being dedicated to Pitcairn. He thanked the residents for their support during challenging times.

Mr. Tobias thanked the Chief, the Mayor for her dedication; he thanked each Council member individually. Mrs. Law thanked the Council members for all the monumental projects they have

accomplished. Mr. Tobias continued to thank his fellow outgoing Council members, adding the friendships will continue, the Solicitor, Engineer as true professionals, thanked the residents that come faithfully each month, and the employees. Mr. Tobias welcomed the new members and wished them luck.

Council President Mrs. Galia recalled it was Mr. Dick and Mr. Bova who encouraged her eight years ago to become involved. It has been very interesting, so much to learn, the finances, procedures, she commends anyone for stepping up because it can be very challenging. She commended the public for attending as an important part of the process. Mrs. Galia listed specific highlights of the last eight years that the team on Council oversaw: Ms. Dietz came on with financial skills, increased funding, made improvements, she encouraged the new Council members to rely on that knowledge, on the Engineer, on the Solicitor, the Chief. Mrs. Galia continued: we helped Fire Company #1 pay off their debt. With the help of the Gilliland Foundation the new Borough building was built, a boon for Broadway, safe and secure with the Police Station right here. The Q19 3-day Celebration was awesome showcasing the amazing people of Pitcairn. The decision to assist Wilmerding and hiring five full time officers is a huge accomplishment. She thanked the residents who are involved, each fellow Council member individually, thanked individual employees for their hard work every day, Chief Farally, Jim Comunale, wished the new Council members luck. Mrs. Galia ended by reminding everyone we have a bocce court that's paid for so be sure to see it through.

Tom Dick, Jr. thanked present and past Council on behalf of Fire Company #1 for all their support and assistance; they credit the borough with the financial stability they have. Mrs. Galia responded by thanking the fire fighters for their service to the community.

Ms. Dietz thanked the outgoing Council members, current and past, for the privilege of working for them, for their leadership, unity, and careful fiscal decision making over the years through many projects.

Mr. Dick motioned to Adjourn at 6:48 pm. Seconded by Mr. Tobias; motion carried.

Respectfully submitted, Annette Dietz