

**Borough of Pitcairn Council  
Workshop Meeting  
Minutes  
November 26, 2018  
7:00 pm**

**Meeting called to order – Vice President Dona Galia.  
Pledge of Allegiance was recited.**

**Roll Call:**

Doug Crothers  
Kevin Dick  
Cammeo Farally was absent.  
Dona Galia  
Lorraine Myers  
Jim Rullo  
Mike Tobias was absent.  
Mayor Stevick was absent.

Mrs. Galia announced Council held an advertised Budget Meeting at 6:00 pm.

**Citizen Comment**

Bev Shearer brought up the topic from last Meeting about cupboards in the Park Building used by the Women's Auxiliary in the past that had the locks removed without permission. Mr. Dick learned that the Mayor had given the custodian the directive to remove the locks, to free up available storage space. Mr. Tobias suggested in the future that the organizations, the Borough Manager or Council should be consulted first.

Deb Marto asked how many people were currently using the Savvy Citizen app. Council asked the Manager to look into that. Ms. Marto asked if the new borough building included room for growth, for Code Enforcement office. Mrs. Galia described several offices, the floor plan can be adjusted. Doug and Virginia Crothers observed there is no office for tax collector who may not always want to operate out of her home. Mr. Dick responded the Code Officer will be in the new building: there is a large room in the front that can be split up into smaller offices. Mrs. Crothers asked to see the floor plan. Chief Farally did not want to show the police department floor plan. Mrs. Galia said the Billing Department will be on the left side of the building, the Police Department on the right.

Lisa Petrosky thanked Council for permitting the lantern release. Mrs. Petrosky said there should be an audit of Fire Company #1's finances. Mrs. Galia: that is planned.

**Personnel – Dona Galia**

**Mr. Crothers motioned to advertise for adoption on December 10, 2018, an Ordinance of the Borough of Pitcairn amending Ordinance no. 917 as amended and fixing the salaries and rates of compensation for the appointive officers, and monthly and hourly employees of the Borough of Pitcairn, Allegheny County, Pennsylvania beginning January 2019. Seconded by Mrs. Myers; motion carried unanimously.**

**Streets – Mike Tobias**

**Mr. Dick motioned to advertise for adoption on December 10, 2018, an Ordinance of the Borough of Pitcairn, County of Allegheny, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania amending Chapter 1, administration and Government, of the Borough of Pitcairn Code, specifically Part 8, Sections 801, 802, 803 and 804, as to the recognition of the Pitcairn Hose Company #1 as the sole volunteer Fire Company of the Borough, and removing from the Pitcairn Fire Relief Fire Company Number 2 as a recognized volunteer Fire company of the Borough. Seconded by Mr. Crothers. Roll call vote resulted in motion carrying with Mr. Dick abstaining and Mr. Rullo voting no. Mrs. Galia explained this has been going on for at least six years. Lengthy discussion took place between Council and those in attendance. An**

unidentified woman said that Fire Company 1 asks for money from the Borough and Fire Company 2 does not, is more financially stable, and yet they were not chosen. Mr. Crothers: we chose the one who responds to calls. She disputed that saying that Fire Company 1 calls them off and they are not going to crew for gas odor or smoke call only to be called off. Virginia Crothers recalled the large public discussion at the Park Building where it was proposed the two merge but she thought Fire Co 2 did not want to do that so the only choice was to close down #2 and its members could join #1. The woman said they were told they would have to apply and fulfill a probationary period. Mr. Dick and Mr. Crothers said there will be a meeting with the Fire Chiefs about these particulars. Chief Farally said Council adopted a Resolution authorizing him as Public Safety Director to mediate this and he has the authority to choose the run card. Kim Lang said Chief's report on the two companies included a cost of \$30,000 to run #1 Fire co for a year. She said her records show that Fire Company #2 cost \$89,000 over four years and Fire Co. #1 cost \$228,000. How are you going to run Fire Co #1 for \$30,000 a year? Ms. Lang clarified that \$139,000 was for a totaled fire engine. Mrs. Galia asked for order, cautioned people to avoid name calling. Brian Spudy expressed how deeply it would affect him if his Fire Co would be dissolved, that he has been Chief for 20 years. He recalled 35 years ago they discussed merging and the companies were strongly against it. Mr. Spudy: we don't own our building but we have no loans, we own our equipment with the exception of some items purchased with Fire Relief money. He has looked into where to give his equipment. Their fire engine is newer than anyone else's in town. He wished that Council would have given them consideration before deciding. Mr. Dick: Chief Farally has to be in charge of this. Mr. Spudy suggested keeping two stations and Council appoint a Fire Chief. Mr. Dick reminded him five or six years ago they were not open to that and Mr. Spudy agreed. Mr. Dick asked him to give Chief Farally a chance. George Burkhardt asked Council to wait on the motion, talk more, meet together with Chief Farally, the companies may or may not agree to merge. He said the AG will hold them accountable for their equipment and if they have to remove it from town they will. He said other fire companies want them. Mr. Dick suggested the Solicitor be at the meeting as he is familiar with mergers; Chief Farally will reach out to you. Ms. Lang and Brian Spudy said they have not been invited to certain meetings, their suggestions to Fire Co 1 are not considered and they gave specific examples. Ms. Lang shared the current Borough ISO rating is 4, which is good. She said it will go up if the Borough goes to one company and Fire Co 2 removes their equipment, that this will affect home owner's insurance.

Bill Christian said over the years there have been two analyses into this matter and they were completely different. Why not have a third independent one. Chief Farally said one only went by public information, they didn't have protected CAD information, all the financial records. Mrs. Galia summed up: we appreciate all the input, Council has motioned, Chief will meet with you and assist in the transition. George Burkhardt: we will do what we have to do to protect our investments. Mrs. Galia said that members of Council value all you do for the community and she doesn't feel it is acceptable that you have to prove yourselves to join Fire Co 1. That is one of the things that Chief will work with them to make sure that doesn't happen. Mr. Burkhardt reiterated if after meeting with Chief and if Fire Co 1 won't bend, we will protect our name and our equipment, it's not against the town. Chief Farally: Council has the final say; we will try to mediate this as soon as possible.

### **Parks and Recreation – Cammeo Farally**

Mrs. Galia thanked the Police, Fire Companies, Public Works, Bill and Carri Kozier, Park and Recreation Board, Camp G, the Lions Club and Pitcairn Renaissance and everyone else involved for a very nice Old Fashioned Christmas event.

**Finance and Economic Development – Jim Rullo**

**Mr. Rullo motioned to advertise an Ordinance of the Borough of Pitcairn, Allegheny County, Pennsylvania, enacting fixing and levying the real estate tax rate of 8.75 mills within the Borough of Pitcairn for the year 2019, for adoption on December 10, 2018. Seconded by Mrs. Myers. Mr. Rullo pointed out the tax rate remains the same. Motion carried unanimously.**

**Mr. Rullo motioned to advertise the proposed 2019 \$3,670,575 General Fund budget for public review and adoption on December 10, 2018. Seconded by Mrs. Myers; motion carried unanimously.**

**Health and Welfare – Doug Crothers**

Nothing tonight.

**Electric – Kevin Dick**

Mr. Dick thanked everyone who helped with Old Fashioned Christmas.

**Public Safety – Lorraine Myers**

Nothing tonight.

Chief Farally thanked both fire companies for working together to make the Old Fashioned Christmas so much fun for the kids. He also thanked Monroeville EMS for the free community flu shots.

**Mr. Dick motioned to Adjourn at 7:37 pm. Seconded by Mrs. Myers; motion carried.**

Respectfully Submitted,

Annette Dietz