

## MT WOLF BOROUGH MINUTES

November 10, 2015

### **CONVENE**

The Mount Wolf Borough Council met in a regular session on Tuesday, November 10, 2015, beginning at 7:00 P.M. The meeting was called to order by Council President, Pat Poet.

### **ATTENDANCE**

The following council members and other officials were present:

**Council** -- Mike Amsler, Dan Davis, Les Jordan, Bill Marquis, Dennis Naylor, Pat Poet, Ronald Witmer, Mayor Mo Starner, Secretary Steve Kehler, Zoning Officer Sande Cunningham, Attorney Joe Gothie and Engineer Chris Owens were present.

**Visitors in Attendance** -- Chief Rizzo from Northeastern Regional Police Department, Nick Davis and Norm Claybaugh from Eagle Fire Company, John Zeilinski, James Arex, and Mary Toomey from 309 N. Main Street.

### **AGENDA/MINUTES**

A Witmer/Amsler motion was made to approve the agenda and minutes as presented. The motion was passed unanimously.

### **ENGINEER'S REPORT**

**Floodplain Ordinance Update** - Chris Owens reported that the Floodplain Ordinance needs to be given to FEMA by December 16, 2015.

**New York Wire Property** - A section of wall that was left standing from the New York Wire building and now serving as a retaining wall collapsed during the last rain storm. A MetEd pole is exposed and a storm drain was damaged. Chris will call Conservation District to come inspect the property to see if they can nudge the property owner to repair the wall.

### **SOLICITOR'S REPORT**

**Attorney Gothie's Resignation** - After ten years of working as solicitor for the Borough, Joe has come to the decision that it is time for him to move on. He will stay until March so that he can tie up loose ends and help the Borough Council find someone to replace him.

**Flood Plain Ordinance** - Attorney Gothie will have the Flood Plain Ordinance ready to adopt at the December meeting.

### **ZONING OFFICER'S REPORT**

Sande Cunningham handed in her previous month's report for permit applications.

**177 North Main Street Concerns** - The property owner closed up the house to keep people from trespassing. Sande will continue to monitor the property.

## **MAYOR'S REPORT**

**Lion's Club** - Mayor Mo shared a letter from the Lion's Club thanking the Borough for financial support and helping with the Halloween Parade.

**Crossing Guard Vests** - The Mayor submitted the bill to Steve for the breakaway vests that were purchased for the crossing guards.

## **STREETS**

**Snow Plow Drivers** - Dennis Naylor reported that the Borough's snow plow drivers will remain the same as last year.

## **INSURANCE**

**Workman's Comp Claim** - Firefighter Logan Wunsch sprained his ankle and back helping lift a heavier woman on an ambulance call on October 20th. The claim was settled quickly.

## **PARKS & RECREATION**

**Mount Wolf Park Trees** - John Zielinski met with Bartlett Tree Service to get a plan set for taking care of the trees in the park. The first part of the plan is to prune all branches that pose a hazard. They will also be taking 3 trees out that are dead. Council would like to know when they plan on removing the trees so that the school can be informed and they can plan accordingly for recess. The long term goal is to continue to remove any hazardous branches and to thin out trees and replace them with trees that won't be as large. Bartlett Tree Service will also donate Community Service on Arbor Day by pruning trees. They will get together again with a plan to plant trees which will replace the ones that are being removed.

**Surveillance Cameras** - The new camera system is in place and the old system has been installed at the maintenance shed.

**VFW Pavilion** - Mike Amsler was given a quote of \$2,000.00 for the VFW Pavilion repairs. He will be in contact with the VFW so they can pay for the repairs.

**Greiman Park Food Stand** - Mike will be in contact with NEYSA to winterize the ball fields food shed.

## **BUDGET & FINANCE**

**Payment of Bills** – A Jordan/Davis motion was made to approve the payment of bills #2870 - #2905 in the amount of \$38,730.15 as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

**Budget for 2016** - Due to Attorney Gothie's resignation Council discussed that it would be wise to increase the legal fees by \$10,000.00 to compensate pay for the new Solicitor.

The Police Departments final figure for the new year is \$190,459.28 which is a \$10,000.00 increase from last year.

A Davis/Marquis motion was made to advertise budget as open for inspection for 2016. The motion was passed unanimously.

**Millage Rate for 2016** - A Marquis/Naylor motion was made to set the millage rate for 2016 at 4.2 mils and to advertise to raise the taxes due to the increase in the police department's budget. They will vote on it at the December Council meeting.

Amsler - yes

Davis - yes

Jordan - no

Marquis - yes

Naylor - yes

Poet - no

Witmer - yes

The motion was carried with 5 yes and 2 no.

## **HEALTH & SAFETY**

Dan Davis reported on the following:

**SPCA 2016 Contract** - A Marquis/Jordan motion was made to approve the 2016 SPCA contract for \$697.00. The motion was passed unanimously

**NERPD Union Discussion** - The police department's union contract expires end of 2016. The police board will be discussing contract negotiations.

**Eagle Fire Company** - Nick Davis and Norm Claybaugh were present to represent the Fire Company. They shared that they have been self dispatching on ambulance calls since they have quite a few medical personnel that volunteer.

They also make sure that there are always volunteers at the firehouse in the event there are more than 1 emergency calls.

## **PROPERTIES AND SERVICES**

**Locks on Borough Buildings** - Bill suggested that the Borough change the locks on all the buildings so that they are more secure. Dan Davis will call Kleppers to set up a time to meet with them and come up with an estimate of what it will cost. Steve also expressed a need for a desk that has locks on the drawers.

## **EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT**

There was no report this month.

## **VISITORS**

- Chief Rizzo was present for the Police Department if Council members had any questions for him.

- Mary Toomey of 309 N. Main Street wanted to inform the Council members of a vicious dog attack that occurred while she was walking her dog. The dog that attacked her dog belongs to the residents at 243 N. Main Street. The dog is known for its aggressive behavior. The police were called and Patrolman Goodman came to the incident. Ms. Toomey also had a full veterinarian report by Dr. Riley. Her dog did obtain some serious wounds and Ms. Toomey is very traumatized by the incident. Attorney Gothie suggested that Council notify the dog warden to do an investigation. He will also send a letter to the dog owners letting them know that the Borough is aware of the incident and that it is a violation of the Dog Ordinance to not have the animal leashed.
- James Arex was present to sit in on the meeting.

## **COMMUNICATIONS**

Steve received a letter from the Senior Center thanking Borough Council for their donation this year.

## **Old/New Business**

**Tuesday Office Hours** - December 15th will be the last office hours until February.

## **ADJOURN**

At 9:30 PM a Davis/Marquis motion was made to adjourn. The motion passed unanimously.

Mandy L. Davis, Recording Secretary