

Point Marion Borough Council Meeting

Minutes

APRIL 22nd, 2024

Council meeting was opened with a moment of silence and Pledge of Allegiance by President Joseph Corcoran

Members present: J. Corcoran, J. Stewart, M. Cottrell, Jim Cottrell, Bob Goodwin, and Anthony Jordon, and Solicitor Doug Sholtis, Mayor Carl Ables.

Absent: Billie Jo Nicklow

Others present: Rosemary Costa, Kevin Kann (Big K), and Jackie Cottrell

Roll call was taken by the Secretary and quorum was established.

Minutes of the April 08th, 2024 meeting were presented a motion was made by Bob Goodwin and seconded by Jack Stewart to accept the minutes as corrected. M.C.

Engineering Report:

None

Public Comment:

Kevin Kann of Big K was present and addressed council stating that his company was in the process of purchasing the old drug store building on 203 Penn St. He had made some comments that he was concerned about council not working with him because of recent events and now has been fined \$10,000 for violations that he was not familiar with. He asked Council if the body was willing to work with him on the building and council responded that they would be willing to work with him.

Jackie Cottrell inquired about the lien and if it would be lifted, Jack Stewart made a motion and Mitch Cottrell seconded the motion that the lien in the amount of \$11,182.93 be satisfied by the solicitor in the Courthouse. A vote was taken there were 4 Yeh's and 1 abstained from voting. M.C.

Cyndi Fisher complained that campaign signs have not been removed within the Borough.

Linda Bise and Julia Castell gave an update on Utility billing and collections has been cleaning up the data base and also there was a problem with renters not receiving their bills. Lastly it is being requested to go back to the post cards again to save on postage.

Also, a question was raised if it would be possible to email bills, Council President Joe Corcoran suggest that council discuss and then vote.

Julia request that Linda have access to view utilities bank account online, Secretary/Treasurer Whyel states he has no objection to the request. A motion was made by Bob Goodwin and seconded by Jim Cottrell to allow Linda Bise to view utilities account online. M.C.

Bob Completed repairs on the walking trail at the park, Bob also requested to obtain parking stops so that individuals don't park and pull into the grassy area.

Wendy states since the 501©3 has been obtained they applied for and received their small games of chance license.

Bob Goodwin states since the last B'BQ went so well he is planning on having another one to be held Saturday May 4th, 2024.

Wendy states that FayPenn gave up some of their time on the WMBS radio talk show so that they could promote the upcoming regatta.

Wendy talks about the upcoming grant writing workshop to be held in Uniontown Pennsylvania and requests that the Borough pay the \$50.00 fee for each of Linda Bise, Wendy Cottrell, and Julia Castell. Secretary/Treasurer requested to be included. Mitch Cottrell made a motion and was seconded by Jack Stewart to pay the \$200.00 fee to send the 4 individuals to the work shop. M.C. The work shop will be held on May 29th, 2024.

A discussion took place concerning Phase I and Phase II of the park grant, it was suggested that we could get the park area cleaned up for approximately \$500.00 a motion was made by Mitch Cottrell and seconded by Jack Stewart to pay the \$500 for the necessary clean up. M.C.

Wendy mentioned there is a PA Park register and that the park was accepted into the PA Park register program and that there is funding available, a request on behalf of the park was made for \$40,000.00.

Lastly Eric Snyder made a proposal to the Park Committee to develop a safe trail through town, Eric requested a meeting with Council on Monday April 29th, 2024 5:00 P.M.

Mayor's Report:

None

Secretary's Report:

A motion was made by Jim Cottrell and seconded by Bob Goodwin to pay the bills. M.C.

Secretary updated Council on the 2022 Audit.

Secretary Whyel requested that the one park account not tied to litigation be turned over to the park-to-Park Secretary/Treasurer Wendy Cottrell with the intent that if the Park Committee disbanded that it be turned back to the Borough. After a discussion a motion was made by Jack Stewart and seconded by Anthony Jordan that the account be turned over to the park. Motion carried with a 3 to 2 vote in favor.

Lastly Secretary Whyel spoke to council concerning clean up day and what Greene Waste had proposed. Since there are issues with Columbia and Peoples Gas working in the Borough it was decided to table the matter due to human resource availability.

Solicitor's Report:

A discussion on Sallies Lien after the discussion Solicitor Sholtis states he will release the lien tomorrow at the courthouse. Other matters he will save for the executive session.

Code Officer's Report:

Jack Stewart gives a report on code enforcement activities within the Borough, also states 410 Highland Ave, is uninhabitable. Borough can't board up the structure, Jack recommends condemnation proceedings. After a discussion a motion was made by Jack Stewart and seconded by Jim Cottrell that condemnation proceeded be pursued. M.C.

Committee Reports:

Public Safety:

A question was raised concerning the Amusement and Recreation Fee.

Infrastructure:

Councilman Jim Cottrell gives a report on the daily infrastructure activities, also mention the D.E.P. will be in the borough on May 14th and 15th 2024.

Administrative

No Report

Community Development and Enhancement:

Report was given under public comment.

Unfinished Business:

Bob Goodwin asked about the status of two houses on Stewart Street.

New Business:

A motion was made by Mitch Cottrell and seconded by Bob Goodwin to enter into executive session at 8:46 P.M.

A Motion was made by Mitch Cottrell and seconded by Anthony Jordan to exit executive session at 10:00 P.M. M.C.

The following motions were made:

A motion was made by Jack Stewart and seconded by Anthony Jordan to hire Wendy Cottrell as part time clerk no more than 20 hours per week at \$14.00 per hour. A roll call vote was taken 3 to 1 in favor. M.C.

A motion was made by Jack Stewart and seconded by Mitch Cottrell to solicit liability insurance quotes. M.C.

A motion was made by Jack Stewart and seconded by Anthony Jordan to have Solicitor Sholtis send a letter to the insurance agency requesting a copy of the loss run report. M.C.

Jack Stewart mentioned that the town hall meeting held at the fire department was well attended and was a huge success.

Give no further business before council President Joe Corcoran called for Adjournment.

A motion was made by Mitch Cottrell and seconded by Jack Stewart to adjourn the meeting at 10:15 P.M. M.C.

President

Secretary

Date