

MUNICIPALITY OF BETHEL PARK

MINUTES OF REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

Date: October 12, 2015

Time: 7:35 P.M.

Location: Municipal Building

1. Roll Call

Present: Council Members Colella, Dixon, Gibbons, Hannan, Harrison, McLean and O'Brien

Absent: Council Members Moury and Pape

Also Present: Mayor Jack Allen; William J. Spagnol, Manager
Judith L. Miller, Assistant Manager; Solicitor Robert L. McTiernan; Gerard Duke, Director of Community Services, Chief Timothy O'Connor; Jean Statler, Municipal/Environmental Engineer; Ashley Moore, Municipal Planner

Meeting Note: Vice President Hannan served in the capacity of Acting President in the absence of Mr. Moury.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

3. Chair Announcement

Executive Sessions of Council were held on Monday, September 28, 2015 to discuss Police Contractual Issue and Administrative Personnel issue and on Monday, October 12, 2015, to discuss administrative personnel and Police issues.

Reports of Officials

4. Library Director's Report

Library Director, Christine McIntosh, stated that the Bethel Park Public Library provides services to inform, inspire and enrich the community.

Ms. McIntosh announced the current programs of interest at the Library. On Tuesday, October 20th at 10:00 a.m., Oasis Connections Computer Courses will present a Powerpoint Outline. The Connections curriculum is research based and designed for the needs of adults age 50 plus. Registration is required. On

Wednesday, October 21st at 7:00 p.m., the Western PA Paranormal Hunters will tell tales of personal paranormal experiences and share dramatic evidence captured during their investigations. This event is free, registration is required. Halloween Hullabaloo, the annual Halloween Party, will take place on Saturday October 24th at 6:00 p.m. Participants can dress in costume and join the staff for stories, songs and games. You can vote for your favorite pumpkin as decorated by staff. Registration is required. On Wednesday, October 28th at 7:00 p.m., Ashley Rozzi of Pittsburgh Wellness Productions, LLC will present a program called What Are You Really Eating: The Truth Behind Weight Gain. She will discuss hidden ingredients in foods, their effects on our body and inaccuracy of food labels. Registration is required.

Current Fundraising includes Purse Bash which will be held on Friday, November 20th from 7:00 – 10:00 p.m. at the Community Center. Tickets are \$25 each which includes soft drinks and snacks and can be purchased at the Library or through the website. Purses are on display in the Library.

Ms. McIntosh said that October is Friend Your Library Month. The annual dues are \$10. You can help support the Library with non-budgeted items and programs. The Friends welcome gifts of time, money and materials from its members and the community.

Ms. McIntosh was asked to mention, on behalf of BPTV, that the Zombie Walk is scheduled to take place on Saturday, October 24th at 4:00 p.m. at the High School. There is a \$10 fee to participate and you can bring your children free. Selfie with a Zombie is being sponsored by the Almanac.

For more information on these and the many other programs and services offered by the Library, visit the Library's web site at bethelparklibrary.org. You can also follow the Library on Facebook or Twitter.

5. Police Chief's Report

Chief O'Connor announced that the next Crime Watch meeting is scheduled for Monday, November 2nd at 6:30 p.m. at the Community Center. There will be a guest speaker who will demonstrate Tactical EMS and First Aid.

Chief said that October is Domestic Violence Awareness month. To help the victims of domestic violence, the department is sponsoring a donation drive to help shelters and temporary housing. Needed items are listed on the website and on the Police Facebook page. Items may be dropped off to the donation boxes placed near the Police Department, in the Municipal Building and the Community Center. The drive will run until the end of the month.

Chief said that deer hunting is underway in Pennsylvania. Any private landowners in the municipality who would like to open up their property to allow hunting by Whitetail Management, are asked to call the Chief's office so the property can be evaluated and put in touch with the group.

6. Fire Chief's Report

Chief David Gerber gave the fire report for the month of September. Chief Gerber reminded residents that it's time to turn your clocks back on November 1st. This is a good time to remember to change batteries in your smoke and C/O alarms.

He said that last week was National Fire Protection Association Week. This year's message is "Hear the beep before you sleep", as a reminder to check your detectors for battery power. He then discussed the new recommendations that detectors should be placed in every bedroom where someone sleeps in addition to on each floor of the house.

He then reminded everyone that anyone using a space heater must utilize a shorter, properly rated extension cord. The space heater should have a three foot radius around it and should be turned off when you leave the room as well as when you go to bed.

Chief Gerber said that the fire trucks will be out on Halloween night with candy for the kids. They have direct contact with the police in the event anything is needed that evening. If anyone wants to speak with the firemen, please be sure the truck is at a total stop before approaching.

7. Mayor's Report

Mayor Allen announced that Tri Community South EMS will administer flu shots on Tuesday, October 13th from noon to 4:00 p.m. at the Community Center.

Fall Clean Up day will be held on Saturday, October 17th. Anyone interested in volunteering can contact Michelle Baynham at the Municipal Building as soon as possible.

He then mentioned that Representative Rick Saccone has a satellite office at the Municipal Building. If anyone would like to see him, you can make an appointment in advance by calling his office at 412-653-1025.

Mayor then spoke about Halloween. Trick or Treat in Bethel Park will take place on Saturday, October 31st from 6:00 – 8:00 p.m.

He then said that the 90+ Club luncheon was held recently at the Community Center. There were approximately 75 people in attendance. He is hoping that over the next 10 months, more people will become aware of this event and that more will be in attendance at next year's luncheon.

Lastly, the next Town Hall Speaker Series, featuring Dave Crawley of KDKA, will take place on Wednesday, November 18th at 7:30 p.m. at the Community Center.

8. Approval of Minutes

Regular Council Meeting Minutes of September 14, 2015.

Motion by Mr. McLean and seconded by Mrs. Gibbons to approve the Regular Council Meeting Minutes of September 14, 2015. Motion Carried 7 – 0. Council Members Moury and Pape absent.

9. Public Hearing Minutes of August 24, 2015 – Cool Springs Assisted Living

Motion by Mr. McLean and seconded by Mrs. Gibbons to approve the Public Hearing Minutes of August 24, 2015 – Cool Springs Assisted Living, Application No. 2015-0267, conditional use. Motion Carried 7 – 0. Council Members Moury and Pape absent.

10. Special Meeting of September 28, 2015 – Bethel Park Police Hiring

Motion by Mr. McLean and seconded by Mrs. Gibbons to approve the Special Meeting Minutes of September 28, 2015 – Bethel Park Police Hiring. Motion Carried 7 – 0. Council Members Moury and Pape absent.

11. Bills and Payrolls

Motion by Mr. McLean and seconded by Mrs. Gibbons to approve the Bills and Payrolls for the Municipality per Bill List #101215 in the amount of \$3,299,987.17. Motion Carried 7 – 0. Council Members Moury and Pape absent.

12. Residents' Comments (non-agenda items only)

None

13. Citizens' Comments – General Policy and Finance Items

None

GENERAL POLICY AND FINANCE

14. General Policy and Finance Items

Bethel Park Police Association – Police Contract

Motion by Mr. McLean and seconded by Mrs. Gibbons to approve a 5-year contract between the Municipality of Bethel Park and the Bethel Park Police Association effective January 1, 2016. Motion Carried 7 – 0. Council Members Moury and Pape absent.

Per the request of Mr. Pape, the following text is verbatim:

Mr. O'Brien said:

"I wanted to personally thank Council President Tim Moury and staff for working very diligent on this, and the Police also, for coming up with a contract. I just want to thank them. Thank you Mr. Chairman."

The following text is verbatim.

Mr. McLean said:

"I just wanted to note for everyone, in particular the voting public out there, Tuesday, November 3rd is Election Day and on the ballot for voters in Bethel Park there will be a proposed Home Rule Charter amendment. The amendment is to change the Charter to provide that the Chief of Police of the Municipality shall be directly responsible to the Municipal Manager rather than to Council. That change was recommended by the Home Rule Study Commission and adopted by an Ordinance of this Council and the concept and idea behind the proposed change is that currently the Police Chief reports directly to Council and experience has shown us what that means is that the Police Chief, in effect, has nine bosses and it gets a little cumbersome. It is also cumbersome from an administrative perspective since the Municipal Manager doesn't currently have direct responsibility over the Police Department. So it is our recommendation that this proposed Charter amendment be adopted and approved so that the Police Chief will report to the Manager and it will become more efficient administratively. We want to emphasize that it does not mean that this Council won't have continuing communication with the Police Chief. He will continue to attend all of our meetings as he does now. He will be able to communicate directly with us and he will function essentially the same way as the other department heads do. So this is just a reminder that that is on the ballot for this coming election and adopting the change would require a yes vote when you are voting in the polls. Thank you."

Mr. Harrison said:

"I'd like to take the responsibility of us having the arrangement of the Chief reporting to the Council. Way back when, the Chief of Police reported to the Mayor and when the community decided to go to home rule, there was an elected Home Rule Carter Commission, I was an elected member, and we agreed to essentially continue the fact that the Chief would report to some one else than Council and I long since recognized that that was not a workable situation and had suggested that we change it and the commission decided to put it on the ballot. So with that background, I would recommend that everybody vote yes. Thank you very much."

15. Citizens' Comments – Planning and Zoning Items

None

PLANNING AND ZONING ITEMS

16. Application No. 2015-0423 – Fair Acres Plan of Lots, Phase 1 & 2, Parcel A, Major Subdivision

Motion by Mr. Dixon and seconded by Mrs. Gibbons to approve Application No. 2015-0423 – Fair Acres Plan of Lots, Phase 1 & 2, Parcel A, Major Subdivision, in accordance with the Municipal Planner's correspondence dated September 24, 2015. Motion Carried 7 – 0. Council Members Moury and Pape absent.

17. Resolution – Fair Acres Plan of Lots Phase 2 – Sewage Facilities Planning Module

Motion by Mr. Dixon and seconded by Mrs. Gibbons to adopt the Resolution for Sewage Facilities Planning Module associated with Application No. 2015-0423, Fair Acres Plan of Lots, Phase 2. Motion Carried 7 – 0. Council Members Moury and Pape absent.

18. Resolution – Artis Senior Living – Sewage Facilities Planning Module

Motion by Mr. Dixon and seconded by Mrs. Gibbons to adopt the Resolution for Sewage Facilities Planning Module associated with Application No. 2015-0436, Artis Senior Living. Motion Carried 7 – 0. Council Members Moury and Pape absent.

19. Resolution – Bethel Park Senior Residential Development – Sewage Facilities Planning Module

Motion by Mr. Dixon and seconded by Mrs. Gibbons to adopt the Resolution for Sewage Facilities Planning Module associated with Application No. 2015-0441, Bethel Park Senior Residential Development. Motion Carried 7 – 0. Council Members Moury and Pape absent.

20. Application No. 2015-0087 – Cool Springs Consolidation Plan, Major Subdivision, Baptist Road, Cool Springs Associates, LP, Applicant.

Motion by Mr. Dixon and seconded by Mrs. Gibbons to re-approve Application No. 2015-0087 – Cool Springs Consolidation Plan, for recording purposes. Motion Carried 7 – 0. Council Members Moury and Pape absent.

HEALTH, SAFETY AND WELFARE ITEMS

21. Health, Safety and Welfare Items

No Items

Mr. O'Brien stated that lots of activity took place recently in Ward 6 between Irishtown Road and Logan Road going towards the old Foodland. Fifty-nine

citations were issued for speeding and other issues as well as 12 warnings. For the last 6 months, many residents complained about the speeding on that corridor. In an attempt to correct this situation, the All State speed warning sign was placed on Irishtown Road. Mr. O'Brien said that this was not placed their arbitrarily. It was done because of the complaints by residents about speeding and other activity. He said that when you see the trailer on a road, you must understand that there will be some type of enforcement there also. Recommendation from the Police Chief and others was to place a Police vehicle on the road to slow down the traffic, and then the issuance of citations. He said to please take it seriously when you see the trailer or a police vehicle in a driveway. The roads you travel on may not be your road, but they are somebody's road who lives there and there are families and children, so do your best to obey the speed limit because that street is as precious as your own.

PUBLIC WORKS AND MAINTENANCE ITEMS

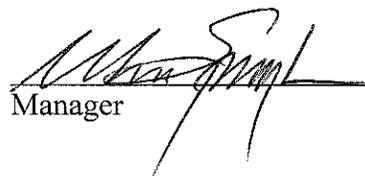
22. Public Works and Maintenance Items

No Items

Mrs. Gibbons reminded everyone that the Fall leaf collection began on October 12th and will continue for six weeks until the week ending November 20th. Residents are to place their leaves in brown paper recycling bags or in containers that can be easily dumped, at the curb on the day of your regular trash collection by 7:00 a.m. No plastic bags containing leaves will be collected.

23. Adjournment

Motion and second to adjourn at 8:00 P.M.


Manager