

MUNICIPALITY OF BETHEL PARK

**MINUTES
OF
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING**

Date: January 9, 2017

Time: 7:30 P.M.

Location: Municipal Building

1. Roll Call

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

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

2. Pledge of Allegiance

3. Chair Announcement

An Executive Session of Council was conducted on Monday, December 12, 2016, to discuss personnel and contractual items; and on Monday, January 9, 2017, to discuss personnel issues.

Reports of Officials

4. Library Director's Report

There was no Library Report.

5. Police Chief's Report

Chief O'Connor said that in late December, Bethel Park Police Officer participated in Presents From Police with officers from around Allegheny County by visiting Children's Hospital to distribute donated presents to patients. It was very well received.

The next Crime Watch meeting will be held on Monday, February 6, 2017 at 6:30 p.m. at the Community Center. He then wished everyone a happy and safe New Year.

You can follow the Police Department news on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram.

6. Fire Chief's Report

Fire Chief Dave Gerber gave the fire report for the month of December. He also gave a recap of calls for the year of 2016 and a breakdown of calls by Ward. He said that from 2007 to 2011, the average amount of calls was 385 per year. From 2012 to the end of 2016, calls increased to an average of 422 per year.

He then gave a safety report on using space heaters and advised residents that space heaters are the leading cause of home fire death every year. He suggested to never use an extension cord when using a space heater because they overheat. Keep everything three feet away from the heating unit.

At this time, Chief Gerber introduced Dan Duff, Bethel Park Community Foundation President. Mr. Duff said that the Community Foundation is a non-profit organization and gives out money and various grants throughout the community. Last year, 23 grants totaling over \$60,000 and \$8,600 in scholarships to local students were awarded. Mr. Duff said that the Fire Company approached them about a great idea in technology.

Chief Gerber said that with this check of \$6,500, they can purchase ten iPads to use in the fire vehicles to run a computer program called Active 911 that contains a great deal of information. Previously, computers were used that cost the department over \$35,000. The new technology is much greater.

Mr. Duff said that last year, they were able to assist in helping the community, recreation, fine arts, community safety, Eagle Scouts and the library. He said if you know anyone who the Community Foundation can assist, please let him know.

Mr. Moury thanked the Foundation for their generous donation to the Fire Company.

Mr. Duff said that the trustees of the foundation worked with the Police Department with the Ben Roethlisberger Foundation which help the department to obtain Jeez, the new Canine Officer. The trustees decided to name Jeez as a new trustee for the Foundation.

Chief Gerber thanked the Community Foundation for all the help they provided the fire company this past year. It is greatly appreciated.

7. Mayor's Report

Mayor Allen said that on Saturday, January 28, 2017, the Recreation Department and Historical Society will host a Comedy Night at the Community Center. Tickets are \$25 each. Dinner is catered by Pasta Too at 6:00 p.m. followed by the show at 8:00 p.m. This event benefits the Recreation Department.

Mayor Allen announced the winners and honorable mentions of the annual Holiday Lighting and Decorating Contest and presented those in attendance with certificates. Mayor thanked the community for their participation, the winners and all the judges who made this program a success this year.

8. Approval of Minutes

Regular Council Meeting Minutes of December 12, 2016.

Motion by Mr. Hannan and seconded by Mr. O'Brien to approve the Regular Council Meeting Minutes of December 12, 2016. Motion Carried 9 – 0.

9. Public Hearing of November 30, 2016 – Extenet Small Cell Node

Motion by Mr. Hannan and seconded by Mrs. Gibbons to approve the minutes of the Public Hearing of November 30, 2016 – Application No. 2016-0383 Extenet Small Cell Node, Conditional Use. Motion Carried 9 – 0.

10. Public Hearing of November 30, 2016 – Bethel Park Public Works Complex

Motion by Mr. Hannan and seconded by Mrs. Gibbons to approve the minutes of the Public Hearing of November 30, 2016 – Application No. 2016-0475 Bethel Park Public Works Complex, Conditional Use. Motion Carried 9 – 0.

11. Public Hearing of November 30, 2016 – Transfer of Liquor License – El Paso Mexican Grill

Motion by Mr. Hannan and seconded by Mrs. Gibbons to approve the minutes of the Public Hearing of November 30, 2016 – Application No. 2016-0676 Inter-Municipality Transfer of Liquor License, El Paso Mexican Grill, Mt. Lebanon, LLC. Motion Carried 9 – 0.

12. Bills and Payrolls

Motion by Mr. Hannan and seconded by Mrs. Gibbons to approve the Bills and Payrolls for the Municipality per Bill List #010917 in the amount of \$1,693,037.06. Motion Carried 9 – 0.

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

None

GENERAL POLICY AND FINANCE

14. Citizens' Comments – General Policy and Finance Items

None

15. General Policy and Finance Items

Reappointment – Building and Fire Code Appeals Board

Motion by Mr. McLean and seconded by Mrs. Gibbons to reappoint Robert Beech to the Building and Fire Code Appeals Board for a term to expire on December 31, 2019. Motion Carried 9 – 0.

16. Reappointment – Civil Service Commission

Motion by Mr. McLean and seconded by Mr. Hannan to reappoint Thomas A. Will to the Civil Service Commission for a term to expire on December 31, 2019. Motion Carried 9 – 0.

17. Reappointment – Municipal Authority

Motion by Mr. McLean and seconded by Mr. O'Brien to reappoint William Ruhl to the Municipal Authority for a term to expire on December 31, 2021. Motion Carried 9 – 0.

18. Reappointment – Board of Parks, Recreation & Leisure Services

Motion by Mr. McLean and seconded by Mrs. Gibbons to reappoint Heidi Brueggman-Pane to the Board of Parks, Recreation and Leisure Services for a term to expire on December 31, 2019. Motion Carried 9 – 0.

19. Reappointment – Planning and Zoning Commission

Motion by Mr. McLean and seconded by Mr. Hannan to reappoint Frank Mingrone to the Planning & Zoning Commission for a term to expire on December 31, 2020. Motion Carried 9 – 0.

20. Reappointment – Planning and Zoning Commission

Motion by Mr. McLean and seconded by Mrs. Gibbons to reappoint Rick Raeder to the Planning & Zoning Commission for a term to expire on December 31, 2020. Motion Carried 9 – 0.

21. Reappointment – Zoning Hearing Board

Motion by Mr. McLean and seconded by Mr. Hannan to reappoint T. J. Willets to the Zoning Hearing Board for a term to expire on December 31, 2021. Motion Carried 9 – 0.

22. Approval of Retirement

Motion by Mr. McLean and seconded by Mrs. Gibbons to approve the DROP Pension Retirement Election of Police Lt. Tim Kirsch with an effective date of March 1, 2017, in accordance with Ordinance 08-10-09. Motion Carried 9 – 0.

Mr. Harrison said:

“I want to make a couple of comments. One is I’m sure we are all very aware that we had a National election and the President-elect has suggested we drain the swamp in the Federal Government and I hope he is successful in doing that. I mention that because I’m not suggesting Bethel Park has swamps, but I do suggest that we have actions that are not very respectful to the public. I’m talking about the big item being the violation of the Home Rule Charter on putting the fire company ballot inconsistent with the Home Rule Charter was purposely written in common language to avoid the need to have the lawyer be involved and unfortunately our super lawyer Mr. McTiernan concurred in the action that I think was improper. The second thing I want to mention, it may sound sort of (unintelligible) but at the last meeting, a motion was put on the floor to pass which accrued the contract between the school guards and the Municipality. In our mail we that got the Thursday before that meeting, we had the contract that was signed by Mr. Spagnol, the manager, and by Mr. Moury, the Council President and the representative of the (unintelligible) and I just object to that type of business. It didn’t do any big harm but it doesn’t show respect for proper operation. Having said all that, I get, use whatever term you want to, chastised or whatever, because I speak to these issues. I just want to let you know that this year is so-called local elections of five council seats up on the ballot, 1, 3, 5, 7, 9, and I represent 5 and I just want to make sure that the fifth ward public understands that I’ll continue to operate in the same fashion that I have been doing and let them be the judge.”

PLANNING AND ZONING ITEMS

23. Planning and Zoning Items

No Items

HEALTH, SAFETY AND WELFARE ITEMS

24. Citizens’ Comments – Health, Safety and Welfare Items

None

25. Health, Safety and Welfare Items

Police Sergeant Permanent Appointment

Motion by Mr. O’Brien and seconded by Mrs. Gibbons to appoint Edward Kach to permanent status as rank of Sergeant with the Bethel Park Police Department, in accordance with the Police Chief’s correspondence dated December 28, 2016. Motion Carried 9 – 0.

26. Police Sergeant Permanent Appointment

Motion by Mr. O'Brien and seconded by Mrs. Gibbons to appoint Michael Dunn to permanent status as rank of Sergeant with the Bethel Park Police Department, in accordance with the Police Chief's correspondence dated December 28, 2016. Motion Carried 9 – 0.

27. Police Sergeant Permanent Appointment

Motion by Mr. O'Brien and seconded by Mrs. Gibbons to appoint David Arnold to permanent status as rank of Sergeant with the Bethel Park Police Department, in accordance with the Police Chief's correspondence dated December 28, 2016. Motion Carried 9 – 0.

Mr. O'Brien commented on a recent action by the Police in regard to a "house of suspicion" in his ward due to some activities that happened. The Police Department and resident kept vigilant and patient and last month, action was taken, information was found and hopefully this situation will be rectified. He said that when the Police, Police Chief and citizens work together, we can make a difference in our neighborhood. He urged resident to call the Police when they see anything suspicious.

PUBLIC WORKS AND MAINTENANCE ITEMS

28. Citizens' Comments – Public Works and Maintenance Items

None

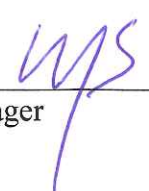
29. Public Works and Maintenance Items

Approval of 2017-2018 Sewer Blanket Contract

Motion by Mrs. Gibbons and seconded by Mr. Hannan to award the 2017-2018 Blanket Sewer Contract to B. Pepenella Company for the hourly rate of \$1,007 for 2017 and \$1,420 for 2018. Motion Carried 9 – 0.

30. Adjournment

Motion and second to adjourn at 8:21 P.M.



Manager