

CONYNGHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL REGULAR SESSION
Tuesday, August 19, 2014

Conyngham Borough Council met in Regular Session on Tuesday, August 19, 2014 at 7:03 p.m. in Council Chambers, Municipal building, 215 Main Street, Conyngham, Pennsylvania. The meeting was called to order by Council President Gary Gregory, the Pledge of Allegiance was recited and roll call was taken.

Roll Call:

Present: Fuccile, Gallagher, Gregory, Jones, McKee, Schneider.

Absent: Hawk.

Others Present: Solicitor, Secretary, Treasurer.

Absent: Mayor Carrelli.

Citizens: Linda Grencavich, Maureen Susa, Tim Ference, Jim Benjamin, Ron Schadder, CA Zamba, Joli Barkanic.

Public Comment: None.

Approval of Minutes:

Motion

Motion to Approve Minutes from Special Session, July 10, 2014, Work Session, July 10, 2014 and Regular Session, July 15, 2014- Gallagher. Second - Fuccile.

Questions on the Motion: None.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Fuccile	-	Affirmative	Gallagher	-	Affirmative
Gregory	-	Affirmative	Hawk	-	Absent
Jones	-	Affirmative	McKee	-	Affirmative
Schneider	-	Affirmative			

Mayor: Absent. No Police Report.

Treasurer: Treasurer Blasé recommended the approval of the Borough obligations and asked for a Motion to accept the Treasurer's Report for July which was presented at the Work Session.

Motion

Motion to Accept the Treasurer's Report for July 2014 – Schneider. Second – Fuccile.

Questions on the Motion: None.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Fuccile	-	Affirmative	Gallagher	-	Affirmative
Gregory	-	Affirmative	Hawk	-	Absent
Jones	-	Affirmative	McKee	-	Affirmative
Schneider	-	Affirmative			

Motion

Motion to Approve the Bills –Gallagher. Second – Jones.

Questions on the Motion: None

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Fuccile	-	Affirmative	Gallagher	-	Affirmative
Gregory	-	Affirmative	Hawk	-	Absent
Jones	-	Affirmative	McKee	-	Affirmative
Schneider	-	Affirmative			

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Solicitor:

Motion

Motion to Adopt Resolution 17 of 2014 Authorizing Payment of ½ of the Conyngham-Sugarloaf Joint Municipal Authority Solicitor Fees until such time as the Assets are conveyed from the Conyngham Borough Authority to the newly formed CSJMA with reimbursement - Gregory. Second - Jones.

Questions on the Motion: None

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Fuccile	-	Affirmative	Gallagher	-	Affirmative
Gregory	-	Affirmative	Hawk	-	Absent
Jones	-	Affirmative	McKee	-	Affirmative
Schneider	-	Affirmative			

Motion

Motion to Adopt Resolution 18 of 2014 allowing Fred Blasé and Lynn Falatko to Electronically Transfer Funds between the Miners Bank Accounts – Gregory. Second – McKee.

Questions on the Motion: None

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Fuccile	-	Affirmative	Gallagher	-	Affirmative
Gregory	-	Affirmative	Hawk	-	Absent
Jones	-	Affirmative	McKee	-	Affirmative
Schneider	-	Affirmative			

Motion

Motion to Adopt Resolution 19 of 2014 allowing Fred Blasé and Lynn Falatko to Operate the Miners Bank Remote Deposit Check Scanner and Provide for the Storage of Checks for a Period of Seven (7) Years consistent with the PA Municipal Records Retention Act – Gregory. Second – Schneider.

Questions on the Motion: None

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Fuccile	-	Affirmative	Gallagher	-	Affirmative
Gregory	-	Affirmative	Hawk	-	Absent
Jones	-	Affirmative	McKee	-	Affirmative
Schneider	-	Affirmative			

The Solicitor has prepared a proposed Parking Ordinance which amends Ordinance #275 which amends Ordinance #161 for Council's consideration.

At the Work Session the Solicitor was presented with an Invoice for Business Radio Licensing to renew the Borough's FCC License which is not necessary to pay. The Borough can renew their license on their own when it comes up for renewal 05/2015.

The Solicitor noted according to the existing FCC License the Borough is currently in Non-Compliance with the Narrowband requirement. The Borough should have received a notice in 2010. We are currently 18 months past the compliance deadline. We either need to reprogram or upgrade the equipment. During the Compliance Period a Grant could have been obtained. President Gregory asked for procedure if the Police have documentation on switch to Narrowband what would the Borough need to do. The Solicitor replied the borough would need to modify their existing license.

President Gregory advised the Fire & Rescue/EMA Committee of Ray Schneider & Bill McKee to work with Police Committeeman Fuccile to rectify the situation.

Valley Regional: Vice President Schneider noted on the July 2014 report there were 5 fire and rescue calls; and 7 EMS calls for Conyngham Borough.

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A training session will be held September 2nd at the Butler Township Municipal Complex for an Emergency Management drill. Vice President Schneider urged all of Council to attend. It was noted that Council should question where Conyngham Borough's EMA phone line is located at the Butler Complex and who is responsible for answering the phone.

Councilman Fuccile will contact Frontier.

Recreation: Councilman Jones advised the Rec Board held their first movie night on August 15 with 100 people of all ages in attendance.

On Thursday, August 21st there will be a mini clean-up at Whispering Willows by the HASD Girls Volleyball Team from 9:00am – 11:00am. The Recreation Co-Chair will be there. No painting will be done due to a group using the facilities in the afternoon.

Motion

Motion to allow the Eckley Reds Youth Baseball Team Ages 8-10 to use the Little League Field at Whispering Willows contingent upon the approval of Valley West Little League – Jones. Second – Gregory.

Questions on the Motion: None

No Roll Call. Unanimous.

President Gregory thanked Councilman Jones and the Rec Board for the Lego Movie as well as Jackie Carrelli for passing out flyers to the park program attendees.

Planning & Zoning: The Pittinger Sub-division is being reviewed by the Planning Commission. The dumpster has been moved from Main Street. There are no high grass complaints as the grass has been cut.

Conyngham-Sugarloaf Joint Municipal Authority: Councilman Gallagher stated the Conyngham-Sugarloaf Joint Municipal Authority met on Wednesday, August 13, 2014 at 7:00pm in Sugarloaf and their next meeting will be August 27, 2014 at 7:00 pm at Conyngham. Letters were sent to the dissolved Authority directing them to comply with the dissolution procedure. There will be no interruption in service. The current CBA needs to sign off on permits for a smooth transition. The CSJMA currently have a plant operator on standby as directed by DEP. The existing employees are not in jeopardy of losing their jobs.

President Gregory noted that all we need is to have the CBA cooperate. They have been ordered to turn over their assets however too much time has passed for this to occur amicably. The Engineer is in contact with the dissolved CBA to sign off on the permits so that we can move forward. The only way to receive Act 537 approval is if CSJMA takes over. Sugarloaf Township needs to sign off and it is not possible since they dissolved CBA and joined CSJMA.

Councilman Gallagher added the CBA is moving forward with the sewer line on School Lane but they need approval.

Councilman Fuccile asked if the Act 537 has time to move forward.

Councilman Gallagher replied that is correct but the valley needs more EDU's in the Borough and the Township. DEP wants the Act 537 to be a 20 year plan to meet the needs of the Municipality.

Vice President Schneider commented on the fact that during the transition from the old Authority to the new CSJMA Council has allowed the CBA to use the Borough facilities however they have been totally uncooperative and further meetings should not be allowed in the municipal building.

Councilman Gallagher added that the CBA held their regularly scheduled meeting Monday in the Borough building however they scheduled two more for Tuesday and Wednesday at the CBA building at 245 Main Street.

Vice President Schneider reiterated his stance that no further CBA meetings should be held at the Borough building.

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President Gregory noted the three meetings were scheduled by the CBA however they were informed that a couple of members were unable to meet this week. This was a publicity stunt.

Councilman Gallagher stated they clearly highlighted the fact that there would be no interruption in service in the Valley.

President Gregory noted the reason for three meetings being held was due to urgent regulatory issues.

Councilman Gallagher stated DEP provides all communication in writing and copies the municipalities it effects however to date no correspondence was received by either Conyngham or Sugarloaf.

Vice President Schneider stated it may be prudent to put a letter out to the community explaining the situation.

Councilman Gallagher noted he too has been getting questions on who the "real" Authority is. Legally the CBA has been dissolved and the CSJMA has been formed.

The Solicitor suggested a Community Newsletter could be sent out utilizing corporate sponsors.

Vice President Schneider stated that would be an excellent idea.

Streets: Councilman Fuccile stated Penn Dot lowered the speed limit on SR 3034 from the bridge to Rte 93 to 25 MPH. Seven signs were ordered and should be in within a week at a cost of approximately \$400.00. They will be installed as soon as possible.

Motion

Motion to Purchase and Erect 25MPH Speed Limit Signs for SR 3034 – Gregory. Second – McKee. No Roll Call – Unanimous.

Councilman McKee advised Streets Crew is repairing Lissa Lane and they are 50% complete.

President Gregory noted a more permanent repair might be of better service by cutting out bad area, fill with hot patch and roll.

Motion

Motion to Accept Penn Dot Winter Service Agreement for SR 3034 at a Payment of \$1,835.70 – Fuccile. Second – McKee.

Questions on the Motion: None

No Roll Call. Unanimous.

Grants: Councilman Gallagher stated the Borough has applied for a \$100,000.00 Community Block grant. Once received they can begin in the fall with upgrading the downtown with uniform, ADA compliant sidewalks and period lighting from Sugarloaf Avenue North to the edge of the Fire Department. The materials have been recommended by the Engineer and the public will have an opportunity to comment. The plan is to eventually get rid of utility poles by running underground conduit.

President Gregory explained this is a phased project starting with Phase 1 from Sugarloaf Avenue to the Post Office. The next phase will be from Sugarloaf Avenue to Butler Avenue which will include façade improvements. There is the opportunity for business owners to apply with the Borough for a joint application for façade improvements. We can make great improvements over the next three years.

The Solicitor added there will be decorative crosswalks at Sugarloaf Avenue and the Post Office and the sidewalks will be widened all through grant money and volunteers with contributions for trees.

President Gregory remarked that Council has to be innovative and this is a good result with no burden to the taxpayer.

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Councilman Gallagher stated on the same note is the beautification with downtown banners which could be sponsored by local businesses and individuals. With the Adopt of Banner program the business buys it such as "Welcome to Conyngham" with a merchant seaman. The Historical Society can review.

Valley Vets also want an Adopt a Flag program where families or businesses can buy the flags and the Vets will put up from Memorial Day through Labor Day all through the Town.

Councilman Gallagher has received numerous phone calls regarding the WREN grant on rain gardens and rain barrels. A few minor revisions are needed on a timeline which will be submitted.

President Gregory commended Councilman Gallagher on his proactive nature. Due to the very dry summer we need to conserve our water resources and this grant will go a long way to educate the public.

Councilman Gallagher added that there is a lot of grant money out there. To date the Borough has applied for \$750,000.00 of grant money.

President Gregory is pleased to announce they began the initial discussion on the Christmas in Conyngham parade from the Valley Vets to the Community building. We are excited to make it bigger and better and this year a Christmas tree will be placed on Borough grounds which a friend has donated. Councilman Jones questioned if CVCO is involved. President Gregory is working on that.

Shade Tree: Nothing at this time.

Police Committee: Councilman Gallagher would like to recommend Pedestrian Yield be set up. Could Police Committee please look into because Church presents an issue at crest of hill on Main Street due to sight problems? This will also help with the Historical Society.

Councilman Fuccile asked the Solicitor is there are rules governing the placement of signs – Yes.

Councilman McKee noted skateboarders have been out on the newly paved Sugarloaf Avenue and it should be pointed out the Police Department.

President Gregory requested Councilman McKee speak with Chief regarding the skateboarders.

Parking Committee: Vice President Schneider explained Council is trying to address the parking issues on Main Street due to residents' concerns. Meetings have been held with the Engineer and the Solicitor to add additional parking spaces near the Borough Building which has No Parking from back when the elementary school was here and buses were coming in and out. Parking will be added from the end of the parking lot to past the cemetery. On the east side the No Parking will be reduced from 161' to 100' keeping safety in mind. West side has certain designated areas. During t-ball season parking needs are increased and spots will be added on School Lane and on the Borough land.

President Gregory noted that during t-ball season Council had nowhere to park for Council meetings.

Councilman Jones questioned whether the Borough can designate some spots for government officials only.

Motion

Motion to have the Solicitor advertise the proposed Parking Ordinance – Schneider. Second – Gregory.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Fuccile	-	Affirmative	Gallagher	-	Affirmative
Gregory	-	Affirmative	Hawk	-	Absent
Jones	-	Affirmative	McKee	-	Affirmative
Schneider	-	Affirmative			

New Business:

Motion

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Motion to solicit Request for Proposals to refinance the Miners Bank Street Paving loan of \$375,000.00 – Gregory. Second – Fuccile.

Questions on the Motion: None

Public Comment on RFP: None.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Fuccile	-	Affirmative	Gallagher	-	Affirmative
Gregory	-	Affirmative	Hawk	-	Absent
Jones	-	Affirmative	McKee	-	Affirmative
Schneider	-	Affirmative			

Motion

Motion to authorize payment of court ordered tax refund due Hoegen & Associates PC in the amount of \$95.13 – Gregory. Second – Gallagher.

Questions on the Motion: None

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Fuccile	-	Affirmative	Gallagher	-	Affirmative
Gregory	-	Affirmative	Hawk	-	Absent
Jones	-	Affirmative	McKee	-	Affirmative
Schneider	-	Affirmative			

Old Business: Vice President Schneider reminded the public Conyngham Borough is looking for a Junior Council Representative. Interested applicants can contact the Borough office.

Correspondence: Secretary read into the record and the list is on file.

Catch-All: None.

Public Comment: Maureen Susa questioned whether the Christmas Parade will coincide with the Historical Society House Tour as it did last year. President Gregory advised that was due to bad weather and Council will make every effort to avoid a conflict of schedule. Council advised the Historical Society send a letter to the Borough as soon as a date is set. President Gregory thanked her for bringing that to Council's attention.

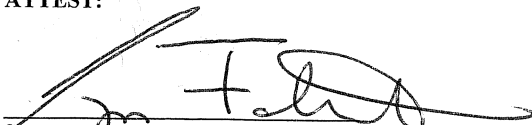
Maureen Susa stated the Historical Society held a free open air concert on Sunday and the Gazebo is need of repair including banner replacement and paint. President Gregory stated Council was made aware that the gazebo was in need of paint. Councilman Jones will look into.

Jolie Barkanic questioned whether the new curb on Butler Avenue and Main Street was complete as there is no grass. Should she plant the grass? Councilman Fuccile will contact Penn Dot to restore it to the condition it was in before.

Tim Ference reiterated Ms. Barkanic's complaint as the curbing on Sugarloaf Avenue was also not restored to the prior condition. Councilman Fuccile will check all areas.

Motion to Adjourn @ 8:13 PM – Fuccile. Second –Gallagher. Unanimous.

ATTEST:


Secretary