

CONYNGHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL REGULAR SESSION
Tuesday, June 21, 2016

Conyngham Borough Council met in Regular Session on Tuesday, June 21, 2016 at 7:04 p.m. in Council Chambers, Municipal building, 215 Main Street, Conyngham, Pennsylvania. The meeting was called to order by Council Vice President Ray Schneider, the Pledge of Allegiance was recited and roll call was taken.

Roll Call:

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

Absent: Gregory.

Others Present: Mayor, Solicitor, Secretary, Treasurer.

Absent: Junior Councilmen Oswald & Marushin.

Citizens: Linda Grenavich, Tim Ference, George Hudock, Caz Zamba, Joe Hisney.

Public Comment: None.

Vice President Schneider acknowledged the Scouts in attendance.

Approval of Minutes:

Motion

Motion to Approve Minutes from Regular Session May 17, 2016, Continued Session June 9, 2016, - Gallagher. Second - Jones.

Questions on the Motion: None.

No Roll Call. Unanimous.

Junior Councilmen: Absent.

Mayor: The Department responded to 43 offenses, incidents and/or requests for the month of May. Eight (8) traffic citations were issued and fifteen (15) warnings for speed violations. Report is on file. The Mayor provided detailed answers to Councils' questions regarding May Police activity. Park foot patrol and bathroom inspection reports were provided and are available for inspection.

Treasurer: The May report was reviewed in detail at the Work Session. A copy of the report is available for public inspection and is on file.

Motion

Motion to Accept the May 2016 Treasurer's Report - Fuccile. Second - McKee.

Questions on the Motion: None.

No Roll Call. Unanimous.

Treasurer Blasé requested a Motion to approve the list of obligations in the amount of \$220,287.76.

Motion

Motion to Approve the Bills- Schneider. Second - Fuccile.

Questions on the Motion: Councilwoman Hawk questioned why the total was so high. Councilman Fuccile stated totals included purchase of 2015 Ford F-650 and property at 60 Butler Avenue.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

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

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Solicitor: The Solicitor advised Council the Naval History and Heritage Command Loan Agreement Renewal needs to be approved for a five (5) year term, from June 22, 2016 through June 22, 2021.

Motion

Motion to Approve Naval History and Heritage Command Loan Agreement with a five (5) year term - Gallagher. Second – Fuccile.

Public Comment: None.

Questions on the Motion: None.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

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

Motion

Motion to Approve Resolution 9 of 2016 DCED CFA GTRP Nature Park Grant and Funding Commitment Letter in the Amount of \$18,377.00 - Gallagher. Second – Jones.

Questions on the Motion: Councilwoman Hawk questioned whether the money has already been committed by the Borough – Yes.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

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

Councilman Gallagher advised six (6) proposals have been received and reviewed by utilizing a scoring process based on criteria and qualifications. It is the recommendation that Council award RFP to JMT out of Allentown.

Motion

Motion to Award Master Plan RFP to JMT in the Amount of \$32,000.00 Pending DCNR Approval - Gallagher. Second – Jones.

Questions on the Motion: None.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

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

RFP Architect for 60 Butler Avenue will be advertised for July Regular Session.

Fire, Rescue & EMA: Conyngham had Zero (0) Fire and Rescue calls and Thirteen (13) EMS calls for the month of May.

Recreation:

Motion

Motion to Approve Hometown Hero Banner Retirement Program after Five (5) Years - Jones. Second – Fuccile.

Questions on the Motion: Councilman Gallagher requested the program continue on after 5 years and if current banners are in good condition the owners are given the opportunity to leave up. Council concurred.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

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

Councilman Jones requested Council purchase a self-propelled trimmer for use at the park around the pond at a cost of \$599.99.

Motion

Motion to Approve Purchase of Self- Propelled Trimmer at a Cost of \$599.99- Jones. Second – Schneider.

Questions on the Motion: Councilman Gallagher requested Council either table or remove motion since he owns a trimmer and will allow Borough to utilize it. Councilman Fuccile agreed to do a one month trial.

Motion

Motion to Table Purchase of Self- Propelled Trimmer at a Cost of \$599.99- Gallagher. Second – Jones.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

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

Planning & Zoning: The Zoning Report was read into the record. There were three (3) permits issued, twelve (12) concerns addressed and eleven (11) actions taken.

Vice President Schneider commended the Zoning Officer for his report.

Department of Public Works: The Borough is in the process of scheduling stormwater repairs and the DPW will need a hammer drill to complete.

Motion

Motion to Purchase Hammer Drill from TEAM Supply at a Cost of \$399.00 – Fuccile. Second – Gallagher.

Questions on the Motion: None.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

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

Road surveys are underway to prioritize areas in need of repair.

Buildings & Grounds: A quote was received to repaint the gazebo from Vercusky Painting, Inc. in the amount of \$2,700.00.

The rain garden needs to be sprayed for weeds along with planting of additional plants and mulch.

Work is underway on the pond in the park with the installation of new piping, opening of blocked pipe and additional dredging.

Councilman Gallagher will donate a fountain if the Borough can run a power line. Councilman Fuccile will look into renting a trencher.

Councilman Jones noted this project was initially a Kiwanis project and is glad to see the Borough continuing with improvements.

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Grants: The Borough will be submitting two DCED CFA GTRP grant applications this month. The Nature Park grant will provide for a pavilion, restrooms and parking. The Land Acquisition grant will provide for the purchase of 11 ½ acres to connect Butler Avenue to Whispering Willows and allow for additional fields and parking.

The Borough currently has been awarded \$545,000.00 in grant funding and only need to provide matching funds in the amount of \$16,000.00.

Police: A committee meeting was held and addressed increased park patrols, in-house vehicle maintenance and dates for qualifications.

New Business: None.

Old Business: None.

Catch-All: Vice President Schneider reminded Council Municipal Training will be held July 13th with RSVP due July 6th.

Luzerne County Boroughs and Townships Association is hosting a dinner June 30th with RSVP due June 24th.

Public Comment: Carol Ann Zamba (Caz) questioned the feral cat budget. No monies were allocated for 2016. Councilwoman Hawk stated she will make sure monies are available. There are currently six (6) cats in need of spay/neuter services. Vice President Schneider advised even though funds weren't allocated for the program Council can choose to fund.

Caz also questioned whether Council has projected expenses for the maintenance and upkeep of 60 Butler Avenue and whether traffic concerns have been considered.

Councilman Gallagher stated the pros of the Borough acquiring the property including providing a new entrance to the park which will alleviate traffic congestion and confusion at Main Street entrance. The house itself is very accommodating for community use and expansion of recreational and activities.

Caz questioned whether this will cause a raise in taxes. Council has been very prudent managing the taxpayer funds and anticipates utilizing grant funding available.

Motion to Adjourn @ 7:58 pm – Gallagher. Second – Jones.

No Roll Call. Unanimous.

ATTEST:


Secretary