

**Borough of Pitcairn Council**  
**Workshop Meeting**  
**Minutes**  
**November 23, 2020**  
**7:00 pm**

**Meeting called to order – Vice President John Bova**  
**Stand for Pledge of Allegiance**

**Roll Call:**

John Bova  
Kevin Dick  
Debra Freeman  
Dona Galia  
Lisa Petrosky  
Jim Rullo  
Michael Tobias  
Mayor Margaret Stevick   absent

All members of Council were present. Due to the spike in Covid19 cases and new health department mandates, several members attended remotely and the public was not permitted physically in the building. The agenda was posted on the doors and on the borough website. The public was invited to submit comments or concerns by phone, email or in writing on comment forms provided at the building entrance.

Mr. Bova announced Council held an advertised Budget Meeting at 6:00 pm.

**Citizen Comment**

Mr. Bova read comment from unnamed resident regarding the structure at 121 Wall. The back wall is bowing out and a piece of glass block fell onto his garage. Mr. Bova asked Code Enforcement Officer, Nick Turner the status since the demo hearing. Mr. Bova asked him to contact the owner tomorrow. Discussion took place regarding emergency demolition. Mr. Turner was instructed to also call the borough Solicitor.

Mr. Turner relayed three concerns submitted by residents near 1153 North Avenue that someone new will move in. They said the structure is not inhabitable and in their opinion should be torn down. Mr. Turner responded it will not pass occupancy inspection in its current condition. Mr. Bova promised diligence on behalf of the borough.

**Personnel – Dona Galia**

Discussion took place regarding Covid19 and future public meetings. Mrs. Galia suggested one meeting a month until the numbers go down, and no public in order to maintain safety. Council members agreed to designate the second Monday of each month as combined business and agenda. Suggestions were made to attempt to film future meetings for posting on Youtube. The challenge of social distancing would require someone actively moving the camera during the meeting to film individual speakers.

Mrs. Galia motioned to approve the Tri-COG Land Bank's Disposition of Property at 590 4<sup>th</sup> Street. This action waives the 60 day notice period allowing the property to be listed expeditiously with permission from the three taxing bodies. Seconded by Mr. Bova; motion carried unanimously.

**Streets – Kevin Dick**

Mr. Dick announced bids were opened on November 18 for the Hillside Avenue landslide reconstruction project. The lowest bid was \$150,000 over the grant amount. Discussion of options. Mr. Dick motioned to authorize Manager to look into an AIM loan. Seconded by Mr. Tobias; motion carried unanimously.

### **Parks and Recreation – Debra Freeman**

Mrs. Freeman described the challenges of holding the holiday events while enforcing social distancing and masks. Discussion took place. Council decided to cancel the bonfire, food and indoor activities. Proposed ideas: multiple Santas visiting various sections of the borough, one Santa arriving by firetruck to a borough building with curbside candy distribution, photos near Santa but with masks, social distancing. Mrs. Galia suggested Council members decide by Wednesday.

### **Finance and Economic Development – Lisa Petrosky**

Mrs. Petrosky motioned to approve application to the Allegheny County Economic Development's program, Allegheny Together. Seconded by Mr. Bova. Mr. Rullo asked for a description of what the program is. Ms. Dietz gave an overview. Motion carried unanimously.

Mrs. Petrosky motioned to advertise the proposed 2021 \$3,753,041 General Fund Budget for public inspection and adoption on December 14<sup>th</sup>. Seconded by Mr. Dick; motion carried unanimously.

Mrs. Petrosky motioned to advertise an Ordinance fixing the 2021 compensation for the appointive officers, and monthly and hourly employees for adoption on December 14<sup>th</sup>. The specific hourly rates and salaries as included in the proposed budget were discussed during the budget meetings and again at this time. Seconded by Mr. Dick; motion carried unanimously.

Mrs. Petrosky motioned to advertise an Ordinance fixing and levying the real estate tax rate for the year 2021. Discussion took place. Council proposed not to raise millage and maintain the rate at 9.25. Seconded by Mr. Dick; motion carried unanimously.

### **Health and Welfare – Michael Tobias**

Mr. Tobias announced that bids for trash collection and hazardous household waste collection will be opened on December 8<sup>th</sup> and awarded at the December 14<sup>th</sup> Meeting.

### **Electric – Jack Bova**

Mr. Bova began a discussion regarding the transmission portion of each electric bill that will continue to increase as controlled by the Federal government. The electric power cost portion of the bill has been negotiated competitively by the borough. Mr. Bova asked Ms. Dietz to contact the electric power representative requesting they visit Pitcairn to investigate ways of hedging the transmission costs.

### **Public Safety – Jim Rullo**

Mr. Rullo motioned to adopt Resolution entering into an agreement with the Municipality of Monroeville and Monroeville EMS, Inc. for EMS services in 2021 at the new reduced rate of \$800 a month as a result of Council members meeting with Monroeville. Seconded by Mrs. Freeman; motion carried unanimously.

**Mrs. Petrosky motioned to Adjourn at 7:45. Seconded by Mr. Rullo; motion carried.**

Respectfully submitted,  
Annette Dietz