

**Borough of Pitcairn  
Council Meeting  
Minutes  
April 8, 2019  
7:00 pm**

**Meeting called to order – Vice President Mrs. Dona Galia.  
Pledge of Allegiance was recited.**

<b>Roll Call:</b>	Here	Absent
Doug Crothers	___	___
Kevin Dick	___	___
Cammeo Farally	___	___
Dona Galia	___	___
Lorraine Myers	___	__x_
Jim Rullo	___	___
Mike Tobias	___	__x_
Mayor Stevick	___	___

Mrs. Galia announced Council held an Executive Session to discuss a legal matter.

**Mr. Dick motioned to approve Minutes from March 25, 2019 Borough Council Workshop Meeting.  
Seconded by Mrs. Farally; motion carried unanimously.**

**Citizen Comment**

Fred Mendicino of the Pitcairn High School Alumni Association, presented a \$400 donation towards the costs of the Highland Avenue building where they store items and \$200 to be used for the Borough Q19 celebration. Mrs. Galia thanked him and the Association.

Tom Dick spoke with the DEP about the landfill complaints discussed at prior Borough Meetings including litter in trees coming from the landfill. Tom said the DEP told him in 2020 they must apply for a new permit that will be good for 10 years. Tom complained of blasting, gunshots from the FBI training center in Monroeville. He said our politicians need to get involved. Mrs. Galia asked Solicitor Mike Witherel what the Borough can do. Mr. Witherel: unfortunately since it is not in Pitcairn, Council can direct complaints to the DEP and County Health Department who oversees the landfill. Monroeville, the DEP and the County have people there on site.

Deb Marto: owners are letting their dogs go on the fields. Can surveillance camera footage be used to catch them? Chief Farally told the public to call and report it with the exact date and time to avoid viewing hours of video footage. Mrs. Farally pointed out there are signs posted at the parks and she initiated Council doggie waste stations to help curtail the problem. Chief referenced the leash law and that State law can also be enforced.

Jack Bova thanked Council for the fruit basket in response to the passing of his brother in law, a long time Pitcairn resident, expressing gratitude to those from Pitcairn who made the trip to Steubenville to pay their respects.

Evelyn Marto expressed concern that the grant money awarded for the roadway slide remediation should remain with Center Avenue and not transferred to Hillside Avenue, adding that Center is used by school buses and many other vehicles.

**Mayor Betsy Stevick**

The Police worked 180 complaints, the Borough collected \$270 in fines, \$949 magistrate, \$1,519 from County, \$50 quality of life tickets.

**Personnel – Dona Galia**

Mrs. Galia reported she and other Council members and Mayor attended the ALOM Conference, listing the topics covered. As a Banner Community we were awarded a scholarship, possibly in the form of I-Pads. When she learns more, she will update. Plans for the Q19 celebration are coming along, going to be a great

weekend. Fred Mendicino asked deadline to be included in the parade. Mayor Stevick: a week or two ahead. She mailed out cards, looking for more musical acts and asking for suggestions. There is plenty of room.

### **Streets – Mike Tobias**

**Mr. Crothers motioned to adopt Resolution approving Vacant Property Recovery application from Charles and Helen Palmer for the purchase and rehabilitation of 377 Second Street. Seconded by Mr. Dick; motion carried unanimously.**

Mr. Crothers announced Multi Modal Transportation grant award for Center Avenue in the amount of \$525,000. Mrs. Galia: we did not receive a grant for Hillside Avenue, there was a lot of competition for limited funding. Discussion took place regarding the April 19<sup>th</sup> deadline if Council chose to request a transfer to Hillside. Center has a higher cost. Mr. Dick: could that be a reason to consider moving the grant to Hillside. Mr. Black: from an engineering perspective, they both need repaired. Council chose not to move the grant from Center to Hillside.

**Mr. Crothers motioned to direct Solicitor to take action to consolidate the lots which constitute the properties on which the new municipal building is being constructed. Lot and block to be 747-B-33. Seconded by Mr. Rullo; motion carried unanimously.**

**Mr. Crothers motioned to permit Propel Pitcairn to remodel the auditorium into classroom space. Mrs. Galia explained they are expanding, would like remodel at their own cost. Seconded by Mrs. Farally; motion carried unanimously.**

### **Parks and Recreation – Cammeo Farally**

**Mrs. Farally motioned to enter into an agreement with Grounded and PitCare for the implementation and maintenance of Green Playces Project at 390 Kenney Avenue. Seconded by Mr. Dick; motion carried unanimously.**

**Mrs. Farally motioned to approve purchase of Ferris Zero Turn Commercial Lawn Mower for lowest quote of \$10,900 from Norwin Rental. Seconded by Mr. Crothers; motion carried unanimously.**

### **Finance and Economic Development – Jim Rullo**

**Mr. Rullo motioned to pay bills as presented. Seconded by Mrs. Farally; motion carried unanimously.**

**Mr. Rullo motioned to approve payment application #5 from Yarborough in the amount of \$179,968.41 to be paid from Capital Improvement Account, for the new Borough Building project. Seconded by Mrs. Farally; motion carried unanimously.**

**Mr. Rullo motioned to approve change order for new Borough Building, in the amount of \$2,414.33. Seconded by Mr. Crothers; motion carried unanimously.**

**Mr. Rullo motioned to approve installation of parking lot lights conduit and additional porch lighting for new Borough Building. Seconded by Mrs. Farally. Question on the motion: Mr. Crothers asked are we going with the contractor's price or wait to speak with Mr. Comunale. Mr. Dick pointed out the motion is to approve the lights so they can still vote. Motion carried unanimously.**

### **Health and Welfare – Kevin Dick**

Council received a response from Waste Management and inspection report from Allegheny County Health Department regarding windborne trash from the dump site. He said the report showed no trash. Mr. Dick called Monroeville Manager Tim Little describing garbage in the trees and Ms. Dietz called Rich Simonetti. The response was it was too difficult to retrieve from tall trees. Mr. Dick said they should be fined for litter. Mr. Dick said one of the meetings he attended at the ALOM Conference was about blight. We are going to look into sheriffs' sales, going after back taxes, especially the larger properties. He and other Council members will compile a list for the Solicitor of larger properties that are delinquent and not being maintained. Mr. Witherel added, the vacant property motion earlier by Council is part of that effort to return properties to the tax rolls.

### **Code Enforcement Report – John Prucnal**

Mr. Prucnal asked Council to choose 6 or 8 inches as maximum grass height since both are on Borough ordinances. Mr. Witherel suggested going with the more recent Quality of Life Ordinance and 8 inches. Mr. Prucnal suggested holding property owners accountable to maintain vegetation growing into alleys as opposed to the borough Public Works employees who have other larger projects to do. Code Dept. will wait to see who doesn't cut their property and then notify them. Mr. Prucnal described the litter problem that requires every resident to do their part. He felt the Borough should amend their ordinance to specifically list dumpsters for multi-unit buildings and toters instead of bags and cans without lids. Code Dept. is citing the tenants and the landlords. The goal is to not have the borough pick up after them. He wishes people had more pride. They are educating people better on trash pick-up dates, special at home collections. The demo properties are moving forward, a lot of occupancy inspections each week. Mr. Prucnal suggested an amendment to the sign ordinance doesn't mention a more permanent sign than the vinyl signs that are seen on Broadway. Mrs. Galia thanked Mr. Prucnal and Mr. Turner.

### **Electric – Lorraine Myers**

#### **Public Safety – Doug Crothers**

**Council members were appointed to negotiate new Police Department CBA expiring December 31, 2019: Mr. Crothers will be Chairman, Mr. Dick and Mrs. Galia. Mr. Crothers motioned to authorize Chief Farally to proceed with Sergeant testing for approximate cost of \$1,500. Seconded by Mr. Dick; motioned carried unanimously.**

#### **Solicitor's Report**

Mr. Witherel sent an email to Chief Farally that he had invited two other Chiefs to perform the oral part of the test. He went on to describe a model Ordinance other boroughs adopted for solid waste and it includes containers he will dig that out and give it to Pitcairn. Mr. Dick asked him about citing the owner with the Quality of Life. Mr. Witherel: yes, that was in the ordinance. Mr. Prucnal said they are doing that now. Mr. Witherel, you could first cite the tenant, alert the owner the second time you will cite them.

#### **Engineer's Report**

**Don Black announced the Wall Avenue sewer lining will be awarded to Jet Jack. The municipal building is ahead of schedule. The contractor wants to order the electronic sign. The costs: \$10,250 for the dimensions, and design as shown to public and Council. Mr. Prucnal asked: two sided. Mr. Black: one sided. Mr. Crothers motioned to approve. Seconded by Mrs. Farally. Question on the motion: Mr. Dick asked how one sign would be functional? Mr. Black: they felt it would face the Route 48 entrance of the site, but you could face it the other way. Mr. Black: you could motion for the sign, and we could find out the cost of having two sides. It would be more expensive. Deb Marto asked are there**

**not laws in place regulating the height of a sign. Chief Farally, the proposed sign is not a distraction. Mrs. Galia refreshed motion to approve the sign and look into two sides. Motion carried unanimously.**

Mr. Black said a meeting was held with Liberoni; they are planning to come in at the end of this week to finish what they didn't get to in 2018. He is also getting prices for Wall Avenue and Pitcairn Avenue.

**Borough Manager's Report:**

Ms. Dietz read aloud the bank fund balances.

**Police Chief Report:**

Nothing tonight.

Mrs. Galia wished everyone a happy Easter, invited everyone to participate in the community Clean up on April 27<sup>th</sup>.

**Mr. Dick motioned to adjourn at 7:47 pm. Seconded by Mr. Rullo ; motion carried.**

Respectfully submitted,

Annette Dietz