

Borough of Pitcairn  
Council Meeting  
Minutes  
May 13, 2019  
7:00 pm

Meeting called to order – President Michael Tobias

Pledge of Allegiance was recited and moment of silence for the passing of John McCreary and Joseph Pedulla.

**Roll Call:**

Doug Crothers  
Kevin Dick  
Cammeo Farally  
Dona Galia  
Lorraine Myers  
Jim Rullo  
Mike Tobias  
Mayor Betsy Stevick  
All present.

Mr. Tobias announced Council held an Executive Session on April 24, 2019 to discuss a legal matter, and prior to this evening's meeting to discuss a personnel matter.

An advertised Demolition Hearing took place at 6:30 tonight, conducted by Solicitor Matt Kalina. A transcriptionist was present. Borough Council Meeting began at 7:30 pm so that three Council members and Mayor could attend the Reciprocity Dinner.

**Mr. Rullo motioned to approve Minutes from April 8 and April 22, 2019 Borough Council Meetings. Seconded by Mr. Crothers; motion carried unanimously.**

**Mr. Crothers motioned to cancel the Workshop Meeting due to Memorial Day. Seconded by Mrs. Myers; motion carried unanimously.**

**Citizen Comment**

No comments.

**Mayor Betsy Stevick**

In April Pitcairn police worked 184 complaints, collected \$350 in Borough fines, \$1,470 magistrate, \$100 Quality of Life Tickets. Mayor Stevick reminded everyone that a Memorial Day Service will take place at the tablets, sponsored by the American Legion.

**Personnel – Dona Galia**

**Mrs. Galia motion to close the Borough Utility Billing Office May 21, 2019 for primary election day. Seconded by Mr. Dick; motion carried unanimously.**

**Mrs. Galia motioned to approve using Park and Recreation Special Events Fund for Q19 Celebration if necessary. Seconded by Mrs. Myers. Mr. Dick asked for details. Mrs. Galia: the Q19 Committee is actively soliciting donations, but some expenses must be covered now. Donations will reimburse the Special Events Fund. Mrs. Galia listed current amounts, describing one donor who grew up here and left, 100 years old. Gave a dollar for each year she lived here. Motion carried unanimously.**

**Streets – Mike Tobias**

**Mr. Rullo motioned to approve an Allegheny County Vacant Property Recovery Program application for 581 6<sup>th</sup> Street from Action Housing, Inc. Seconded by Mr. Dick; motion carried unanimously.**

**Mrs. Myers motioned to approve an Allegheny County Vacant Property Recovery Program application for 390 Kenney Avenue from the Borough of Pitcairn for the Grounded project. Seconded by Mrs. Farally; motion carried unanimously.**

Mr. Tobias announced Council will be considering a request from the Allegheny Intermediate Unit to renew their yearly rental lease for space at 428 Highland Avenue.

**Mr. Dick motioned to permit C.A.R.E.S. of Western PA to complete beautification projects throughout the Borough. They provide supervisors, transportation and insurance. The Borough would supply plants and tools as needed. Seconded by Mrs. Galia; motion carried unanimously.**

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

**Mrs. Farally motioned to approve request from George Echegaray to use the batting cage and machine. Seconded by Mrs. Galia. Mr. Dick commented the machine might not be working. Mr. Tobias agreed, adding he could still use the cage, has offered to mow and weed whack the area. Motion carried unanimously.**

Mrs. Farally reported for the Q19 she reserved a bounce house attraction for a flat rate within budget. Mrs. Galia added it is paid for.

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

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

**Mr. Rullo motioned to approve payment application #6 from Yarborough in the amount of \$372,075.08, from Capital Improvement Fund and Gilliland Foundation Accounts, for the new Borough Building project. Seconded by Mr. Dick; motion carried unanimously.**

**Mr. Rullo motioned to approve payment application #2 from A. Liberoni in the amount of \$173,193.71, from Capital Improvement Fund for the paving project. Seconded by Mrs. Myers; motion carried unanimously.**

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

Mr. Dick announced Council received a copy of the most recent inspection report from Allegheny County Health Department for the Waste Management landfill.

Mr. Dick asked Solicitor Matt Kalina to speak about the Demolition Hearing conducted earlier this evening. Mr. Kalina: Council members present heard testimony from the Borough Code Enforcement Officer and Engineer the properties need to be demolished. **Mr. Kalina suggested Council consider a motion authorizing the Engineer put together specs for bids. Mr. Dick motioned as such for properties: Seconded by Mr. Crothers; motion carried unanimously.** Mr. Kalina: tonight's Minutes shall reflect that no owners appeared at the Hearing. Mr. Dick asked the Engineer how long the process will take. Mr. Black: creating the specs a few weeks, bidding process a few more weeks, a couple months before demo contractor starts.

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

Mr. Prucnal added that all but one of the properties to be demoed had asbestos surveys. Mr. Prucnal highlighted some items in his submitted report to Council: the department citing property owners who are not mowing the grass, still working on garbage problems. They are seeing some landlords buying the proper containers. Attended Magistrate Hearing on four properties, they won, \$300 fines. Mr. Prucnal directed the public to the Code Enforcement complaint form on line and at the Borough office.

Deb Marto asked when the demolitions begin will the neighbors be kept safe if there are rats on the properties. Mr. Tobias said he would look into that.

**Electric – Lorraine Myers**

**Mrs. Myers motioned to approve a contract extension to the electricity purchasing agreement to 2028 with AEP. Seconded by Mr. Crothers; motion carried unanimously.**

**Public Safety – Doug Crothers**

**Chief Farally asked Council to motion to add Mr. Prucnal to the Emergency Management team. Mr. Crothers made the motion. Seconded by Mrs. Myers; motion carried unanimously.**

**Solicitor’s Report**

Nothing further.

**Engineer’s Report**

Don Black: Council decided to forgo the electronic part of the new borough building Welcome Sign. He showed the public what the sign would look like, facing SR130 at the main entrance to the new building. Mrs. Galia explained Council met on site and realized it would be difficult to have electronic announcements at that corner. Mr. Black: the building is proceeding on schedule. Center Avenue slide repair project was awarded a \$525,000 grant. The proposed solution is estimated to cost \$2.3M. The first step would be to meet with a specialty contractor and consider option to cut into hillside and stabilize slope. Is Council going to accept the grant, Mr. Black was not certain of the timeframe but typically six months to decide. **Mr. Dick motioned to authorize the Engineer to meet with specialty contractors to explore options for Center Avenue. Seconded by Mr. Rullo; motion carried unanimously.**

After brief discussion, **Mr. Dick motioned to advertise a Council Agenda Meeting for May 28th. Seconded by Mrs. Myers; motion carried unanimously.**

EADS will be meeting with paving contractor Liberoni to go over punch list items. Mr. Dick: can you look at High Street complaints, can we use millings, and EADS get a price on paving it, if millings cannot be used.

**Borough Manager’s Report:**

Ms. Dietz read the fund balances, noting per Council’s prior approval, she will be requesting Bond proceeds as they mature, to pay the costs of capital projects.

**Police Chief Report:**

Nothing tonight.

**Mr. Dick motioned to Adjourn at 8:05. Seconded by Mrs. Myers; motion carried unanimously.**

Respectfully submitted,

Annette Dietz