

Minutes of the Borough Council Zelienople, PA

5/18/2009

7:05 PM Council-Regular (cont.)

MasterID:

370

The May 18, 2009 Council meeting of the Zelienople Borough Council, which was a continuation of the May 11, 2009 was called to order at 7:05 PM in the Council Chambers by President Charles Underwood. In attendance were Council members Russell Robertson, , Marietta Reeb, George McDowell, Jim Zeigler, Andrew Mathew III, Solicitor Matt Racunas, Assistant Manager Jill Stedina, Assistant to the Manager Andrew Spencer, Police Chief Jim Miller and Borough Engineer Tom Thompson. Council member Allen Bayer, Mayor Thomas Oliverio, Manager Donald Pepe and Junior Council Member Spencer Mathew were absent.

VISITORS

Ron Carter

Ron Carter addressed the Council on behalf of the Strand Theater Initiative. They are seeking permission from Council to have a "walk of fame" in the sidewalk in front of the theater and sell "stars". Questions were raised as to whether any restrictions might exist in any of the Borough Ordinances (i.e. Zoning Ordinance, Public & Private Improvements Code or Sidewalk Ordinance) which might prohibit such a design. The Solicitor will review the current ordinances to see if any current restrictions exist. In the meantime, Mr. Carter was instructed to contact Ron Pappas, CEZO, to also discuss the proposal with him. The matter of a written agreement for the future maintenance of the "stars", if permitted, was briefly discussed. Council advised Ron Carter that they could not give him a decision this evening but the matter would be placed on the agenda for the June 8th Council meeting for further discussion.

REPORTS

Miller

Chief Miller reported that Officer Glenn Davis has submitted his official notice of retirement from the Borough and exit from the DROP program effective 12:01 PM, May 27, 2009. He requested that Council proceed with getting the necessary civil service process started.

A motion was made by Robertson, second by Mathew, to request that the Civil Service Commission provide Council with an updated recommendation letter of the top three candidates on the active list confirming that they are still available/interested. Council requests that the information be provided to them in time for the June 8, 2009 meeting.

Motion carried 6 - 0.

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Bayer

- Not present

President Underwood reported that negotiations are ongoing with the Police Bargaining Unit. The PNT has received a draft of the latest proposal from the PNT to the Bargaining Unit for review.

McDowell

- No report

Mathew:

- Reported that the new fund drive letters have been sent out for the Emergency Management Agency.

Reeb

- Gave a brief update on COG.

Robertson

- Advised of an upcoming IT committee meeting on May 27th at 2:30 PM.
- Requested an executive session, following the conclusion of the meeting, to discuss contractual matters.

Racunas:

- Advised that he sent two letters to WBCA. One regarding Allegheny Street and the other dealing with the Interceptor Project. He will keep Council apprised of the status of these matters
- Advised that he has started to prepare a draft of a letter to DCED to be used once Council makes further decisions with regard to the proposed debt / financing for the waterline project and other capital projects.

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Stedina:

- Advised Council that a new bank account at Nex Tier Bank has been established for the LUPTAP Grant monies.
- Inquired as to Council's wish with regard to the request of Z-Town Café to have outside seating during the summer months, as in the past. President Underwood advised that the matter should be placed on the agenda for the June 8, 2009 meeting.
- Advised Council of an upcoming credit on the Constellation Energy Commodities bill.
- Inquired as to Council's wish with regard to the request of the Zelienople American Legion to hold a ceremony and burn "retired" flags on Sunday, June 14, 2009. A motion was made by Reeb, second by McDowell, to approve the request.

Motion carried 6 - 0

- Advised that the Manager requested that Council authorize him to hire 3 summer help employees once the application period closes, which is May 15th. A motion was made by Mathew, second by Zeigler, to hire 3 summer help employees, as per the advertisement, once the application period has closed.

Motion carried 6 - 0

Thompson:

- Addressed Council's questions with regard to discussion at a previous meeting regarding the Glade Run traffic study and access to the development from Rte. 19.

OLD BUSINESS:

Consider Water Line Project Issues

Councilman Mathew briefly reviewed the matters discussed by the Water Committee at their meeting with regard to funding for the project and recommendations. Borough Engineer Tom Thompson gave Council an update of the status of the Waterline project. Discussion / questions ensued with regard to the future status of the current finished water reservoirs and whether or not to abandon the current reservoirs and erect storage tanks. The cost for the installation of 2 precast concrete 1,000,000 storage tanks would be approximately an additional \$300,000 over the option of maintaining the existing reservoirs and re-covering them. The Water Committee as well as the Engineer, felt that the storage tanks are the best option. Capacity would still be maintained, the tanks have a longer life

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once they are built, they would provide for adequate turnover of the water and some pressure would be added to the system as a result of the increase in the height. Following further discussion of the matter, it was the consensus of the Council to abandon the finished water reservoirs and pursue the option for the erection of two (2) 1,000,000 storage tanks in their place.

Discussion about an increase in the C.I.S. (Capital Improvements Surcharge) ensued. Currently the charge is based upon metered connections. It was recommended that the charge instead be based upon E.D.U.'s (equivalent dwelling units) and that the charge be increased by approximately \$10.00 based upon a standard residential service. The current charge is \$6.20, such an increase would raise the charge to \$16.20.

Following further discussion on the matter, a motion was made by Mathew, second by Reeb, to direct the staff to gather information to amend the current C.I.S. ordinance in order to have the C.I.S. charge based upon EDU's as opposed to metered connections. The increase to be an additional \$10.00 over the current charge for standard residential service. Staff is to bring back the information to Council regarding what revenue such a change would generate. Proposed change should note that future changes in the actual C.I.S. dollar cost will be made by Resolution of the Council.

Motion carried 6 - 0

Discussion then turned to the funding that will be necessary to complete the Waterline project. Following discussion it was the consensus of the Council that the number of \$9,000,000. be used for a debt amount.

Council instructed that the Manager and Assistant to the Borough Manager again approach the lending institutions, which they have previously approached, and ascertain if they would be willing to extend that amount for borrowing and if not they are to pursue the possibility of splitting the borrowing between a loan from commercial institution and the issuance of a bond. The details for the borrowing must be resolved in an expeditious matter in order that the Solicitor can submit the necessary paperwork to DCED to obtain approval for the incurrence of the debt.

OTHER:

Council instructed the Borough Engineer to check into the procedures necessary for the swapping of wetlands in order to be ready to proceed with the decommissioning of the raw water reservoirs.

The meeting was recessed at 9:15 PM by President Underwood.. Council went into executive session at 9:20 PM upon a previous request from Councilman Robertson.

ADJOURNMENT

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Council came out of executive session at 9:47 PM

Being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:48 PM by President Underwood.

ATTEST:

Asst. Manager / Asst. Secretary

Council President

Approved by me this _____ day of _____, 2009.

Mayor