

MUNCY BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING

Minutes

February 19, 2009 7pm

The Muncy Borough Council met in regular session with the following members present: President Vivian Daily, Vice President Galen Betzer, Karen Richards, Lloyd Wurster, and Linda Stein. Councilwoman Alicia Myers and Dana Bertin arrived approximately at 7:45pm. Also attending were Police Chief Richard Sutton, Solicitor Sarah Steinbacher, Borough Secretary/Office Manager Mary Lynné Rager.

Guests: Patrick Donlin, Williamsport Sun Gazette
Kathy Hunter, Zoning Advisory Team Consultant
Dan and Marcia Arnold, Residents
Mike McAleer

President Daily called the meeting to order at 7:03pm in the Muncy School District Board Room located in the Margaret Waldron Building. Invocation was provided by President Daily followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Executive Session

Not held

Minutes from February 3, 2009

Mr. Wurster made the **motion** to conditionally **accept** the minutes from February 3, 2009 Council Meeting. The motion was **seconded** by President Daily. **Motion carried**. All voted in favor.

Presentation by Kathy Hunter, Zoning Advisory Team Consultant

Ms Hunter presented to Council for endorsement a second draft of the borough zoning ordinance. The draft is a result of working with the Zoning Advisory Team and the Planning Commission. Three maps were then handed out to those present: Muncy Borough Proposed Zoning Map Draft (prepared 2/19/09 which replaces the May 2008 map), Muncy Borough Flood Plain District Map (as of March 2004 with no changes being proposed), and the Muncy Borough Historic Preservation District Map (with no changes from the 2nd current draft).

Concerns voiced at the May 6, 2008 public hearing were taken into consideration in preparing the second draft. The proposed changes will only affect about 25 properties which are outlined in black on the Muncy Borough Proposed Zoning Map Draft 2/19/09 and is proposed to become a Low Density Residential District.

Ms Hunter proceeded to review the new items added, deletions, and re-wording to the second draft. Discussion ensued regarding the section that states that the zoning officer will have the authority to enter any building, structure, premises or development in any zoning district. The zoning officer would be required to

properly notify the property owner before entering as well as presenting her credentials. Ms Stein questioned the means of "proper notification" i.e.: phone call, letter, etc. Solicitor Steinbacher said the time element is to be considered as well stating her personal view of 24 hours is sufficient.

Council gave their endorsement to go forward with the second draft and a tentative date of March 30, 2009 at the Geringer Social Hall was set for the next public meeting. Ms Hunter will present the draft to the County for their approval, notify the affected property owners and prepare the advertising of the meeting. Upon confirming the availability of the social hall for that date, Mrs. Rager will reserve the hall.

Ms Hunter concluded her presentation at 8:02 pm. Resident Marcia Arnold said she felt it was unacceptable for Ms Hunter to present the second draft to Council before presenting it to the Planning Committee.

Public Participation

None

Treasurer's Report

Mrs. Rager presented the Treasurer's Report and the Checks for Approval reports. Signing of the checks will follow the meeting upon approval.

General Fund Account –

02/05/09 EFT payroll transfer and Checks #6442-6474 were dispersed for February 5 to 16, 2009 totaling \$64,338.52.

Motion to approve **GENERAL** Fund dispersements by Ms Richards and **seconded** by Ms Stein. Motion **passed** with all voting in favor.

Liquid Fuel Tax –

Check #1188 was dispersed for February 16, 2009 totaling \$961.63.

Motion to approve **LIQUID FUELS** fund dispersement by Ms Richards and **seconded** by Mrs. Myers. Motion **passed** with all voting in favor.

Water Revenue Account –

Checks #2913-2920 were dispersed for February 13 to 16, 2009 totaling \$36,275.07 with one of those checks totaling \$25,000.00 going to the Muncy Borough Equipment Fund.

Motion to approve **WATER** Fund dispersements by Ms Richards and **seconded** by Mrs. Myers. Motion **passed** with all voting in favor.

Treasurer's Report –

Motion to approve the **Treasurer's Report** in its entirety by Ms Richards and **seconded** by Mr. Wurster. Motion **passed** with all voting in favor.

Old Business

1. Demolition Ordinance - Solicitor Steinbacher stressed that the Demolition Ordinance #472 does not supersede any previous ordinances. We must follow any prior ordinances in addition to Ordinance #472. Ms Richards requested the ordinance to read in layman's terms. Council will review and address at next Council meeting.

2. Police –

- a. **Grant** - Chief Sutton reported that he had submitted to the North Central Highway Safety Network, Inc. a signed Letter of Agreement for the Buckle Up PA "Click It or Ticket" Project. This grant will pay for our uniform officer's payroll hours on this project. Chief Sutton stated the grant gave no indication of how many hours this project will require. The grant states that police departments who do not enforce seat belt policies or the Pennsylvania seat belt law will not be considered for funding.
- b. **Memorandum of Understanding** – Chief Sutton asked Solicitor Steinbacher to review the Memorandum of Understanding so that he can present it at the next Council meeting for approval. This will allow police from outside our borough, who are passing through or are on other business, the right to stop and intervene when they witness a violation. They would then call our police department for assistance.
- c. **Parade Resolution #2009-1**– A resolution of the Borough of Muncy was presented to allow the Chief of Police to apply for parade permits for certain events from the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation:
 - i. September 11 Memorial Ride
 - ii. Fall Festival
 - iii. Halloween
 - iv. Homecoming
 - v. Lawn Party Run
 - vi. Memorial Day
 - vii. Fireman's Parade
 - viii. Veteran's Parade

Motion to approve Chief Sutton to apply for **parade permits** for certain events as Resolution #2009-1 by Mrs. Myers and **seconded** by Mr. Wurster. Motion **passed** with all voting in favor.

3. Expanding the Muncy Borough Municipal Authority Resolution #2009-2- Solicitor Steinbacher stated that this resolution is to expand the Municipal Authority from five members to seven and stated that no more than two member's terms can expire at the same time.

Motion to approve Resolution #2009-2 to expand the Muncy Borough Municipal Authority's members from five to seven by Mr. Bertin and **seconded** by Mr. Betzer. Motion **passed** with all voting in favor.

4. Appointment of additional two members to the Municipal Authority –

Motion to approve appointing Harold Davis, starting January 1, 2009 for a five year period, to the Muncy Borough Municipal Authority Board by Mr. Bertin and **seconded** by Mr. Betzer. Motion **passed** with all voting in favor.

Motion to approve appointing Charles Leonard, starting November 2008 to fulfill Mr. Fornwalt's remaining term, to the Muncy Borough Municipal Authority Board by Mr. Betzer and **seconded** by President Daily. With Mrs. Myers and Ms Richards opposing, motion **passed 5-2**.

Committee Reports:

A. Finance – Cost Cutting Initiative- Ms Stein reported that the Finance Committee and Mr. Coup have been researching ways to cut costs such as;

- a. Reviewing the pension plan
- b. Telephone costs
- c. Gasoline purchases
- d. PPL street lighting and other costs

Ms Stein reported that other communities had purchased their own street lights from PPL instead of leasing and we could do the same. Ms Stein expressed a deep concern that it is our municipal obligation to keep costs down. The Finance Committee plans on meeting with PSAB and other entities in their search for cutting cost. Mrs. Myers suggested we could possibly have more savings if we bundled services with Comcast or Windstream.

B. Equipment, Property, and Grounds – A quote from Donna Hartman was read by Ms Richards in regards to painting the Borough office. She noted it only involved the painting/repairs for the upstairs and should have included the downstairs hall and two offices. Subject tabled until complete quote can be obtained.

Executive Session

President Daily called for an Executive Session at 8:52pm for legal matters. There being no further business, President Daily adjourn the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,



Mary Lynné Rager
Borough Secretary/Office Manager