

## September 18, 2008

The Muncy Borough Council met in a work session with the following members present: President Vivian Daily, Vice-President Galen Betzer, Dana Bertin, Karen Richards, Linda Stein, Acting Solicitor Sara Steinbacher, Acting Secretary Kim Brown, and Police Chief Sutton.

<b>Guest:</b> Dan Arnold – Resident	Barron Zimmers – Resident
Marcia Arnold- Resident	Fran Jones—LCPCD
Daniel Knapp—Keystone Hook & Ladder	Vickie Conner—Property Owner
Patrick Donlin—Sun Gazette	
Mike McAleer--Resident	

The meeting was called to order at 7:03PM in Muncy School Boardroom located in the Margaret Waldron Building with President Daily presiding.

President Daily introduced Fran Jones from the Lycoming County Planning Commission.

Ms. Jones gave a brief presentation on the process of PEMA flood property buyouts. There are four properties in the borough being considered for the buyout grants as a result of flood damage from Hurricane Ivan in 2004. Ms. Jones emphasized that there would be no costs to the Borough, although the Borough does use its own solicitor for the title search, the paper work, the closing, etc. All costs of the solicitor are covered by the grant. The Borough advertises for the demolition of the property; all advertising, manager's time, costs of demolition are covered by the grant. County pays for costs and is reimbursed by PEMA.

Ms. Jones also stated that the property then becomes Borough Property with the understanding that the land can not be built upon, other than "flow-through" structures i.e. playground equipment. No chain link fences are allowed. No wells would be permitted on the property either. The property can be leased to adjoining property owner for them to use and maintain, although the same restrictions would apply. The property is to be left as if selling to another home-buyer; it is what makes the demolition affordable to the demo company because they can salvage parts from the property, i.e. copper.

President Daily asked if there were any restrictions on the amount of the lease. Jones replied, "No, but she could ask."

Councilperson Richards commented on the Historic District and The Historical Society getting notification of the buyouts and that she thought a requirement is also that the PA Historical Museum can come in and take photographs. Jones commented she had not received the letter.

Ms. Jones asked for questions. President Daily thanked her for her work.

A **motion** was made to move ahead with advertising ordinance #496 which will include the definition of outdoor furnace to be included in the ban by Councilperson Richards. President Daily asked for comments or questions. All were in favor. Motion carried.

A brief discussion on options for a pet ordinance took place. The solicitor explained that an ordinance restricting a specific number of pets would need a clear, well founded purpose for the ban, as she referred to specific case law. She mentioned the option of using other existing ordinances, such as a nuisance ordinance and handling these issues on an individual basis. Councilperson Bertin commented that it seemed like the best way to handle it, when a complaint is filed then deal with it. No action was taken.

Councilperson Stein asked the solicitor to explain the tax related ordinances that were up for discussion.

The solicitor explained the first ordinance would amend the compensation to the tax collector. The second ordinance deals with the office of the tax collector being vacated or abandoned. The third ordinance would repeal the OPT and replace with the LST that was enacted two years ago.

Solicitor commented that the Borough was given the option to keep the OPT, and that the new ordinance reflects the model ordinance for the LST put out by the state.

A **motion** was made to begin the process on this ordinance (the rate of compensation change) to advertise the proposed ordinance by Councilperson Stein. Councilperson Richards 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion. All were in favor. Motion carried.

A **motion** was made to begin the procedure of advertising for the ordinance concerning the vacancy or abandonment of the office of the tax collector by Councilperson Stein. Councilperson Richards 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion. All were in favor. Motion carried.

A **motion** was made to move ahead with advertising the LST ordinance changing from the OPT to the LST as presented to council by Councilperson Stein. Councilperson Richards 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion. Councilperson Bertin asked how it will impact some people. Councilperson Stein explained the analysis and said it will be difficult to determine because of several factors. All were in favor. Motion carried.

A **motion** was made to appoint Kim Brown as acting secretary by President Daily. Councilperson Richards 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion. All were in favor. Motion carried.

A motion was made with regret to accept the resignation of Councilperson Rodney Knier by President Daily. Councilperson Richards 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion. All were in favor. Motion carried

A brief discussion/explanation took place on health insurance coverage for full time employees concerning the new rate increases for the 2008-2009 policy term.

A **motion** was made to accept the \$500.00 deductible option by Councilperson Stein. Councilperson Betzer 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion. All were in favor. Motion carried.

A brief explanation of the estimated cost to the Borough of the 2009 pension plans for Borough employees was given by Secretary Kim Brown.

A **motion** to certify the MMO as of this day was made by Councilperson Richards. Councilperson Bertin 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion. All were in favor. Motion carried.

There was a brief discussion on changing the office hours to conserve energy. No action was taken.

Comment was made that Council was waiting for a response on a date to have meeting between the Authority and Council.

There was a brief review/discussion on the roof repairs bids from the hail storm damage.

A **motion** was made to move on the contract with Gale O. Boyer to repair the roof on the maintenance shed not to exceed the amount of \$7,280.00 by Councilperson Richards. President Daily 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion. Four in favor with Councilperson Betzer opposing. Motion carried.

A **motion** was made to move on the contract with Gale O. Boyer to repair the roof on the water department building not to exceed the amount of \$9,980.00 by Councilperson Richards. President Daily 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion. Four in favor with Councilperson Betzer opposing. Motion carried.

A **motion** was made to move on the contract with Gale O. Boyer to repair the roof on the sewer treatment plant not to exceed the amount of \$202.00 by Councilperson Richards. President Daily 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion. Four in favor with Councilperson Betzer opposing. Motion carried.

A **motion** was made to move on the contract with Gale O. Boyer to repair the roof on the pole shed not to exceed the amount of \$5,995.00 by Councilperson Richards. President Daily 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion. Four in favor with Councilperson Betzer opposing. Motion carried.

A **motion** was made to move on the contract with Gale O. Boyer to repair the roof on the Borough Office Building not to exceed the amount of \$7754.00 by Councilperson Richards. President Daily 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion. Four in favor with Councilperson Betzer opposing. Motion carried.

The solicitor mentioned she would work on the bid package to go out for the library roof.

An update on the zoning officer through the County was given. The County said that they could not offer that service until the end of the month of October. Councilperson Richards also mentioned setting up a meeting between the Personnel Committee and the new person after the 13<sup>th</sup> of October.

A motion was made to adjourn to an executive session and not resume to a public meeting by President Daily. Councilperson Bertin 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion. All were in favor. Motion carried. Being of no further business the meeting adjourned at 8:40PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Kim M. Brown, Secretary