

East Stroudsburg Borough, November 1, 2011

A regular meeting of the East Stroudsburg Borough Council was held at the Municipal Building on Tuesday November 1, 2011. The following members were in attendance: Victor Brozusky; Roger DeLarco; Ed Henning; William Reese; Donald Repsher and Sonia Wolbert. Also attending were: Mayor Armand M. Martinelli; Manager James S. Phillips; Solicitor David J. Williamson of Scanlon Lewis & Williamson; Engineering Representative Samuel D'Alessandro of R.K.R. Hess Associates, Inc.; a press representative from the TV 13, and several residents in the audience.

Call To Order/Pledge of Allegiance

Mr. DeLarco called the meeting to order at 7:30 pm. Michael Gulston led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Minutes of October 18, 2011 Regular Council Meeting

Mr. Reese made a motion, seconded by Mr. Brozusky to approve the minutes of the regular Council meeting held October 18, 2011 as submitted. The motion carried unanimously.

Public Comments – Agenda Items

None

Proposed Quitclaim Deed by Pocono Medical Center for Undedicated Portions of Orchard Street and Greentree Drive

Mr. Williamson said this matter was raised by Pocono Medical Center when they submitted plans for the new cancer center expansion on East Brown St. PMC wants the Borough to waive any interest it might have in the unopened (paper) streets, Orchard St. Extension and Greentree Drive. PMC has prepared a quitclaim deed to be signed by the Borough, which he has reviewed and made several minor changes to. Mr. Williamson said it does not appear that the Borough has any interests in the unopened streets. After discussion, Mr. Brozusky made a motion, seconded by Mr. Henning to authorize execution of the quitclaim deed as requested by PMC. The motion carried unanimously.

Resolution Designating Agent for Borough Obtaining Federal Disaster Assistance under the Stafford Act

Mr. Phillips said he had attended the briefing held by Representatives of FEMA for those municipalities and public agencies that had damages from Hurricane Irene and/or Tropical Storm Lee and wish to seek for reimbursement of such expenses from FEMA. It is not clear yet whether all the items which the Borough has submitted will be eligible for funding. Mr. Brozusky made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Wolbert to approve proposed Resolution No. 28-2011 designating James Phillips as agent for the Borough for Hurricane Irene. The motion carried unanimously. Mr. Reese made a motion, seconded by Mr. Henning to approve proposed Resolution No. 29-2011 designating James Phillips as agent for the Borough for Tropical Storm Lee. The motion carried unanimously.

Request for Proposals for Community Development Consulting Services for CDBG Funds

Mr. Phillips said the regulations for administration of the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program, requires that the municipality solicit a request for proposals for professional consulting services every three (3) years. The current contracts will expire at the end of this year. Mr. Repsher made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Wolbert to authorize a request for proposals (RFP) for community development consulting services to assist with administration of the CDBG Program for the 2012-2014 year, as recommended. The motion carried unanimously.

Request for Proposals for Inspection Services for the Downtown Streetscape Project

Mr. Phillips noted that for Phase II of the Downtown Streetscape Project the Borough will again be required to provide fulltime inspection, but PennDOT is now requiring that a municipality solicit proposals for such inspection services from qualified firms. Mr. Henning made a motion, seconded by Mr. Brozusky to authorize a request for proposals for inspection services for the Phase II of the streetscape project, as required; the motion carried unanimously.

Driveway Permit at 157 Marguerite Street – East Stroudsburg University

Mr. Phillips said that the engineering review letter from R.K.R. Hess Associates, Inc. noted that the plan submitted by the East Stroudsburg University for the new parking lot off of Marguerite Street calls for a new driveway entrance at 157 Marguerite St. Mr. Henning asked if there were any outstanding engineering issues regarding this parking lot construction? Mr. D'Alessandro replied no. Mr. Henning asked whether Council action was required on the new driveway request or could this be handled by staff? Mr. Reese noted that Council has always reviewed and approved new driveway openings. Mr. Henning made a motion, seconded by Mr. Reese to approve the driveway request for 157 Marguerite St. The motion carried unanimously.

Proposed 2012 Year Budget for Stroud Area Regional Police Department

Mr. Henning commented that the Police Officer employees contribute about \$150,000 annually to the Police Pension Plan, but the total cost next year to fund the police pension plan will be over \$660,000. Mr. Brozusky asked whether the proposed budget includes any layoffs or reduction in police officer staffing? Mr. Phillips replied no. After discussion, Mr. Brozusky made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Wolbert to approve the proposed SARPD budget for the 2012 year as submitted. The motion carried unanimously.

Proposed 2012 Year Budget for Monroe County Control Center

Mr. Brozusky made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Wolbert to approve the proposed MCCC budget for the 2012 year as submitted. The motion carried unanimously.

Proposed 2012 Year Budget for Stroud Region Open Space and Recreation Commission

Mr. Repsher made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Reese to approve the proposed SROSRC budget for the 2012 year as submitted. The motion carried unanimously.

Auction Sale of Old Fire Hall/former Municipal Building

Mr. DeLarco said Council has discussed at the Committee meeting spending additional funds on advertising the proposed sale of the old fire hall via video clip to be prepared by the ESU film/video club. After discussion, Mr. Henning made a motion, seconded by Mr. Repsher to authorize expenditure of \$250 for preparation of the video for the proposed sale of the building, as recommended. The motion carried unanimously. Mr. Henning suggested that the Borough schedule another open house date at the old fire hall perhaps on a Saturday afternoon.

Public Comments – New Business

Cassandra Emanuelli said her roommates car was vandalized last night at the Kistler Street parking lot with all four (4) wheels being stolen along with the mirrors. She said she doesn't feel safe walking from the parking lot where they rent a space for the vehicle to her apartment on Crystal Street. Ms. Emanuelli requested that the Borough waive or not enforce night time parking restrictions on Crystal so she can park closer to her apartment. Mr. Brozusky asked her what time she leaves in the morning? Mr. Brozusky said the Borough owes it to the business owners on Crystal St. to keep parking available for their shops. Mr. Reese commented that the parking restrictions on Crystal

St. are so the Borough can plow snow, pickup leaves, sweep the street etc., and that would be difficult if we permit everyone to park their vehicles on Crystal St. Mr. Williamson commented the crimes occurring are the problem-no matter where it occurs. Mr. DeLarco said the Borough along with the Police Department and the University are trying to address the crime issues that are occurring near the University campus.

Kimberly Raub, Coordinator for Community Services for ESU, introduced herself and said that the University is working with the Borough on these issues. There are meetings being held on campus with students and she agreed with Mr. DeLarco that the best approach to address these issues is through education efforts. There is a meeting on November 12, 2011 in Room 212 at Stroud Hall with ESU students. Mr. Reese stated that the Borough will address the issue of any lights that are not working within the Kistler Street parking lot.

Ms. Emanuelli asked how the Police Department will be addressing these crime issues since they have had layoffs in the past? Mr. DeLarco said the current police budget does not include any further reductions in the force and the Police Department is increasing patrols around the ESU campus.

Kimberly Raub said the best defense in this situation is a good offense; students need to work together where possible. Scott McClaren of LizTech Gallery on Crystal Street suggested that students call 911 whenever they have a situation where they do not feel safe.

Mrs. Karen Aballo complimented the SARPD police officer who handled her daughter's car incident last night.

Henry Lesoine of Oak Street said the stormwater issue near Bustin Industries needs "defused". Mr. Lesoine said Mr. Lichty at Bustin purchased and installed the wrong kind of pump for the stormwater area in back of the Bustin building. That pump will never work properly because it will freeze up in the wintertime.

Correspondence

Mr. Phillips reported receipt of the following items of correspondence:

1. A letter from Teresa Crompton of Berwick Heights Road stating that her family utilizes and enjoys the Terra Greens Golf Course operated by the Borough.
2. A letter from Sunesys Corporation applying for approval from the State Public Utility Commission to install an aerial telecommunications conduit at the Norfolk Southern Railroad crossing at Ridgeway (Bridge) Street.
3. A letter from FEMA announcing a meeting to be held on November 14, 2011 at the Monroe County Public Safety Center on the new flood insurance rate maps for Monroe County.
4. A copy of the annual report from the Northeast Pennsylvania Alliance (NEPA) for the 7/1/10 to 6/30/11 year.
5. A letter from Middle Smithfield Township requesting use of Borough property for a leaf composting area in the Wooddale area of the township. Mr. Brozusky asked where specifically they were looking to locate this leaf composting area? Mr. Phillips said he was not sure, they just referenced off of Barron Road. Mr. D'Alessandro said he would not recommend that the Borough permit a leaf composting area anywhere on property that would directly drain into the Borough's water supply. Mr. Brozusky commented that he could not approve a location where residents would be dropping off leaves because inevitably the site could turn into a dumping ground.
6. A notification from the Monroe County Board of Assessment Appeals that they have agreed to lower the assessments on the old firehall property and the adjoining parking lot parcels. Mr. Phillips said the total assessment for the five (5) combined parcels has been lowered to 39% of the previous values.

Reports

Mr. D'Alessandro reviewed his written engineers report previously submitted to Council. Mr. Reese made a motion, seconded by Mr. Brozusky to approve payment request No. 2 by K. C. Construction Company for the East Stroudsburg Dam Rehabilitation project work. The motion carried unanimously. Mr. Brozusky made a motion, seconded by Mr. Repsher to approve payment request No. 2 by Rutledge Excavating Inc., for the Wetlands Replacement work that is part of the East Stroudsburg Dam Rehabilitation construction project. The motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Reese commented about the loitering problem on Crystal Street and stated that the Borough needs a loitering ordinance that could be enforced. Mr. Henning suggested that perhaps the Borough should remove the street furniture from Crystal St. for that reason.

Mr. DeLarco inquired about the dedication date for the new fire station and suggested that we just set a date with the Fire Company and just stick to that date.

Mr. Phillips reported that the Borough did have the fuel oil tank at the old firehall site tested and the fuel tank passed inspection. Mr. Phillips noted that the "kick-off" meeting for the flood disaster assistance is November 15, 2011 at the Monroe County Public Safety Center building. Mr. Phillips reported that the Borough's paving contractor had started paving work on Greentree Drive today but ran into issues with the road pavement. Now we will have to dig-out and remove an additional area of the road base and replace it before completing the pavement overlay.

List of Bills

Mr. Reese made a motion, seconded by Mr. Henning to approve the list of bills payable and to ratify expenditure and payroll made through November 1, 2011 as submitted. The motion carried unanimously.

Executive Session

None

Adjournment

With no further business Mr. Henning made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Wolbert to adjourn the meeting at 8:52 p.m. The motion carried unanimously.

James S. Phillips, Secretary