

MINUTES
Stroudsburg Borough Council Meeting
Tuesday, December 19, 2017 at 7:04 P.M.

1. Call to Order/Roll Call - Present were: Council Member Joanne Kochanski, Council Vice President James Smith, Council Member Boyd Weiss, Mayor Tarah Probst, Solicitor Joseph McDonald, Council President Ken Lang, Interim Borough Manager Mary Pat Quinn, Council Member Matt Abell, Council Member Mark Connors and Council Member Patrick Maurath. A Quorum was present.

2. Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Mr. Lang advises on behalf of Borough Council and the Mayor's office we wish to address 2 very special people with long time service to the Borough; Mary Cramer who worked in the Office and Bob Phillips of the Fire Department, who was also a Council Member; both have passed. Please join us in a moment of silence in recognition of both individuals.

3. Public Hearing, An Ordinance of the Borough of Stroudsburg, Monroe County, Pennsylvania, fixing the Real Estate Tax Rate for the Year 2018
Motion to close Public Hearing by Mr. Abell, second by Mr. Smith. All in favor, Motion Carries.

4. Consideration to Adopt An Ordinance of the Borough of Stroudsburg, Monroe County, Pennsylvania, fixing the Real Estate Tax Rate for the Year 2018; Approval of the 2018 Budget.
Mr. Abell would like to add an item under Planning/Zoning at \$10K yearly for Consultant fees for the preparation of a Comprehensive Plan. Ms. Quinn advises this would come out of reserve.

Ms. Quinn advises the Finance Committee reviewed the budget and tax ordinance. The tax rate which was advertised for the Debt Service Fund was 4.097 mils. The Finance Committee would like to reduce to 4.047 mils. We have a reserve in the Debt Service Fund that will help with ½ mil. They would like to increase the Street Fund from 4.0 mils to 5.0 mils. This nets an overall increase of ½ mil which was advertised. We are looking at 3 re-paving projects. Sarah Street is funded with 2 grants, 2nd Street is funded with CDBG funds and Street Department funds and 1st Street is funded by 2016 CDBG funds. We need additional funds for 1st Street.

Motion to approve Adopt An Ordinance of the Borough of Stroudsburg, Monroe County, Pennsylvania, fixing the Real Estate Tax Rate for the Year 2018; Approval of the 2018 Budget by Ms. Kochanski, second by Mr. Smith. All in favor, Motion Carries.

5. Public Input for Non-Agenda Items – No public input

6. Approval of Council Meeting Minutes for December 5, 2017
Motion by Mr. Weiss, second by Mr. Abell to Approve Council Meeting Minutes from December 5, 2017. All in favor, Motion Carries.

7. Monthly Administrative Reports

a. Permits Issued Report

b. Public Works Report

c. Parking Report

d. Fire Department Report

e. Right-To-Know Report

f. Police Department Report (provided via email)

Motion by Mr. Weiss, second by Mr. Smith to Approve Monthly Administrative Reports. All in favor, Motion Carries.

8. Accept Unaudited September Treasurer's Reports:

- a. Actual to Budget b. Cash Balances

Motion by Mr. Smith, second by Ms. Kochanski to approve Unaudited September Treasurer's Reports.

All in favor, Motion Carries.

Old Business

9. Review traffic data provided by SARP, re: Scott Street. Captain Paul Gasper from SARP advises the data is from a 3 week time period. 85% of the vehicles travelled 31 mph or lower with 1 vehicle travelling 56 mph. Lengthy discussion ensued.

New Business

10. Consideration to Authorize the Interim Borough Manager and the Borough Engineer to go out to bid for the Sarah Street Improvement Project and the Levee Culvert Improvement Project.

Motion by Mr. Weiss, second by Mr. Abell to Authorize the Interim Borough Manager and the Borough Engineer to go out to bid for the Sarah Street Improvement Project and the Levee Culvert Improvement Project. All in favor, Motion Carries.

11. Presentation by Jody Singer, re: 2018 Winterfest event. Sarah Pomilio was in attendance with Mr. Jodie Singer. Mr. Singer is requesting a closure of North 7th through Courthouse Square and Monroe from 11:00am to 4:00pm and placing ice sculptures along Main Street. Mr. Singer would like the meters bagged on North 7th. It would be similar to Halloween on Main. Mr. Singer has already sent a letter to the Commissioners and will provide an insurance certificate. Mr. Ace and Chief Seip will be the contacts.

Motion to approve request by Mr. Singer Mr. Weiss, second by Mr. Maurath. All in favor, Motion Carries.

Motion to waive the \$100 fee Mr. Abell, second by Mr. Weiss. All in favor, Motion Carries.

12. Consideration of a Budget Transfer Resolution within the Street Fund and the Street lighting Fund.

Ms. Quinn advises we purchased 3 replacement audible push buttons with Braille and cable, someone hit the post; we had additional advertising in the Street fund.

Motion by Mr. Weiss, second by Mr. Smith to approve a Budget Transfer Resolution within the Street Fund and the Street lighting Fund. All in favor, Motion Carries.

13. Solicitor's Report – 2 items for Executive Session on real estate and litigation.

14. Mayor's Report – I want to thank Mr. Lang on his dedication and service to the Borough. The Penn Stroud hotel looks great on the outside but not on the inside. We need to find someone to help Mr. Kimes. Mr. Kimes advises we received many applications and will start the interview process in January. Would like to thank the Streets Department for the snow removal. The Streets Committee will determine the location of the bike racks. Mr. Smith advises they will be on each of the bump outs and will make a presentation to HARB. Mr. Ace advises paving on 2nd Street will be in the spring 2018, Sarah Street late summer to fall 2018 and Ann Street after sewer lines are replaced in 2020, the sewer lines will be replaced 2019. The Mayor will follow up with Mr. Bond on the Stroudsburg app. The Healthcare RFP's need to wait until a new Borough Manager begins. The Mayor inquired about a garage we were supposed to take over, Solicitor McDonald has that item for Executive Session.

15. Council Member Reports

Mr. Maurath – Nothing to Report

Mr. Connors - Nothing to Report

Mr. Abell - Nothing to Report

Mr. Lang - Nothing to Report

Mr. Weiss – Speeding on lower Main. Police have been very active, we need a light on Lower Main.

Mr. Smith – I had a budget meeting on Ann Street and the available grants. I have contacted government representatives and there are 4 available grants. One grant needs to be filled out by February 2018 for storm water and sewers, we are eligible for up to \$500K. We need a grant writer. Ms. Quinn advises she received an email from the Engineer and will forward to Council. I'll ask if this grant can be filled out for February. Lengthy discussion on grant writing.

Motion by Mr. Weiss, second by Mr. Maurath to hire a grant writer. All in favor voting YES (Mr. Maurath, Mr. Weiss), voting NO (Mr. Connors, Mr. Abell, Mr. Lang, Mr. Smith, Ms. Kochanski). Motion fails.

The next Street Committee meeting is January 2018. `

Ms. Kochanski - Read Bob Phillips resignation letter (letter attached).

Motion by Mr. Smith, second by Mr. Weiss to accept the resignation with regret and send the letter to the family. All in favor, Motion Carries.

Motion by Ms. Kochanski, second by Mr. Maurath to appoint Ms. Quinn to the vacant position until December 31, 2017. All in favor, Motion Carries.

I went to Maureen Madden's reception. Since we changed South 9th to a 2 way street the traffic is very busy.

Motion by Ms. Kochanski, second by Mr. Weiss to paint a crosswalk by Mill Ally and South 9th. All in favor, Motion Carries. Mr. Ace advises we need to wait until spring for the painting.

Mr. Smith would it be appropriate to send Mary Cramer's family a note on behalf of the Borough and Council. Ms. Quinn will send something to the family.

16. Manager's Report – Mr. Weiss, Mr. Ace and I have completed the Union negotiations. I need an Executive Session to over the bullet points. We did offer a 2% increase which is built into the budget. I started to look at the Personnel manual. There are some omissions and corrections which need to be made. Martin Luther King Day was added to the contract and I would like it to be available to the non-union employees. Mr. Connors would like to reconsider Election Day as a paid holiday. Motion by Mr. Weiss, second by Mr. Abell to add Martin Luther King to the list of paid holidays for non-union employees. All in favor, Motion Carries.

We received a letter addressed to Mr. Lang from the Board of Directors from the Monroe County Control Center thanking Council on utilizing Council Chambers on December 12th to hold their public hearing.

17. Approval of Bills on Warrants 171219

Motion by Mr. Weiss, second by Mr. Abell to approve Bills on Warrants 171219. All in favor, Motion Carries.

18. Executive Session

Motion by Mr. Smith, second by Ms. Kochanski to move into Executive Session at 8:08pm. All in favor, Motion Carries.

Motion to reconvene Council Meeting at 8:26 was made by Mr. Weiss, seconded by Mr. Smith. All in favor, Motion Carries.

Action after Executive Session

A motion was made by Mr. Weiss, seconded by Mr. Smith to approve the negotiated Collective Bargaining Agreement between the Borough of Stroudsburg and the Teamsters Local 773 for the period January 1, 2018 through December 31, 2020. All in favor, Motion carries.

19. Adjournment

Motion by Ms. Kochanski, second by Mr. Smith to adjourn at 8:28. All in favor, Motion Carries.