

TULLYTOWN BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING

December 1, 2020

President Nina Chrzanowski called the meeting of the Tullytown Borough Council to order with the Pledge of Allegiance on Tuesday, December 1, 2020 at 7:00 p.m., via remote conferencing.

Mayor Cutchineal asked for a moment of silence for Fr. Bernard Andracchio and Sister Mary Rachel from Christ the King Church on Main Street.

Present at the meeting:

Mayor Cutchineal
Councilman Shellenberger
Councilwoman Kettler
Councilwoman Slemmer
Councilman Pirolli
Councilwoman Gahagan
Councilman Servis
Councilwoman Chrzanowski

Also present:

Thomas J. Walsh III, Esquire, Borough Solicitor
Dan Doyle, Police Chief /Emergency Management Coordinator
Dan Pasciullo, Fire Marshal/Interim Borough Coordinator
Joe McPadden, Borough Treasurer
Patricia Marks, Assistant Borough Secretary
Nancy Conner, Borough Secretary

PROCLAMATION

Mayor Cutchineal issued a proclamation to Rita Goldman, MacIntosh Regency resident, who will be celebrating her 100th birthday on December 5, 2020.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Angela Quinn, 50 Silverbirch Lane, Levittown, explained that a neighbor is feeding the birds and squirrels in excessive amounts and they are getting rodents because of that. Mr. Pasciullo will call Angela Quinn tomorrow. He added that Deb Juno, our code enforcement officer advised that Mrs. Quinn should contact the Board of Health.

Mrs. Kettler asked if we as a Borough can join forces with her—this is a health issue and she doesn't want to see it get out of control. Mrs. Kettler wants Mr. Pasciullo to call the Board of Health tomorrow.

Mr. Servis commented that he agrees with Mrs. Kettler and also thinks the code enforcement officer should give them a violation. We should take immediate action. Mr. Walsh advised we will have to see if we have a code to be enforced.

Ms. Gahagan commented that she doesn't know if there are any laws about feeding animals. She said it was discussed about people feeding cats and dogs but they never passed the bill.

Mrs. Chrzanowski advised that Council will do whatever we can-Mr. Pasciullo will contact her in tomorrow morning. Mrs. Kettler asked Mr. Pasciullo if he would contact the Board of Health as well.

Mr. Pirolli advised that he agreed with the Borough contacting the Board of Health.

COUNCIL MINUTES

November 10, 2020 Council Meeting Minutes--Approval

Mr. Pirolli made a motion to approve the minutes of the November 10, 2020 Council meeting, seconded by Mrs. Kettler.

Roll call vote was taken:

Mr. Shellenberger—for

Mrs. Kettler—for

Miss Slemmer—for

Mr. Pirolli—for

Ms. Gahagan—for

Mr. Servis—abstained as he wasn't present at the meeting

Mrs. Chrzanowski—for

The vote was 6 in favor; 1 abstention. The motion carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT

MONTHLY BILLS

Mr. Pirolli made a motion to approve the bills in the amount of \$51,614.23, seconded by Mrs. Kettler.

Roll call vote on the motion was taken:

Mr. Shellenberger—for

Mrs. Kettler—for

Miss Slemmer—for

Mr. Pirolli—for

Ms. Gahagan—for

Mr. Servis—for

Mrs. Chrzanowski—for

All of Council was in favor of the motion; the motion carried.

OTHER EXPENSES PAID IN NOVEMBER, 2020

Mr. Pirolli made a motion to approve the other expenses for November, 2020 in the amount of \$189,565.38, seconded by Mrs. Kettler.

The vote of Council was as follows:

Mr. Shellenberger—for

Mrs. Kettler—for

Miss Slemmer—for

Mr. Pirolli—for

Ms. Gahagan—for

Mr. Servis—for

Mrs. Chrzanowski—for

The motion carried with a unanimous vote of Council in favor.

RECONCILIATION STATEMENT

Mr. Pirolli made a motion to approve the reconciliation statement for November, 2020, seconded by Mrs. Kettler.

Roll call vote was taken:

Mr. Shellenberger—for

Mrs. Kettler—for

Miss Slemmer—for

Mr. Pirolli—for

Ms. Gahagan—for

Mr. Servis—abstain as he wasn't present

Mrs. Chrzanowski—for

The vote was 6 in favor; 1 abstention. The motion carried.

RESOLUTION #451 – TRANSFER OF FUNDS \$600,000—CONSIDERATION

Mr. McPadden indicated he will need approximately \$400,000 for MMO's this month and the other \$200,000 to get us through the end of the month.

A motion was made by Mr. Pirolli to approve Resolution #451 Transfer of Funds of \$600,000 from the investments to the general fund. Mrs. Kettler seconded the motion.

The vote of Council was as follows:

Mr. Shellenberger—for

Mrs. Kettler—for

Miss Slemmer—for

Mr. Pirolli—for

Ms. Gahagan—for

Mr. Servis—for

Mrs. Chrzanowski—for

All of Council was in favor of the motion; the motion carried.

COMMUNICATIONS

Mrs. Conner advised she had no communications for the month.

GENERAL BUSINESS**ADOPTION OF 2021 FINAL BUDGET—CONSIDERATION**

Miss Slemmer made a motion to adopt the 2021 Budget, seconded by Mrs. Kettler.

Roll call vote was taken:

Mr. Shellenberger—against

Mrs. Kettler—for

Miss Slemmer—for

Mr. Pirolli—for

Ms. Gahagan—for

Mr. Servis—for

Mrs. Chrzanowski—for

The vote was 6 in favor; 1 against. The motion carried.

PUBLIC HEARING—PROPOSED 2021 TAX LEVY ORDINANCE—CONSIDERATION

Mr. Walsh advised the proposed ordinance, #399 indicates the tax millage for the 2021 year – tax rate for general purposes 7.5 mills, for street lighting purposes 2 mills, for fire protection 4 mills totaling 13.5 mills.

He added Mrs. Conner advertised this proposed ordinance in the Bucks County Courier Times and filed with the Bucks County Law Library.

There were no comments or questions from the public.

A motion was made by Mr. Pirolli to adopt Ordinance #399, Tax Levy Ordinance for 2021 year, seconded by Mrs. Kettler.

The vote of Council was as follows:

Mr. Shellenberger—for

Mrs. Kettler—for

Miss Slemmer—for

Mr. Pirolli—for

Ms. Gahagan—for

Mr. Servis—for

Mrs. Chrzanowski—for

The motion passed with a unanimous vote of Council in favor.

AUTHORIZE STAFF TO MAKE APPLICATION WITH DCED FOR APPROVAL UNDER THE LOCAL GOV'T UNIT DEBT ACT FOR BORROWING TO FUND THE PENSION LIABILITY PER PEL RECOMMENDATION

Mr. Walsh advised that the Pennsylvania Economy League (PEL) made recommendations to commence short term borrowing to fund the pension and eliminate the MMO's. He added that Council would need to authorize the staff to formally reach out to DCED who administers loans for municipalities. He added that the staff has also put some feelers out.

Mr. Pirolli made a motion to authorize the staff to make application with DCED for approval under the Local Gov't Unit Debt Act for borrowing to fund the pension liability per PEL's recommendation. Mrs. Kettler seconded the motion.

Mr. Servis asked if that would be a Pennvest loan. Mr. Walsh advised it doesn't have to be.

The vote of Council was as follows:

Mr. Shellenberger—for

Mrs. Kettler—for

Miss Slemmer—for

Mr. Pirolli—for

Ms. Gahagan—for

Mr. Servis—for

Mrs. Chrzanowski—for

All of Council was in favor of the motion; the motion carried.

ONE APPOINTMENT TO PARK & RECREATION COMMITTEE— CONSIDERATION

Mrs. Conner advised that Linda Slemmer's term expired on the Park & Recreation Committee and Linda is interested in being re-appointed.

Mr. Pirolli made a motion to re-appoint Linda Slemmer to the Park & Recreation Committee, seconded by Mrs. Kettler.

The vote of Council was as follows:

Mr. Shellenberger—for

Mrs. Kettler—for

Miss Slemmer—abstain

Mr. Pirolli—for

Ms. Gahagan—for

Mr. Servis—for

Mrs. Chrzanowski—for

The majority of Council was in favor of the motion; the motion carried.

AUTHORIZE ADVERTISEMENT OF 2021 COUNCIL MEETINGS AND PLANNING COMMISSION MEETINGS

Mrs. Conner advised that as Council voted at the November meeting, Council meetings will be scheduled for the 2nd Tuesday of each month beginning January 2021. She asked that Council consider authorizing her to advertise the Council meetings for 2021 year for the 2nd Tuesday of each month and additional meetings as needed for the 3rd Tuesday of each month as well as Planning Commission Meetings for the 2nd Monday of each month as needed. She added that she will also indicate in the advertisement that at this time, Council meetings will be remote through teleconferencing until further notice.

Mr. Pirolli made a motion to authorize the advertisement of the 2021 Council meetings for the 2nd Tuesday of each month and if needed, the 3rd Tuesday of each month as well as the 2021 Planning Commission meetings for the 2nd Monday of each month. Mrs. Kettler seconded the motion.

Roll call vote was taken:

Mr. Shellenberger—for

Mrs. Kettler—for

Miss Slemmer—for

Mr. Pirolli—for

Ms. Gahagan—for

Mr. Servis—for

Mrs. Chrzanowski—for

All of Council was in favor of the motion. The motion carried.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

No Reports

BOROUGH REPORTS

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Cutchineal announced that the Borough is holding a virtual Christmas lighting on Saturday December 5th which will be aired live on Facebook.

Mayor also advised that Hesski's on the Levittown Parkway is being moved which means WAWA is coming soon.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT

Mr. Walsh indicated we have some of the final information he needed today regarding WAWA project. Mr. Walsh further added that Provco will come out and do the site work first. Once site work is finished, WAWA will come out and do their work—there may be a gap in time but he will update as we go along.

Mr. Shellenberger commented that we were going to redo Kenwood Drive North from the stop sign all the way up the Parkway in conjunction when WAWA does their work. He asked Mr. Walsh if that would be the first portion. Mr. Walsh advised they will have to coordinate with the engineers and make them aware of it.

INTERIM BOROUGH COORDINATOR'S REPORT

Dan Pasciullo read the Public Works department report: 70 bulk pickups, 202 yard waste bags. He added they are continuing the leaf program and have picked up 30,000 lbs. of leaves and sent 22 loads to the landfill—finished up grass cutting in preparation for winter maintenance.

CHIEF'S REPORT

Chief Doyle advised he emailed the monthly report earlier today.

Chief also mentioned that all fire police personnel completed a 10 course class on traffic incident management. He added this will insure they have the proper training on the street and help us educate and reduce the risk of workers' compensation exposures--goal to get 100% compliance. Chief advised, with council's permission, he would like to research and write a grant—for the purchase of necessary safety and traffic control equipment they would need in conjunction with this training. He added the amount of the grant he would like to apply for is approximately \$25,000.

Mr. Pirolli made a motion to authorize Chief Doyle to research and write a grant for \$25,000 for the purchase of necessary safety and traffic control equipment. Mrs. Kettler seconded the motion.

The vote of Council was as follows:

Mr. Shellenberger—for

Mrs. Kettler—for

Miss Slemmer—for

Mr. Pirolli—for

Ms. Gahagan—for

Mr. Servis—for

Mrs. Chrzanowski—for

All of Council was in favor of the motion; the motion carried.

Chief Doyle advised that he applied for and received permission under the 1st responders program to connect all 3 of our schools with the on-duty police officers with 2-way radio communications. He added it was approved, the system was up and running—all 3 schools are on line and have capability of talking to patrol units directly. He added they discussed connecting all 3 schools by police radios. Chief stated that having the ability to communicate with the 3 schools is critical.

Chief Doyle commented that since Council approved the Budget this evening, he asked for Council's consideration of purchasing some vehicles. He advised he is looking to purchase three (3) 2020 SUVs with a total cost of 3 annual payments of \$47,777.34 through Fred Beans and Univest Corporation financing, with a deferred payment beginning December 2021. He asked if Council will authorize that expenditure with a deferred payment for next year.

A motion was made by Mr. Pirolli to authorize Chief Doyle to purchase three (3) 2020 SUVs with a total cost of 3 annual payments of \$47,777.34 through Fred Beans and Univest Corporation financing. Mrs. Kettler seconded the motion.

After discussion, roll call vote was taken:

Mr. Shellenberger—against

Mrs. Kettler—for

Miss Slemmer—for

Mr. Pirolli—for

Ms. Gahagan—for

Mr. Servis—against

Mrs. Chrzanowski—for

The vote was 5 in favor; 2 against. The motion carried.

Chief Doyle discussed the purchase of a 2020 F150 pick-up truck with Cab from Fred Beans through Univest with 3 annual payments with a deferred payment beginning December 2021 in the amount of 16,678.69.

Mr. Pirolli made a motion to authorize Chief Doyle to purchase for the fire marshal a 2020 F150 pick-up truck with cab from Fred Beans through Univest with 3 annual payments with a deferred payment beginning December 2021 in the amount of \$16,678.69.

Mrs. Kettler commented that Mr. Pasciullo is doing 2 jobs for the Borough and outstanding jobs—we have been very fortunate to find this individual and all the talent he brings to the Borough so he does need the truck. He just got certified for fire investigation as well.

The vote of Council was as follows:

Mr. Shellenberger—for

Mrs. Kettler—for

Miss Slemmer—for

Mr. Pirolli—for

Ms. Gahagan—for
Mr. Servis—against
Mrs. Chrzanowski—for

The motion passed with a 6-1 vote.

FIRE MARSHAL'S REPORT

Mr. Pasciullo thanked Council for the approval of vehicle purchase.

He advised that he received a letter of agreement between Council and the Fire department to conduct an audit by BBD auditors in Philadelphia. A copy of the letter was emailed to the finance committee. He added the cost of the audit is \$2,500 for the Borough and \$2,500 for the Fire Department.

A motion was made by Mr. Pirolli to obtain the services of BBD Auditors in Philadelphia to complete an audit of the Fire Department for the 2020 year with a cost to the Borough of \$2,500. Mrs. Kettler seconded the motion.

Roll call vote was taken:

Mr. Shellenberger—for
Mrs. Kettler—for
Miss Slemmer—for
Mr. Pirolli—for
Ms. Gahagan—for
Mr. Servis—against
Mrs. Chrzanowski—for

The motion passed with a majority of Council in favor.

MISCELLANEOUS COUNCIL BUSINESS

Mr. Pirolli made a motion to give Christmas bonus to all employees, the same amount and terms as last year. Mrs. Kettler seconded the motion.

Mr. Servis asked if that is for every employee. Mr. Pirolli commented yes.

Miss Slemmer asked if this bonus was for employees who worked 40 hours or more. Mrs. Kettler explained the motion was the same stipulation as last year.

Roll call vote was taken:

Mr. Shellenberger—abstain as member of his family is employed by the Borough.
Mrs. Kettler—for

Miss Slemmer—for
Mr. Pirolli—for
Ms. Gahagan—abstain, as she is a Borough employee
Mr. Servis—for
Mrs. Chrzanowski—for

The vote was 5 in favor, 2 abstentions; the motion carried.

Mrs. Chrzanowski wished everyone a safe and happy holiday and a blessed new year and hope things turn around in 2021.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, a motion was made by Mr. Pirolli to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Mrs. Kettler. All of Council was in favor of the motion. The motion carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:49 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Nancy Conner
Borough Secretary