

TULLYTOWN BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING

APRIL 20, 2021

Vice President Joe Shellenberger called the meeting of the Tullytown Borough Council to order with the Pledge of Allegiance on Tuesday, April 20, 2021 at 7:00 p.m., via remote teleconferencing.

Mayor Cutchineal asked for a moment of silence for Candi Miller, Councilman Pirolli's significant other, who passed away at the age of 71. She was a machine inspector for Election Day and was loved by many. Please keep her in your thoughts.

Present at the meeting:

Mayor Cutchineal
Councilman Shellenberger
Councilwoman Kettler
Councilwoman Slemmer - absent
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- absent
Patricia Marks, Borough Secretary

PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no comments from the public.

COUNCIL MINUTES

March 9, 2021 Council Meeting Minutes—Approval

Mr. Pirolli made a motion to approve the minutes of the March 9, 2021 Council meeting, seconded by Mrs. Kettler.

Roll call vote was taken:

Mr. Shellenberger—for
Mrs. Kettler—for
Mr. Pirolli—for

Ms. Gahagan—for

Mr. Servis—abstain

Mrs. Chrzanowski—for

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

7. TREASURER'S REPORT MONTHLY BILLS

Mr. Pirolli made a motion to approve the bills in the amount of \$45,515.21 seconded by Mrs. Kettler.

Roll call vote was taken:

Mr. Shellenberger—for

Mrs. Kettler—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 March, 2021

Mr. Pirolli made a motion to approve the other expenses for March, 2021 in the amount of \$263,148.95, seconded by Mrs. Chrzanowski.

Roll call vote was taken:

Mr. Shellenberger—for

Mrs. Kettler—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.

RECONCILIATION STATEMENT

Mr. Pirolli made a motion to approve the reconciliation statement for March, 2021, seconded by Mrs. Kettler.

Roll call vote was taken:

Mr. Shellenberger—for

Mrs. Kettler—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. Marks advised that she attended a webinar with Mr. Pasciullo for information on an app called Savvy Citizen. The app was promoted by PSAB as a good tool to keep residents informed. This app allows you to push notifications and information directly to the residents. The residents can download the app for free or they can opt in to get text messages or email. The tool allows the Borough to communicate road closures, emergencies, weather alerts, trash/recycling schedules, etc. Emergency alerts are delivered 24 hours a day. The representative provided a list of current users and Mr. Pasciullo reached out to a fire marshal in one of those municipalities. They told him they use the app every day. The cost for Tullytown Borough is \$759/year. The company will help us promote the app and encourage residents to download the app.

Mrs. Kettler made motion to approve the Savvy Citizen app, contingent on review by the Solicitor, seconded by Mrs. Chrzanowski.

Roll call vote was taken:

Mr. Shellenberger—for

Mrs. Kettler—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.

9. GENERAL BUSINESS

Leightronix/Viebit Annual Maintenance Renewal—Consideration

Mrs. Marks advised that Leightronix is the company that streams our meetings and announcements on the government channel. The yearly contract is due for renewal in the amount of \$1,788.00 and this has not been increased from last year.

Mrs. Kettler made a motion to approve the renewal of the Leightronix contract in the amount of \$1,788.00, seconded by Mr. Pirolli.

Roll call vote was taken:

Mr. Shellenberger—for

Mrs. Kettler—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 Planning Commission—Consideration

Mrs. Marks advised that Alan Lombardi is seeking appointment to the Planning Commission.

Mr. Pirolli made a motion to appoint Alan Lombardi to the Planning Commission, seconded by Ms. Gahagan.

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.

Authorize Award of Pension Funding Loan and approval of Ordinance for Pension Funding Loan—Consideration

Mr. Walsh provided background for the pension funding loan. Each year the Borough has had to pay out large amounts of money to fund the pension. The Pennsylvania Economy League made the recommendation to borrow money for a short term, contribute the loan proceeds to fund the pension plan and pay the loan back over 3 years. In doing so, the Borough will get the recognition from the Auditor General and the Borough will only need State Aid as the yearly obligation. Up to this point, the Borough has had to put out approximately \$500,000 a year. This loan will pay for itself within 5 years. PFM Financial Advisors helped us to put together a package to submit to banks and engaged bond counsel to create the required documents.

Council has authorized all activity up to this point. Based on current markets, the required \$2.4 million pension funding loan was solicited to local and regional banks that would understand an obligation bond. Strong proposals were received from several banks with a term of 3 years and interest rate under 1%. Jim Thorpe Neighborhood Bank provided the strongest proposal with the lowest interest rate of

.72% interest and costs paid at settlement, no prepayment penalties. Jim Thorpe Neighborhood Bank is the loan proposal recommended by PFM.

Ms. Hughes from PFM explained that this is a Pension Obligation Bond Note – it will put money in the pension plan to have fully funded status right now. The amount is based on assumptions as to interest rates and how stock markets perform over time. Assumptions as to what employees will be paid and when people will retire. Ms. Hughes used the analogy that pension funding is like a dam. You plug a hole that exists now but we do not know of any future holes. It eliminates the known liability, which is over \$950,000. In answer to Mr. Pirolli's question, Ms. Hughes stated that the State contribution is based on number of people you have and will continue.

Kevin Reid of King Spry is Bond Counsel. He explained that his job is to work with Jamie Schlesinger and Melissa Hughes of PFM and make sure that the loan is structured legally based on a couple of different local statutes and Commonwealth statutes and federal law. His purpose is to document the transaction legally. There is a local statute that is called the Local Government Unit Debt Act and that governs all debt that is issued in the Commonwealth by municipalities. First, it is important that the local Borough Council authorizes action to move forward with the pension obligation bond or note. The second thing is that the Department of Community and Economic Development reviews all applications that come from local municipalities in accordance with the Debt Act. There are specific requirements of the Debt Act that we need to comply with and there is a specific section that talks about unfunded pensions. The Ordinance is detailed in the sense that it does a couple of different things. It tracks the provisions of the local government Debt Act, it identifies Jim Thorpe Neighborhood Bank as the successful bidder, and it shows amortization over a 3 year period. There are other documents that need to be filed with DCED including the approved Ordinance. If the Borough acts favorably tonight on the Ordinance, he will send all documents to DCED for approval.

Mr. Servis questioned why the pension funding cannot be paid from the Borough's available funds. Mr. Walsh explained that you will not get credit for the pension fund catch-up if you pay it from existing funds because this is the law. Paying the unfunded pension from the available cash would not achieve the cash flow benefit the Council is looking for.

Phase two will include the filing of the necessary documents with DCED. On May 26th the closing on the loan will occur and the funds will be deposited into the pension fund. December 15th the first payment is due. During the second half of 2021 the interim actuarial evaluation will occur.

Mr. Pirolli made a motion to award the pension funding loan to Jim Thorpe Neighborhood Bank in the amount of \$2,478,000 and to adopt Ordinance #400 for the Pension Funding Loan, seconded by Mrs. Chrzanowski.

Roll call vote was taken:

Mr. Shellenberger—for

Mrs. Kettler—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

There were no committee reports

BOROUGH REPORTS

MAYOR'S REPORT

The second annual Bells Across America event will be held Sunday, May 2nd at 7:00 p.m. The Pennsylvania Mayors and Fallen Firefighters will be sponsoring the event, which is a 3 minute salute to our great first responders. We request that Chief Collins and our friends at Station 33 blow the fire siren at 7:00 p.m. for 3 minutes. We also request that Father Di Ioria at St. Mike's ring the church bells at 7 p.m. For those who have kids at home, encourage them to make noise for 3 minutes at 7 p.m. and do their part in supporting our great first responders.

May 18th is primary election day. Polls will be open from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. Please come out and vote for the candidates of your choice. Make sure you wear a mask and practice safe distancing guidelines.

May 29th – there will be no Memorial Day parade but we are still holding our annual Memorial Day services at the War Memorial at Main and Fallsington at 9 a.m. and finishing up at the Monument at the Tullytown Cemetery immediately afterwards. We have invited a number of VIPs and we will announce who will be taking part at the next month's meeting.

Good luck to Bristol's Pat Sabatini in his UFC TV debut Saturday night. Good luck Pat!

SOLICITOR'S REPORT

Mr. Walsh reported that the Tullytown Borough Planning Commission and The Bucks County Planning Commission approved the proposed Medical Marijuana Ordinance. The Council now needs to authorize the advertising of the public notices which needs

to run twice. We will be ready to hold the public hearing at the next Council meeting, May 11, 2021.

Ms. Gahagan made motion to approve the advertising for the Medical Marijuana Ordinance and for a public hearing to be held on May 11, 2021, seconded by Mr. Pirolli.

Roll call vote was taken:

Mr. Shellenberger—for

Mrs. Kettler—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.

INTERIM BOROUGH COORDINATOR'S REPORT

Mr. Pasciullo indicated that Council has received Mark's report for the month of March. The winter equipment was stored and reported no damages to any of the equipment. The street department continues to crack seal and the street sweeper came into town.

Mr. Servis reported that there are still people living in the Art Kraft Container warehouse and D&S Boats took out the front sidewalk. Mr. Pasciullo advised that he will have the building inspector look into both issues.

CHIEF'S REPORT

Council received a copy of his monthly report.

Chief Doyle is setting up a Police Committee meeting with members of Council to discuss some of the things that are happening in the police department.

Chief Doyle asked for approval to hire a part time police officer, Brendan Montemarano.

Mr. Pirolli made a motion to hire Brendan Montemarano as a part time police officer, seconded by Mrs. Kettler.

Roll call vote was taken:

Mr. Shellenberger—for

Mrs. Kettler—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.

FIRE MARSHAL'S REPORT

Council received Mr. Pasciullo's monthly report.

Mr. Pasciullo advised that the study done by the Bucks County Planning Commission on The Future of Bucks County's Fire Services is included in their packet. There is some good information concerning where we stand as far as lack of manpower in the fire departments.

MISCELLANEOUS COUNCIL BUSINESS

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, a motion was made by Mr. Pirolli to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Ms. Gahagan. All of Council was in favor of the motion and the motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 7:46 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia Marks
Borough Secretary