

**IVYLAND BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING
(via Zoom Video Conference and Facebook Live)**

April 8, 2020

CALL TO ORDER: 7:32 p.m.

PRESENT: Council Members: Sal DiPaolo, President,
Bill Linwood, Vice President, Albert DeGideo,
Elaine Butkus, Chuck Bristow, Christina Finello,
Todd Savarese

OTHERS: Tony Judice, Mayor
Mark Eisold, Borough Engineer
Greg Sturn, Borough Solicitor
Janet Pacchioli, Treasurer/Secretary

ESTABLISHMENT OF QUORUM

**THE PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE WAS FOLLOWED BY AN
ANNOUNCEMENT BY COUNCIL PRESIDENT SAL DiPAOLO**

President Sal DiPaolo announced that sadly Marty Severn passed away yesterday. She was a longtime resident and wife of former Council President Bob Severn. Please keep everyone in your thoughts and prayers.

MINUTES OF 3/11/20:

Correction: Page 4, Paragraph 4 – correct spelling of name is Christina Finello. Minutes as amended were approved by a vote of 6-0-1. Todd Savarese abstained due to absence.

TREASURER’S REPORT:

Janet Pacchioli read the Treasurer’s report into the record. The report was accepted subject to audit.

BILLS LIST:

Janet Pacchioli reported that the prepaid bills list totaled \$38,058.57 and the unpaid bills list totaled \$3,454.81.

Bill Linwood made a MOTION, seconded by Elaine Butkus to pay the bills.

MOTION was ADOPTED 7-0.

CORRESPONDENCE:

Janet Pacchioli said Jim Hunt of Berkheimer questioned whether the Borough will be extending its Mercantile Tax due-date of April 15th due to recent events of the country, and the anticipated amount collected would be \$11,000. Borough's Tax Collector informed that the Bucks County Commissioners approved delay of start date for County Property Tax penalty accrual from July 1st to July 31st.

Greg Sturn said any extension by the Borough needs to be approved by the School District.

Sal DiPaolo suggested until things are up and running again we should provide as much of a break as possible.

Todd Savarese made a MOTION, seconded by Bill Linwood to approve extending due date of Mercantile Tax in accordance with the guidelines of Centennial School District.

MOTION was ADOPTED 7-0.

Janet Pacchioli announced that the Borough received a \$10,000 check from PECO Green Region Grant and guidelines for the time period of the project begins April 14, 2020, which is the date of the letter, until October 2021.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None. Residents were able to view the meeting on Facebook Live.

ZONING OFFICER'S REPORT: None.

CODE ENFORCEMENT REPORT: Report was provided to Council via email.

REPORT OF PRESIDENT:

Sal DiPaolo announced that to-date there have been no reported cases of COVID-19 in the Borough.

Continuation of Staff Wages during COVID-19:

Sal DiPaolo made a MOTION, seconded by Albert DeGideo to approve continuation of staff wages during COVID-19 crisis.

Chuck Bristow noted that, although he is not sure whether municipalities such as a small Borough counts as a small business, there is "small business relief" for those business owners who keep their staff on during COVID-19 crisis.

Sal DiPaolo suggested checking with the PSAB since Boroughs are smaller municipalities, and he asked Janet to follow up on it.

MOTION was ADOPTED 7-0.

ENGINEER:

Mark Eisold clarified that in regards to the PECO Region Grant; phase I of the Fire Dam project can begin. Is that correct?

Janet Pacchioli replied yes.

Mark Eisold continued that contractors who previously submitted bids for asbestos abatement of the former Navy homes were contacted to resubmit bids. Also, he is checking to see whether the asbestos is at a minimum, and if so, cost for abatement can be included with demolition, which could result in savings.

SOLICITOR:

Greg Sturn said in regards to the status of property located at 50 Wilson Avenue; it has been listed for Sheriff's Sale scheduled for June 12th.

Applicant of the Ivyland Hotel filed a zoning appeal and he prepared a Notice of Intervention on the Borough's behalf that will be filed electronically with the Court of Common Pleas.

Also, renewal extension of Granieri's contract should be retroactive from November 15, 2019 to November 14, 2021.

Sal DiPaolo made a MOTION, seconded by Bill Linwood to approve renewal extension of Granieri's contract for snow/ice operations retroactive from November 15, 2019 to November 14, 2021.

MOTION was ADOPTED 7-0.

Todd Savarese said there was an expense of \$2,600 related to the Zoning Hearing Board involving the Ivyland Hotel and will that be reimbursed to the Borough as part of the applicant's escrow?

Greg Sturn replied one of the continuances was requested by Borough officials, so it would not be appropriate to charge the applicant.

Todd Savarese said we may want to review the fee schedule; however, in his experience in addition to the filing fee, there is always a professional services agreement where escrow is set up except for instances where additional expenses are incurred due to requests of the municipality, but typically the applicant is responsible to pay from the escrow.

Janet Pacchioli said she believes there is an escrow and will report back on it.

Greg Sturn added that the fee schedule does provide for that.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Janet Pacchioli said she received a call from Joe Lovecchio, Conductor of the Warminster Symphony Orchestra in regards to the summer concert, and he would like to keep it on the schedule for June 27th, and we would follow any guidelines.

MAYOR:

Mayor Judice said there was no police report for the past month. In regards to the park in the grid; the sign saying the “Park is Closed” is gone and there were teenagers playing basketball, so he mentioned to them that the park was closed.

Sal DiPaolo said as a precautionary measure the hoop and backstop will be taken down.

Mayor Judice announced that on Saturday, we will be having a virtual Easter Egg Hunt in town where residents can print a photo/computer printout of an Easter egg to place in the window, and as the parents walk around town with their children, they can make note of how many Easter eggs they find. Also, there will be a photo of an Easter Bunny placed in the window of one of the homes in the grid as well as in the Village and the Easter Bunny will be sitting on a porch in the Borough between the hours of 1-2 p.m. so children can wave to the Easter Bunny. At the end of that day, send a note with your child’s name and how many Easter eggs they found, and then someday soon when we can get together again as a community, we will give the kids who found Easter eggs, chocolate candy eggs.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

FINANCE: No report.

PUBLIC SAFETY:

Chuck Bristow said we appreciate Fire and Police personnel being out there during this tough time.

Mayor Judice commented that Sergeant Carey has communicated to the officers about safety guidelines and procedural methods.

BORO PROPERTY:

Chuck Bristow commented that the LED street lights have been installed in the grid.

Mayor Judice added that Armor Electrical company shutdown before completion of LED lights in the Village and he will check on whether they were shutdown as a company or just minimizing projects, because if they are not completely shutdown, they need to finish the Borough's project before moving onto any others.

STREETS/WALKS:

Todd Savarese commented that a "No Parking" sign posted at Eddowes Drive and Valentine Road was knocked over by a vehicle, so he contacted Granieri who took care of it.

PLANNING COMMISSION: None.

FIRE COMPANY:

James Cantore, President, Ivyland Fire Company, reported there were 22 calls YTD; new equipment has been set up on the Tac truck in which we now consider it a light rescue truck. He thanked Council for their support to provide EMS and fire protection to the residents of Ivyland. Any future 2020 events will be posted on social media, and once normal operations resume, they will be posted in the Loud Speaker. Training has also been suspended and some personnel have been going to the Fire House making sure all equipment is working. The Fire Company is still in-service and responding to calls.

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT:

Albert DeGideo reported that PPE is in short supply and in high demand, and he made a request to the County for 100 masks for the police and fire departments and received 35. Also, there is help for those in need who live in the Borough as well as in Bucks County and there are links to that information.

Sal DiPaolo said those links will be posted on the Borough's Facebook page as well as the website.

Christina Finello added that there are County resources available for mental health crisis. Bucks County has a COVID-19 behavioral health helpline that is open Monday-Friday from 8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. Also, there is a 24/7 mental health crisis prevention helpline as well as a suicide prevention hotline at 1-800-273-Talk and text hotline – text HOME to 741741 that links to a trained crisis counselor. Bucks County Behavioral Health helpline is 215-399-5681 from 8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

Janet Pacchioli commented that a new resident of the Borough called the office to offer assistance such as shopping, etc.

NEW BUSINESS:

Bill Linwood commented that Sergeant Carey is looking for disinfecting wipes for the police department.

Albert DeGideo said he can provide that on Friday.

PUBLIC COMMENT – via Zoom and Facebook Live:

Krista DiPaolo commented that a resident questioned whether they could call Waste Management to request a large item pickup.

Janet Pacchioli replied all bulk item pickup of Waste Management has been suspended until further notice for safety reasons.

Chuck Margiotta thanked Council for sharing the meeting on Facebook Live.

Other residents commented they were also watching the meeting on Facebook Live catching up on the Borough’s news; another resident commented that taking down the hoop will work.

ADJOURNMENT: 8:28 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Liz Vile, Recording Secretary

Minutes approved by Borough Council _____, 2020