

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

August 12, 2020

CALL TO ORDER: 7:30 p.m.

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

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 A MOMENT OF SILENCE

MINUTES OF 07/08/20 – emailed to Council:

Bill Linwood made a MOTION, seconded by Chuck Bristow to approve the minutes of the July 8, 2020 Council meeting as submitted.

MOTION was ADOPTED 6-0.

TREASURER’S REPORT – emailed to Council:

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

BILLS LIST – emailed to Council:

Janet Pacchioli reported that the prepaid bills list totaled \$41,018.95 and the unpaid bills list totaled \$8,888.80 and there was an additional bill submitted for asbestos abatement in the amount of \$10,050.00 for a new total of \$18,938.80. Also, the annual bill for service calls for Animal Control Officer has increased.

Chuck Bristow made a MOTION, seconded by Bill Linwood to pay the bills.

MOTION was ADOPTED 6-0.

CORRESPONDENCE:

Janet Pacchioli said liquid fuels funds can be used for the Greeley Avenue project.

Also, there have been complaints made by residents regarding an RV (fifth wheel) parked on Freedom Way taking up several parking spaces; also there were reports about fallen tree limbs and fallen tree due to a recent storm.

9-1-1 EMERGENCY OPERATION CENTER:

Kevin Spencer, Bucks County Director of Operations, said there is a lack of meeting space within the EOC and the County would like to build a small addition of 1,000 sq. ft. to the existing building. Preliminary plans were presented showing front/side elevations noting that the addition would eliminate two existing parking spaces on Freedom Way, and no new impervious surface was proposed. County's engineers are in the process of updating site calculations in order to provide the Borough with a zoning plan and the architects are working to further refine the floor plan in order to provide a full set of architectural plans for submission to obtain a building permit. County requested waiver from land development process as there is a tight timeframe for the CARES funding that needs to be obligated by December 31, 2020, and in that timeframe, design phase and bidding process need to be completed with the project under contract in order to qualify for the funding.

Albert DeGideo left the meeting at 7:55 p.m.

Todd Savarese commented that he would be in favor of granting waiver request from land development process as long as plans demonstrate compliance with zoning requirements. He would like consideration to be given by the County to soften the façade of the building along Freedom Way.

Mr. Spencer agreed to look into what could be done there.

Chuck Bristow asked for the construction timeline.

Mr. Spencer replied about four to six months.

Christina Finello questioned whether additional staff would be employed at the EOC.

Mr. Spencer replied there will be no additional staff hired. The expansion would allow existing employees to have breakout meeting space.

Christina Finello expressed concern about an increased volume of traffic through the neighborhood.

Mr. Spencer replied space would be utilized during emergency-type situations with a few extra people using it.

Resident comments via Facebook Live -

Brian Wenstrup, 58 Brewster Drive, expressed concern about how the addition will fully impact the neighborhood including traffic through the entrance gate. Could there be an entrance on Johnsville Boulevard with additional landscape screening from the commercial building?

Lisa Rapp commented she was disappointed that the grass is not cut in a timely manner at the 9-1-1 Center.

Chuck Bristow expressed concern about the possibility of a future change in use of the additional meeting space where more staff would be required and he asked for assurance that will not occur.

Christina Finello agreed with the suggestion of an entrance on Johnsville Boulevard as opposed to Freedom Way.

Mr. Spencer replied Johnsville Boulevard is not located in Ivyland Borough, which may complicate the process, but it could be evaluated by the engineers. Final plans that meet zoning requirements will be completed and presented at the September Council meeting.

Greg Sturn suggested the plans be reviewed by the Borough's Zoning Officer and Borough Engineer prior to the September Council meeting at which time Council may consider waiving the land development process.

Chuck Bristow said he would like the concept of an entrance from Johnsville Boulevard to be considered as it would serve the residents well.

Bill Linwood agreed that a second entrance would alleviate traffic on Freedom Way.

Greg Sturn noted that any change in impervious surface ratios need to be brought before the Zoning Hearing Board.

Mr. Spencer said he will be in further contact with Borough officials.

PUBLIC COMMENT - via Facebook Live:

Maria Alden, 49 Wilson Avenue, asked about lawn signs supporting the police.

Janet Pacchioli suggested taking orders accordingly.

Bill Linwood said we would need to find out if a minimum is required.

Sal DiPaolo asked for this to be handled by the Public Safety Committee.

Residents offered their assistance with sign orders.

Brian Wenstrup, 58 Brewster Drive, commented that as a community member, he would be interested in being included with meeting with Mr. Spencer in regards to the plans for the 9-1-1 Center. Also, he expressed concern about the renter who has a fifth-wheel camper that is hooked up to a dual-wheel truck parked on Freedom Way that is taking up four-five parking spaces and many neighbors are very distraught over the situation.

Greg Sturn said there is an ordinance that addresses parking of recreational vehicle trailers on public streets and it is in violation.

Janet Pacchioli noted the ordinance says, "Signs shall be posted on major access streets to the Borough reasonably informing drivers of the applicability of this section and the language and location for such signs shall be directed by the Chief of Police," and there are no signs posted. The Borough only has contact information for the owner, but not for the renter.

Sal DiPaolo said we should contact the owner, place notification on the door and signs should be posted by the Police Department.

Todd Savarese added that a copy of the ordinance should be provided to the owner informing them that Council will be taking appropriate action.

Scott Alden, resident, asked for the status of the Ivyland Hotel matter.

Greg Sturn replied the appeal is pending before the Court of Common Pleas.

ZONING OFFICER'S REPORT:

Bill Linwood made a MOTION, seconded by Chuck Bristow to accept the Zoning Officer's report.

MOTION was ADOPTED 5-0.

CODE ENFORCEMENT REPORT:

Bill Linwood made a MOTION, seconded by Chuck Bristow to accept the Code Enforcement report.

MOTION was ADOPTED 5-0.

REPORT OF PRESIDENT:

Sal DiPaolo announced that the Ivyland Heritage Association will be working on the Borough's 150th Anniversary celebration and volunteers are needed.

ENGINEER:

Mark Eisold said in regards to the PECO Green Grant Fire Dam project; we submitted a general permit from DEP and expect to receive it soon and then three bids will be solicited from landscapers, and it was suggested to contact local landscapers in town to see if there was any interest on bidding on the project.

It was previously stated that liquid fuels funds can be used for the Greeley Avenue project and PECO will be contacted in regards to their permit application.

Asbestos abatement on the former Navy homes was completed by Eagle Industrial Hygiene Associates, Inc. for total cost of \$10,050.00.

Bids were solicited for demolition of the former Navy homes with nine bids received and lowest bidder was Victory Gardens at a price of \$143,870.00. More research will be done to minimize costs such as for fill-material and topsoil prior to the next Council meeting.

Sal DiPaolo questioned whether there is an environmental review on record for the Navy housing.

Greg Sturn replied he will look into it.

SOLICITOR:

Greg Sturn said he sent an inquiry email to Warminster Municipal Authority's Solicitor in regards to their ordinance and still waiting for a reply, and if not, then he will call Warminster Township's Solicitor.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Chuck Bristow asked for the status of compliance regards to payment of fines pertaining to the Mill property.

Greg Sturn said he spoke with the subject's attorney who indicated a check was written today, which will bring payments current, although not including what is owed for August. Total amount due is \$3,500 and the agreement was to pay \$300 a month; next step would be to enter judgment on the arbitration award.

Todd Savarese made a MOTION, seconded by Chuck Bristow to authorize Greg Sturn, Borough Solicitor to enter judgment on arbitration award in regards to the Mill property on behalf of Ivyland Borough Council.

MOTION was ADOPTED 5-0.

MAYOR:

Mayor Judice provided the police report for July 2020; there were 48 calls for service; 38 traffic citations were issued and four written warnings. Check received from District Court for the months of June and July totaled \$2,226.94. One reportable accident was investigated and two non-reportable accidents.

Also, he received a copy of the ordinance pertaining to firearms along with addendum regarding restrictions for fireworks, which can be enforced.

He had a meeting with reps of the DVRPC and KLS concerning the lighting project and there have been reports from several municipalities about failure rates of 50-60% of the photocells in the cobra lights and it seems to be a unit failure and not installation. Ivyland and Rockledge Boroughs do have some cobra lighting; however, there have been no failures. The company that made the units will replace all photocells in the cobras for each municipality and they will include Ivyland and Rockledge Boroughs.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE:

Sal DiPaolo said he will schedule a virtual meeting for the Parks and Recreation Committee to discuss an inquiry from Boy Scout Troop 200 in which the Eagle Scouts would like to do some tree work projects; also the committee needs to discuss how the Borough's fall bonfire/weenie roast event will be handled.

FINANCE:

Christina Finello said budget directive for 2021 was provided to Council that includes budget preparation guidelines. Committee chairpersons are requested to provide their preliminary budgets to the Borough Office no later than Friday, August 28th. Budget discussions will be held during Finance Committee meetings and any presentations that need to be made will be held via Zoom. Any revisions to the budgets need to be submitted by Friday, October 22nd; final budget will be presented to Council during the October Council meeting; Council would vote to advertise in November and the 2021 budget would be considered for adoption in December.

PUBLIC SAFETY:

Bill Linwood said cameras for police vehicles are needed and the plan is to purchase one this year and one next year. Total cost is \$5,245.00 each. District Judges do request video if it is available and the cameras would be used for any liability issues as well as for the safety of the officers.

Sal DiPaolo questioned whether the cost includes infrastructure for saving of footage.

Bill Linwood replied camera system is a USB drive that would be changed monthly and footage would be stored on a standalone computer that has enough storage capacity. The police department would like to purchase a camera for the Ford Explorer and then one for the new police vehicle at the appropriate time.

Sal DiPaolo questioned whether funds be taken from this year's budget or beginning of next year.

Bill Linwood replied the hope is to purchase one camera this year and then budget for the second one next year. Cameras film both inside and outside of the vehicle as well as keep track of the vehicle's system.

Janet Pacchioli said there is an interest line item in the capital accounts of \$2,475.39 that could be put towards the purchase of one camera; also salary waiver fund has an amount of \$21,160.00.

Bill Linwood said if Council agrees, he would request that the funds come from the salary waiver line item.

Todd Savarese made a MOTION, seconded by Bill Linwood to authorize transfer of funds from salary waiver line item into the proper account for purchase of one camera for the Ford Explorer police vehicle.

Chuck Bristow said he highly prefers that officers on duty use the Explorer with the camera as opposed to the other vehicle.

Bill Linwood said the Watchguard Camera System is preferred by the police department.

MOTION was ADOPTED 5-0.

BOROUGH PROPERTY:

Janet Pacchioli said Vennis Chimney Company came out to inspect the chimney of the Borough Office and she is waiting for their recommendation.

STREETS/WALKS: No report.

PLANNING COMMISSION: None.

FIRE COMPANY:

James Cantore, President of the Ivyland Fire Company, reported that weekly training has resumed. There were nine calls in the past 30-days, and following recent storm, the Fire Company removed a large tree from the Holly Tree Farm area as well as tree limbs on Wilson Avenue. The Fire Company is in the process of applying for a grant from the Office of the State Fire Commissioner to replenish funds due to loss from COVID-19 pandemic. Kitchen in the Fire House is being remodeled and the floor has been redone, and Fire Company personnel are still interested in joining with the Borough in getting the driveway re-striped.

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT: No report.

NEW BUSINESS: None.

PUBLIC COMMENT - via Facebook Live:

Geff Rapp asked about temporary signs, and it was noted that official signs will be used.

Maria Alden commented that she assumes the owners of the Ivyland Hotel have the right to appeal, and that is correct.

ADJOURNMENT: 9:37 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Liz Vile, Recording Secretary

Minutes approved by Borough Council _____, 2020