

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

May 13, 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,
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 IN HONOR OF THE HEALTHCARE WORKERS AND ALL ESSENTIAL WORKERS

MINUTES OF 4/08/20 – emailed to Council:

Correction: Page 1 – Councilman Todd Savarese should be added to the Council members who were present during the video conference – Zoom Council meeting of April 8, 2020.

Bill Linwood made a MOTION, seconded by Elaine Butkus to approve the minutes of the video conference – Zoom Council meeting of April 8, 2020 as amended.

MOTION was ADOPTED 7-0.

TREASURER’S REPORT:

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 \$84,497.23 and the unpaid bills list totaled \$5,552.01 to be paid from the general fund.

Also, there was a bill submitted by Mike Fuller of Keystone Lighting for street light work done in the Borough by Armor Electrical Company in the amount of \$36,199.95 and that would be paid from the capital account if approved by Council.

Bill Linwood made a MOTION, seconded by Sal DiPaolo to pay the unpaid bills from the general fund as well as to pay the bill submitted by Mike Fuller, Keystone Lighting for the lighting work done in the Borough by Armor Electrical Company in the amount of \$36,199.95 to be paid from the capital account.

MOTION was ADOPTED 7-0.

CORRESPONDENCE:

Janet Pacchioli reminded Council members that Financial Statements are due.

Also, she spoke with Chuck Raudenbush, Manager of Waste Management, who apologized for the snafu on the driver's part in regards to a bulk item pickup.

In regards to property located at 100. W. Bristol Road in the Historic District; Zoning and Code Enforcement Officers do not have any issue with repair of the stone front porch; however, they are seeking approval by Council.

Sal DiPaolo commented that we would like it to be kept as close to the original as possible.

Janet Pacchioli continued that a "thank you" note was received from Bonnie Rowe thanking Borough Council for continuing to receive her salary during the months of March and April while the office was closed during the pandemic.

Also, a resident from the Village would like to have a baby shower at the end of August/early September for her daughter to be held in the gazebo consisting of about 10 people with remaining guests driving by and masks and hand sanitizer would be used.

Sal DiPaolo said that an event form should be filled out detailing the plans of the event.

Greg Sturn indicated that he will verify whether there is a waiver of liability included in the form.

Janet Pacchioli said a copy was sent to Council of the history essay submitted by student Ian Sharp who is applying for the Ivyland Borough Norman Kelly History Award, and Council approval is needed.

Sal DiPaolo made a MOTION, seconded by Bill Linwood to approve Ian Sharp as the recipient of the Ivyland Borough Norman Kelly History Award.

MOTION was ADOPTED 7-0.

Janet Pacchioli said a letter was received requesting support for House Bill 1813 in regards to rights of small communities in making their own decisions during the pandemic.

Also, there are squirrels in the basement of the Borough Office, and she called Animal Management, who indicated that an assessment would be needed to see how the squirrels are getting in at a cost of \$195.00.

Bill Linwood commented that it would be good to know how they are getting into the building.

Albert DeGideo commented that he had issues with a raccoon in the attic, so he called Critter Control who made an assessment as well as set up traps to catch the animal, and he suggested calling them.

PUBLIC COMMENT – via Zoom and Facebook Live: None.

ZONING OFFICER’S REPORT – emailed to Council:

Bill Linwood made a MOTION, seconded by Todd Savarese to accept the Zoning Officer’s report for April 2020.

MOTION was ADOPTED 7-0.

CODE ENFORCEMENT REPORT – emailed to Council:

Janet Pacchioli noted there were two complaints about high grass at the McMillan property that is for sale and it has since been taken care of and also at the 911 Center in which a letter was sent. Also, there was a question about the high grass at 50 Wilson Avenue.

Albert DeGideo noted that the grass was cut at the 911 Center.

Elaine Butkus said realtors for both the McMillan property and 50 Wilson Avenue should take care of it.

Sal DiPaolo said the McMillan property will most likely be addressed; however, there has been ongoing issues with the former Bound’s property that have not been easily resolved, so what is the timeframe for notification on any such issue and when can action be taken?

Greg Sturn replied it sounds like it has become a health/safety issue and Council may want to consider paying Granieri to take care of it and the Borough has the right to be reimbursed from the responsible party.

Sal DiPaolo made a MOTION, seconded by Bill Linwood to authorize Granieri to cut the grass at 50 Wilson Avenue and Code Enforcement Officer should notify the responsible party that the Borough is taking action and billing them for it.

Todd Savarese said he will contact the lender on behalf of the Borough, but in the meantime, Granieri should take care of it.

MOTION was ADOPTED 7-0.

**REPORT OF PRESIDENT & PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE
REPORT:**

Sal DiPaolo noted that State parks have recently been reopened and the Borough's playground equipment has been taped off. He asked for feedback from Council as to whether or not to remove the tape; however, the basketball hoop would not be reinstalled.

Bill Linwood suggested that a sign be posted that the equipment is not kept clean and to enter at their own risk if they want to use it.

Mayor Judice agreed with not reinstalling the hoop at this time and he suggested keeping the tape around the playground equipment.

Christina Finello said she would also be inclined to keep the tape around the playground.

Albert DeGideo commented that Northampton Township has tape around their playground equipment; however, their walking trails are open.

Chuck Bristow commented that the Borough's park is being used, which is fine, but the tape should remain.

Sal DiPaolo announced that the Memorial Day Parade has been canceled; however, a Memorial Day virtual event will be held that will include a lone trumpeter; the flag to be raised and a video montage of each Council member reading the Gettysburg Address to be posted on Facebook. Also, a live broadcast of the lone trumpeter playing Taps during the service.

All Council members and Mayor Judice agreed to read the Gettysburg Address on video.

ENGINEER:

Mark Eisold said he received a call from Mr. Piotrowski in regards to the status of his subdivision application and the plan was approved conditionally last October. The applicant submitted the record plan and all engineering items were addressed including comments made by the Planning Commission and the remaining item is that all outstanding fees are to be paid, so he will sign off on the plan.

Greg Sturn added that after the plan receives appropriate signatures the applicant can proceed with recording.

Mark Eisold said Council was provided with a copy of asbestos abatement proposals for the former Navy homes demolition project. Bid specs were sent to the same three companies and bids came in close to what was previously submitted. The lowest bidder was Eagle Industrial Hygiene Associates Inc. in the amount of \$6,900.00. If Borough Council would like to proceed, they can begin work on that project.

Sal DiPaolo said it was mentioned at the last meeting that possibly the demolition project may be under the threshold to include asbestos abatement.

Mark Eisold replied that was researched by his firm and the project does not meet all of the requirements.

Sal DiPaolo clarified that Eagle Industrial Hygiene Associates are still working under current conditions. Is that correct?

Mark Eisold replied he believes so, but will verify it.

Bill Linwood made a MOTION, seconded by Albert DeGideo to approve Eagle Industrial Hygiene Associates Inc. as the lowest responsible bidder in the amount of \$6,900.00 for asbestos abatement of the former Navy homes located on Jacksonville Road.

MOTION was ADOPTED 7-0.

Mark Eisold said he will contact the contractor about their work schedule for that project.

Also, he received a call from a PECO engineer regarding severe erosion by the railroad property due to one of their towers. PECO engineer indicated they would like to stabilize with stone and rip-rap along the tracks and tower. PECO will need to fill out an application for an HOP (Highway Occupancy Permit) and he will also request a bond to be posted, so that if they do any damage to the Borough's road and/or facilities, it can be taken care of.

Sal DiPaolo said there should be escrow posted to pay for any cleanup of materials by the railroad tracks on the roadside after the next heavy rain.

Mayor Judice agreed. The main issue is that the tower will become unstable eventually and that will be a disaster, so the project should be tied-in with channeling the flow of water into the creek rather than just damming it.

Mark Eisold indicated that he will mention that to PECO. There was a meeting set up at the end of March to discuss the larger project, but we were unable to have it. PECO will be submitting a plan for that work that he will review it making sure it is not minimal.

Albert DeGideo suggested allowing PECO to make the emergency repair and inform them that Borough Council would like to have further discussion about a better solution.

Todd Savarese suggested requiring a maintenance agreement as well.

Mark Eisold said he will request PECO to post escrow as well as a maintenance agreement.

Chuck Bristow suggested meeting with PECO engineer via video conference to discuss the larger project.

Mark Eisold said he will review the plan and inquire with PECO engineer about dates they are available to have a meeting, and report back.

Sal DiPaolo asked for the status of the multimodal grant.

Mark Eisold replied he will check on it.

SOLICITOR:

Fee Schedule:

Greg Sturn said provided to Council was a copy of a resolution amending the Borough's fee schedule to establish a fee for any zoning permit for which a fee has not otherwise been established.

Todd Savarese asked about advertisement requirement.

Greg Sturn replied there is no advertising requirement for amending the fee schedule. It can be done by resolution.

Bill Linwood made a MOTION, seconded by Sal DiPaolo to adopt Resolution No. 2020-3, a resolution of Ivyland Borough amending the fee schedule to establish a fee for any zoning permit for which a fee has not otherwise been established; fees for change of use for residential - \$100.00; nonresidential - \$250.00.

MOTION was ADOPTED 7-0.

Greg Sturn said he filed a Notice of Intervention on the Borough's behalf relating to the matter of the Ivyland Hotel.

Also, regarding the District Court's ruling in the Cremeans' case; payments have not been paid for the months of March and April, so he sent an email to Mr. Cremeans' attorney about getting those payments back on track to the Borough.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Janet Pacchioli said in regards to the property located at 4 Ivybrook Blvd., there is an issue as to whether or not the driveway is private.

Greg Sturn replied that he will review his files.

Chuck Bristow said street lights were installed in the grid and questioned whether they were set to the correct dim level when installed as some are too bright. Who is responsible for setting the brightness?

Mayor Judice replied he will contact Mike Fuller about it because Armor Electrical is responsible for the light setting.

MAYOR:

Mayor Judice reported for the month of March 2020; there were two arrests; 37 traffic citations; two warnings and one parking ticket issued. Check received from District Court was in the amount of \$630.55 in March.

Also, Sergeant Carey sent an email in regards to the Crown Vic police vehicle that went in for State Inspection and "squeaked" by the emissions test. The vehicle may require a new powered control module, which has to be done at a dealership and it has other issues, so Council may need to consider retiring that vehicle in the near future.

Albert DeGideo asked when that vehicle is due to be replaced.

Bill Linwood replied in 2021.

Albert DeGideo said we can begin looking into replacing it because 2021 vehicles will be out soon.

FINANCE: No report.

PUBLIC SAFETY: No report.

BORO PROPERTY:

Mayor Judice commented that in regards to the steps leading up to the door of the Borough Office; the wood underneath the top step and trim strip may be rotting away.

STREETS/WALKS:

Bill Linwood commented that there are sidewalks in the grid in need of repair; should we notify the homeowners about fixing it?

Sal DiPaolo replied Streets/Walks Committee is required to take inventory of broken pavement in the Borough and schedule notifying the homeowners about making repairs.

Albert DeGideo indicated that he will assist in that task.

Janet Pacchioli noted that previously Streets/Walks Committee would tour the Borough and mark the sidewalks that were in need of repair and there is a form letter to provide to homeowners.

PLANNING COMMISSION: None.

FIRE COMPANY:

Dave Sharp, Chief of the Ivyland Fire Company, reported that our business meeting was completed virtually. Over the past month, wellness calls were made to members and those in need. On a rotational basis, two officers per week are going into the station making sure the Engine and Tac trucks are in operational condition. In the past 30 days, there were four calls; 26 YTD. Also, the fire company participated in drive-by events including William Tennent High School as well as local hospitals showing our gratitude during this difficult time. Virtual training is ongoing to stay current.

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT:

Albert DeGideo reported that in regards to COVID-19; Bucks County Department of Health has monitored 4,133 confirmed cases and there were 348 deaths attributed to the virus and two positive cases in Ivyland Borough. If the police department is still in need of PPE, he will put in a request and the fire company has all they need at this time. Also, Ivyland Borough is not seeking any type of reimbursement from the Federal or State governments due to the fact there has been no expenses that can be claimed.

NEW BUSINESS: None.

PUBLIC COMMENT – via Zoom and Facebook Live: None.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Council convened an Executive Session beginning at 8:48 p.m. until 9 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT: 9:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Liz Vile, Recording Secretary

Minutes approved by Borough Council _____, 2020