

IVYLAND BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING

February 9, 2022

CALL TO ORDER: 7:32 p.m.

PRESENT: Council Members: Sal DiPaolo, President,
Christina Finello, Vice President (8:45 p.m.),
Todd Savarese, Bill Linwood, Matthew Piotrowski,
Chris Branchide
Excused: Chuck Bristow

OTHERS: Chris Peterson, 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 PASSING OF FRANK ORFE’S WIFE

MINUTES OF 1/3/22:

Bill Linwood made a MOTION, seconded by Matthew Piotrowski to approve the minutes of the January 3, 2022 Reorganization/Regular Council Meeting as submitted.

MOTION was ADOPTED 5-0.

TREASURER’S REPORT:

Janet Pacchioli read the Treasurer’s yearend 2021 and the February 9, 2022 reports into the record. Both reports were accepted subject to audit.

BILLS LIST:

Janet Pacchioli reported that the prepaid bills list totaled \$56,104.11 and the unpaid bills list totaled \$8,263.50.

Bill Linwood made a MOTION, seconded by Chris Branchide to pay the bills.

MOTION was ADOPTED 5-0.

CORRESPONDENCE:

Janet Pacchioli noted that an application was received to appear before the Zoning Hearing Board regarding the McMillan property, and the applicant needs to complete a zoning application and then we will contact and send plans to ZHB members as well as the ZHB Solicitor and to Council.

Todd Savarese suggested that as soon as an application is submitted, it should be sent to the ZHB Solicitor as the time period begins in which to get the hearing scheduled and legally advertised.

Matthew Piotrowski commented that he would like Council to review the plan prior to the ZHB meeting to determine our position and possibly send Borough Solicitor to attend on behalf of Council, and for this matter to be listed as an agenda item for the next Council meeting.

GEFF RAPP – 150TH CELEBRATION:

Mr. Rapp announced that the Borough will be celebrating its 150th Anniversary in 2023, and we are forming a committee of residents from the entire Borough as well as business owners of the community.

We are seeking volunteers, sponsors and will be holding fundraisers as there will be a lot of planning for the events, music, food, etc. He requested that Council appoint a liaison between the celebration committee and Council to provide ongoing communication noting that a Facebook page will be setup for the celebration event and a website will be created informing about the progress and various opportunities.

Sal DiPaolo made a MOTION, seconded by Todd Savarese to appoint Bill Linwood as the liaison between the celebration committee and Council.

MOTION was ADOPTED 5-0.

MARTA PILIP – MILL PROPERTY:

Ms. Pilip said she is the listing real estate agent for the Mill property, and she asked for zoning and historical information to provide to those who are interested in the property.

Council informed they would be willing to review any proposed plans for that property.

Janet Pacchioli said she will review the history file on that property.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Mr. Rapp commented that the Ivyland Heritage Association is also assisting with the planning of the 150th Anniversary celebration.

CODE ENFORCEMENT/ZONING REPORT: None.

REPORT OF PRESIDENT: No report.

ENGINEER:

Chris Peterson said regarding the Borough's MS4 program, this is the year that the Borough's Stormwater Management Ordinance will need to be made consistent with DEP's new 2022 Stormwater Management Ordinance and that will need to be done by September 30, 2022.

Last month, we migrated all incoming Pennsylvania One Calls from the Borough with the State's online GIS system, so as of January 14, 2022, we can now manage incoming PA1 calls through online ticket management system that combines the historical ticket with the ability to search on maps enabling facility owners to post responses online streamlining the process.

Also, regarding the "No Truck Turning" sign on Greeley Avenue; there is a "No Trucks Over 19,500 lbs. Beyond This Point" sign directly adjacent to the entrance of Tony's Place and the sign is positioned so that if the truck has already turned, they do not have the ability to turn around, so it was suggested adding another "No Trucks Turning" sign on Bristol Road. If the Borough would like to proceed with getting another sign installed at Bristol Road and Greeley Avenue; scope of work involves completing a sign inventory; producing a plan and submit the plan to PennDOT for a total cost of \$1,100.00.

Also, we provided a list of 2022 grant funding opportunities to Council noting there is a DCNR Rehabilitation and Development Grant in which only a portion of it could be used for demolition of the former Navy homes, so perhaps it may be more appropriate to use it for amenities for the future parkland after demolition has been done.

Sal DiPaolo asked about including the installation of a "No Truck Turning" sign on Jacksonville Road at Wilson Avenue in the project.

Chris Peterson replied we can include that in the same permit application along with two separate plans and submit them together.

Todd Savarese made a MOTION, seconded by Sal DiPaolo to authorize Carroll Engineering to proceed with application/plans for installation of “No Trucks Over 19,500 lbs. Beyond This Point” signs at Bristol Road and Greeley Avenue and Jacksonville Road at Wilson Avenue in each direction for a total of four signs.

MOTION was ADOPTED 5-0.

SOLICITOR:

Fire Code Inspection at the Mill:

Greg Sturn said Mr. Gerace indicated that the Borough’s Fire Code Inspector met with their contractor at the Mill last Saturday regarding fire code issues; also, the Borough’s Code Enforcement Officer will inspect for any property maintenance issues at the Mill.

Ivyland Hotel Update:

Greg Sturn said it was indicated to him that the owner is trying to sell the property. The Borough’s Code Enforcement Officer will be inspecting for any property maintenance issues of the property.

Matthew Piotrowski asked for clarification on variances granted to the property owner.

Greg Sturn replied that the Zoning Hearing Board denied all requests by the applicant and then there was an appeal regarding the number of units and dimensional variances that resulted in a stipulated settlement agreement where the variances were approved by court order.

Todd Savarese said the Borough has an obligation to act in good faith with the developer in which we entered into a stipulated settlement agreement to encourage the developer to redevelop this building; however, the developer has not done so, and Council should take the position that unless there is a land development application filed within the next 60-90 days, the Borough will enforce the expiration date on the variances.

Matthew Piotrowski said if there are property maintenance issues then the applicant should be cited.

Todd Savarese requested that the Borough Solicitor send in writing to the applicant's attorney indicating Borough Council's expectations going forward such as a formal submission for Council to review that would be in accordance with all Borough ordinances in which the applicant will need to comply within the next 180 days, and if they make a submission that would stop the running of the 180 day period, but if they continue to do nothing, we will go back to court to rescind the settlement agreement.

Railroad Crossing Property Maintenance Issues:

Sal DiPaolo requested that the Borough Solicitor send a letter every month to reps of the railroad regarding property maintenance issues at their crossing and copy State Representative Schroeder.

Reappointment to the Zoning Hearing Board:

Council opened a Public Hearing to consider reappointment of Robert Scotese as member of the Zoning Hearing Board at 8:35 p.m.

Council asked for any public comment. There was none.

Council closed Public Hearing at 8:36 p.m.

Council unanimously reappointed Robert Scotese as member of the Zoning Hearing Board by adoption of Resolution No. 2022-1.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None.

MAYOR: No report.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

PARKS AND RECREATION:

Sal DiPaolo reported that we may have another candidate from Troop 200 for the tree planting project. Also, we are working on getting new swings for the park by the firehouse as well as possibly getting a swing set for the park off Eddowes Drive.

FINANCE:

Janet Pacchioli reported that the audit will be completed soon.

PUBLIC SAFETY:

Bill Linwood reported that the Fire Code Inspector will be sending out letters to owners of commercial building requiring them to have a Knox box installed according to specifications of the Borough's ordinance, so the Fire Company can gain access if necessary.

BOROUGH PROPERTY:

Matthew Piotrowski reported that RFP's (Request for Proposal) were sent out for a new heating system and the proposals received were not "apples-to-apples," so he asked an engineer to inspect the system and make a recommendation along with putting together new specs to send another Request For Proposal out. Also, he is working on the lighting issue at the park near Eddowes Drive, and he is waiting for a certificate of insurance from the handyman. Regarding the former Navy homes, he suggested boarding up the windows for safety.

Sal DiPaolo replied that the cost for lumber to board all windows is \$3,500 and members of the Fire Company agreed to do the labor.

Sal DiPaolo made a MOTION, seconded by Bill Linwood to authorize expenditure of up to \$3,500 for lumber to board up all windows of the former Navy homes on Jacksonville Road.

Todd Savarese commented that Council previously discussed putting up "No Trespassing" signs on those homes.

Vice President Councilwoman Christina Finello entered the meeting at 8:45 p.m.

Sal DiPaolo requested that Dave Sharp, Fire Chief of Ivyland Fire Company, pick up a few "No Trespassing" signs to be stapled to the doors of the former Navy homes.

MOTION was ADOPTED 6-0.

STREETS/WALKS:

Todd Savarese commented that Granieri has done a great job snowplowing the Borough streets; however, he expressed concern about going over budget due to the price of salt as well as the number of hours. He suggested using PennBid, a public bidding service for a more competitive bid for future grounds-maintenance and snowplowing contract.

PLANNING COMMISSION: None.

FIRE COMPANY:

Dave Sharp, Fire Chief of the Ivyland Fire Company, gave a recap from 2021 noting there were 75 calls for service; five duty crews; 1,500 hours of training; 15 County classes and 36 instructor led classes, and when there are storms, snow emergencies, hurricanes, tornados, etc., we host a duty crew at the firehouse making sure staff is available for emergency service. Average response time per the NFPA is 9 minutes and 20 seconds and our average time across all calls was 7 minutes and 23 seconds. Goal for the Fire Company was to increase membership by 10%, and we have six new members, two of them are qualified firefighters.

This year, we have one new firefighter who will be meeting with the Public Safety Committee. Also, this year, there were 12 calls for service and the Fire Company will be participating in the 150th Anniversary celebration. Goals for 2022 include making sure Knox boxes are installed in all commercial buildings of the Borough as well as to increase the number of riders.

NEW BUSINESS:

Christina Finello said last year, Finance Committee worked on getting the Borough registered for SAM (System for Award Management) to be eligible to apply for a grant through the Federal government to help pay for stormwater management improvements and registration needs to be updated yearly and the Borough has until June 2022 to renew; also, beware of emails from companies that charge a high fee to do that registration.

Matthew Piotrowski questioned whether Councilman Bristow is a voting member of the Planning Commission, because if so, he is not sure whether Council members are permitted to be a member of the Planning Commission as it may be a conflict of interest, and currently, there are only four members.

Bill Linwood said that he is a member of the Planning Commission too; however, if it is a conflict, he would be happy to step aside.

Janet Pacchioli commented that the Planning Commission always had five members.

Sal DiPaolo said we will need to clarify whether the Planning Commission always had five members and if a Council member is allowed to be a member of the Planning Commission, and if so, are they permitted to be a voting participant.

Greg Sturn said he will look into it.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Amy Shimborski via Facebook Live asked what happened to the Land Preservation sign by the baseball field that is no longer there.

Sal DiPaolo replied we will look into getting the sign replaced.

ADJOURNMENT: 9:02 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Liz Vile, Recording Secretary

Minutes approved by Borough Council _____, 2022