

PLYMOUTH BOROUGH COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING- JUNE 8, 2021

Representatives of Green for Life/County Waste who were unable to attend last month's meeting were in attendance at the request of the Mayor Frank Coughlin. The issue of incompleteness of regular route pick-up in Plymouth several times in April was discussed. The new manager explained that there were problems with the weather, staff shortages, due to COVID-19 cases, as well as equipment problems. He stated that he realized that the situation could have been handled better if there was better communication. They are in the process of putting some new internal procedures in place. He agreed to notify that they will notify the Borough office when problems or delays arise in the future, per Mayor Coughlin's request. The company also suggested looking into some sort of bins instead bags for recycling, as the bags are becoming more expensive. The group was again invited to join the Plymouth Suggestion Box where they would be able to post info regarding delays in completing their routes. If the residents have any questions the company can be reached at 1-800-832-1332.

Mayor Coughlin – requested better communication and would like Ms. Eroh to be the point of contact.

Mr. Bill Dixon: stated he and members of Council will meet again with them to solve a few problems. Plymouth is a “private hauler” community, with no one company having a contract. The Plymouth borough work session began at 6:17pm and the regular meeting was called to order immediately following the work session by: Mr. William Dixon, Council Vice-President.

WORK SESSION:

Mr. Adam Morehart – thanked the DAR for the donation of the American flag for the pole at the WVV grounds. The flag will be placed at the grounds in the next week depending on volunteer availability and weather.

Mr. Earl Cunningham – Thanked the 3 fire companies and mutual aid. He spoke with the 3 injured fireman and all is good.

Ms. Alexis Eroh – Planning Agency met on 6/2/21. The Mary Barrett Historical Preservation is ready to go, waiting on Alec.

Mr. John Thomas – nothing to add

Mr. William Dixon – reminder that a shred day will take place on June 19, 2021 from 9 am to 12 noon. The event would take place in the WVV side parking lot next to the municipal building (162 W Shawnee Ave.

He also stated the Municipal Building will remain locked down, however, residents can enter the first set of doors and then ring the buzzer for office staff to assist them.

Mayor Frank Coughlin – Announced the “Wreaths Across America” sponsored by the Plymouth American Legion will present a program and display on the WVV parking lot in front of the High School on June 19, 2021 from 9 am to 4 pm. The mayor encouraged residents to attend. Mayor Coughlin also noted that fireworks continue to be a problem and with the 4th of July approaching it will continue. The Police will be citing any violators who set off fire works within 150 feet of any building or violates the noise ordinance. There is an ongoing effort across Pennsylvania to change the current law. The mayor added his thanks to the fire departments for their efforts at the Sunday fire. The issue of quads in the borough are still a problem but did note that many quads are not Plymouth residents and the police have been issuing citations to quads they catch.

Regular meeting was called to or and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited followed by a moment of silence.

ROLL CALL: COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT:

Ms. Alexis Eroh

Mr. Earl Cunningham

Mr. John Thomas
Mr. Adam Morehart
Mr. William Dixon, Vice-President

COUNCIL MEMBERS NOT PRESENT & EXCUSED:

Mr. Ronald Kobusky, President; Mr. Alec Ryncavage

There was no Citizens Input regarding agenda items.

Citizens Input regarding general items:

Mr. Dan Vintz, 228 McGinnis St- last week there was damage to retaining wall. It is not his wall. An Asplundh truck hit it and did the damage.

Mr. Ed Hobbs, 121 Pierce St. Complaint about neighbor has filled out 6 to 8 complaint forms regarding neighbor. He asked for assistance from the Borough on how to correct the issue. There is trash, generator fumes and noise, as well as increased traffic problems. Mr. Dixon asked to remain after the meeting to discuss the situation.

Mr. Scott Nice – stated that he and his wife purchased the Dr.'s office between Bull Run and Elm St. After remodeling the business will open as a restaurant serving breakfast and lunch. The approximate opening date is August. Requested that the meter be removed.

Mr. John Thomas said that yes, the meter can be removed.

AGENDA VOTING:

MOTION made to approve Resolution No. 3 of 2021; Resolution No. 3 of 2021 is a Resolution of the Borough of Plymouth, Luzerne County, Pennsylvania, appointing two members of the Planning Agency filling unexpired term of two vacant positions:

Whereas, the Borough Council has adopted Ordinance No.1 of 2020 creating a Planning Agency to advise council on the items specified therein, consisting of five (5) members;

Whereas, Council expanded that membership to seven (7) members (six residents of the Borough and one council member) by amending Section 2 of Ordinance No.1 of 2020 by adopting Ordinance No.4 of 2020;

Whereas, Section 2 authorizes the Council to appoint the members of the Planning Agency by Resolution;

Whereas, due to the untimely passing of member Ms. Mary Barrett, whose term expires on December 31, 2022, there is a vacancy;

Whereas due to the resignation of Mr. Charles Steinhauer, whose term expires on December 31, 2023, there is a vacancy;

Now,

Therefore, Be It Resolved And Adopted by the Borough Council of Plymouth, that the Borough hereby approves and appoints, as per Ordinance No.4 of 2020, to the Planning Agency the following;

Borough Resident **Mr. DJ Allred**, is appointed to immediately fill the unexpired term of Ms. Mary Barrett, which will expire on December 31, 2022;

Also, Borough Resident **Ms. Lori Bolesta**, is appointed to immediately fill the unexpired term of Mr. Charles Steinhauer, which will expire on December 31, 2023.

This Resolution shall become effective immediately upon adoption.

Adopted as a regular meeting of the Borough Council of the Borough of Plymouth, Luzerne County, Pennsylvania, held on this 8th day of June, 2021.

MOTION: Mr. Earl Cunningham

SECOND: Mr. Adam Morehart

PASSED: 5 YES

MOTION made to approve the change order dated May 10, 2021, submitted by the contractor (Umbriac Trucking LLC), to increase the price of work by three thousand three hundred fifty dollars (\$3,350.00) for the Beverly Drive/Smith Row Stormwater Project. The change is due to the fact that two sanitary sewer laterals were not known as part of the bidding and design of the project had to be re-installed. The change order was approved by the Borough Engineer, PennEastern.

*On the question: The contractor ran into a problem.

MOTION: Mr. John Thomas

SECOND: Ms. Alexis Eroh

PASSED: 5 YES

MOTION made to hire Aiden Golightly as a part-time summer worker to the Public Works Department at an hourly rate of eight dollars and fifty cents (\$8.50) with hours not to exceed twenty-eight (28) hours per week, with no benefits of any type, as an at will employee and with no claim to the grievance procedure or any provision of the Collective Bargaining Agreement between Plymouth Borough and the Teamsters' Local 401 covering the period January 1, 2021 through December 31, 2021.

MOTION: Mr. Earl Cunningham

SECOND: Ms. Alexis Eroh

PASSED: 5 YES

MOTION to ratify application and Ron Kobusky's signature on behalf of the Borough for Covid-19 state funds:

Whereas, the Borough received notification of the American Rescue Plan wherein the Federal Government is providing approximately sixteen point fifteen billion dollars (\$16.15 billion), to Pennsylvania counties, and governments to support Covid-19 response efforts, replace lost revenue, support economic stabilization;

Whereas, in order to obtain funds, the Borough must submit a request to the U.S. Department of Treasury;

Whereas, the DCED is involved in the application process for said funds and on June 2, 2021 at 3:55PM notified by email numerous municipalities, including Plymouth Borough that the recovery is now available and recommended that the application be submitted withing 5 days or by June 7, 2021;

In order to timely comply with the deadline so that the funds could be obtained the Borough prepared and submitted as application on June 4, 2021 requestion the max total of six hundred six thousand four hundred fifty-three dollars and forty-two cents (\$606,453.42) allowed under the program;

The application was prepared by the Borough and the President of Council, Ron Kobusky signed the application and required certification that was filed in order to apply for recovery funds under the program.

Now, therefore, I move to approve and ratify the application for Covid-19 ARPA Local Fiscal Recovery Funds that was submitted on June 4, 2021 by Ron Kobusky, President of Council on behalf of the Borough and to ratify his signature on the application and certification required in order to do so;

I further move to authorize the President of Council to sign any and all further documents required in order to obtain any and all funds under the program and the Borough Secretary to attest to any and all required documents that are required under the program.

MOTION: Ms. Alexis Eroh

SECOND: Mr. Adam Morehart

PASSED: 5 YES

MOTION made to accept the May police and fire reports:

MOTION: Mr. Adam Morehart

SECOND: Ms. Alexis Eroh

PASSED: 5 YES

MOTION made to pay the June monthly bills:

GENERAL FUND: 21-051GF - 21-116GF
LIQUID FUELS: 21-015LF - 21-0028LF
RECREATION FUND: 21-006RF - 21-009RF

*On the question: John Thomas votes yes to pay all bills except bill #21-446GF-John Thomas, which is the payment for health insurance for retired police, of which there is a contractual conflict of interest.

MOTION: Mr. Earl Cunningham

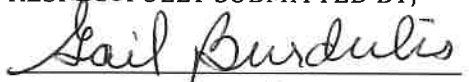
SECOND: Mr. Adam Morehart

PASSED: 5 YES

MOTION TO ADJORN made by: Mr. Earl Cunningham

Minutes approved Regular Meeting July 13, 2021

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED BY;



Gail Burdulis, Borough Secretary