

PLYMOUTH BOROUGH COUNCIL

REGULAR MEETING-SEPTEMBER 14, 2021 at 6:00PM

WORK SESSION:

Mr. Adam Morehart – Trap and release (TNR) program for cats is working and making a difference. Thank you for the continued support and participation. Thank you to Baby Jack's Rescue organization. They work very hard for this cause! Hometown Heroes is another step closer to our goal. The size of the flags needs to be decided on (either 24"x38" or 30"x60"). Cost will be in line with the size, ranging from approx. \$110.00 (one hundred ten dollars) to approx. \$150.00 (one hundred fifty dollars). Hope to be ready to go in early Spring and would like to have a parade or some kind of ceremony to launch the program.

Mr. Earl Cunningham – Thank you to all fireman, police and workers who came out and assisted with all of the challenges that were posed by Hurricane Ida.

Ms. Alexis Eroh – The Planning Agency has rescheduled the September meeting to October 2, 2021 @ 6 p.m. LSA Grant application is almost ready to submit. Thanks was given to all the fire companies for their assistance with the details. The agenda states that there are 3 fire trucks (applied for funding) but this is an error. The Borough will be applying for funding for two fire trucks at this time.

Mr. John Thomas – Thanked Jack Kovach and his son John Paul for the repairs they made to the bucket truck. They were able to save the Borough \$3000.00 (three thousand dollars) by doing the repairs.

Mr. Bill Dixon – Thanked Jack Kovach for all he does for the Borough. He has assisted with the bucket truck, hanging flags in town as well as the electrical work he has town throughout the town. Thanked Ms. Eroh for all of the hard work on the LSA grant. Plymouth did sustain some damage to the Coal Creek, from the hurricane (Ida). The waters, rushing down the creek, moved some very large boulders which were tossed against the side of the creek bed. This impact caused some damage. Mr. Dixon has reached out to Rep. Gerald Mullery's office, as well as Sen. John Yudichak and Cong. Matt Cartwright, respectively. Hoping there is some assistance available for this damage. Otherwise, the sewers drains and impounding dams worked as they should and they worked well. WWSA has been in town cleaning out 23 storm drains, replacing a few as well. Thanks was given to WWSA. Newspapers and cardboard continue to be a problem. Newspapers are not bundled properly and cardboard boxes are not broken down. Bundle the papers and breakdown the boxes. Leave no garbage on the street etc. If this behavior continues, we will not be welcome to drop off this recycling at the recycling center. If it does not stop it will cause this program to end. The DPW picks up yard waste as long as the waste is in bags that were purchased at the Borough. There should be no animal waste or rocks in the bags either. There are flyers available at the Borough building if you are unsure of the rules and regulations associated with these programs. Please pick one up and follow it! In addition, people are allowing their animals to do their business and not clean it up. If they are caught, it is a \$600.00 (six hundred dollar) fine!

Mayor Frank Coughlin – Thank you to the Plymouth Historical Society for the recent open house they had. The mayor attended and it was a wealth of information and it was wonderful! The mayor encouraged all to stop down and check out our town's history. There is issue with ATVs throughout the town, especially on the dike and Flat Rd., at all hours. Something needs to be done about this

issue. It is a very dangerous situation and there are careless drivers. The police can only do so much and can only chase them for a short distance. He is hopeful that a grant, that was applied for, can be used for cameras that may catch and then identify them. We can then, possibly, go to their homes and impound the ATV's. The Borough is in need of crossing guards! Mr. Dixon, the Police and DPW workers have been covering and filling in when they can. Just remember that when the police are on duty and they get a call they must leave the stop they are filling in at.

Mr. Bill Dixon – Added that we are going to ask WVV (Wyoming Valley West) if we are able to consolidate any of the stops. This issue is not just in this town but many of the surrounding towns as well. If you would like to apply, see Gail Burdulis at the Borough Building.

Meeting was called to order Council President, Ron Kobusky. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited and a moment of silence followed.

Roll was called:

PRESENT:

Mr. Earl Cunningham
Ms. Alexis Eroh
Mr. Adam Morehart
Mr. John Thomas
Mr. William Dixon, V.P.
Mr. Ron Kobusky, P

EXCUSED:

Mr. Alec Ryncavage

*There were no citizen's requests or comments regarding agenda items.

*Citizens' requests and comments regarding general items:

John Frey, E. Shawnee Ave. - asked for some details regarding the newspaper and cardboard recycling. Tie the newspapers up, break the boxes down and drop off at the Borough building on Tuesday and Thursdays, 7am to 10.00 am. Put them on the truck.

Fred Merman, Beverly Dr. - Asked about the clear bags sold at stores.

Mr. Bill Dixon – explained to Mr. Merman that those bags are for County Waste and he is not sure if they are still collecting them. Advised to call them.\

Lesley Kruchta, High St. - stated she has fixed 50 cats, so far. She has most them done through Baby Jack's since she has them chipped for fostering. She wants to ask Plymouth Borough to sign onto the TNR program again. She fears that they will run out of vouchers.

Mr. Adam Morehart – stated he would work with her and look into it. Plymouth has issued 37 vouchers but have only been billed for 9, at this time. We will need to start calling around to get some of the vouchers back as they will expire on 12/31/2021

Jarrid Shulla, Templeton Lane – wanted to invite all to a car show on 10/3/21, hosted by WVV Booster Club, to benefit the cheerleaders. Come out and support this worthy cause. The cost to enter a car is \$10.00(ten dollars). There will raffles and prizes and trophies given out.

Mary Ann Meeker, Beverly Dr – requested that the next time WVSA comes to clean Beverly Drive with the smaller sweeper. She was told, in the past, that the turn was too tight, however, she stated the sweeper had done Driscoll and Bradley.

Jarrid Shulla, DPW – The next time they come to do the streets he will come down to Beverly Dr. and direct them (WVSA).

AGENDA VOTING:

MOTION: A Motion was made to add Resolution 7 of 2021 to the agenda for tonight's meeting. Resolution 7 of 2021 Is a Resolution requesting an LSA Grant submission for use by the Plymouth Borough Police in the amount of \$166,166.31 to purchase items (see attached), for use with an Opioid and Violet Crime Prevention Program.

MOTION: Mr. Adam Morehart

SECOND: Mr. Earl Cunningham

VOTE: 6 YES Mr. Alec Ryncavage: Absent & excused

MOTION: Motion made to Approve Resolution 6 of 2021;

A Resolution of the Council of the Borough of Plymouth, Luzerne County, Pennsylvania, authorizing the submission of a grant application under Act 71, Local Share Account (LSA) to the commonwealth Financing Agency to purchase three fire trucks.

MOTION: Mr. Earl Cunningham

SECOND: Mr. John Thomas

*On the question: Ms. Alexis Eroh called to amend Resolution 6 of 2021 stating the reason is to reduce the purchase from three fire trucks to two fire trucks because she feels the Borough will have a better chance to receive the LSA Grant that is being applied for.

I hereby move to amend Resolution 6 of 2021, as follows:

The amount of the grant the Borough is applying for should be reduced to \$1,049,000.00.

The two fire trucks to be purchased are:

1. Pierce Pumper Short Aluminum Body, 2nd gen, Enforcer Chassis, at a cost of \$643,000.00

2. Pierce Pumper Short Aluminum Body, 2nd gen, Enforcer Chassis, at a cost of \$656,000.00

The price of the two trucks is \$1,299,000.00, but the Plymouth Fireman's Relief Fund has pledged \$125,000.00 towards each truck for a total \$250,000.00, thus reducing the amount of the grant funds needed to purchase the two fire trucks to \$1,049,000.00.

Except for the amendments mentioned above, I move that the remaining contained in Resolution 6 of 2021 regarding the submission and signing of the initial Grant application and the designation and designation of the Borough Officials so named to sign the same as well as all other grant documents remain as written.

MOTION: Mr. Adam Morehart

SECOND: Mr. Earl Cunningham

VOTE: 6 YES Mr. Alec Ryncavage: Absent & excused

MOTION: As the property at 401-403 E Main Street was put out for sealed bid for sale, and no bids were received, Council will be unable to act on the sale of that property at this time.

MOTION: Mr. Adam Morehart

SECOND: Mr. Earl Cunningham

VOTE: 6 YES Mr. Alec Ryncavage: Absent & excused

MOTION: Motion made to approve the Collective Bargaining Addendum for the Street Department and Office Personnel, dated September 9, 2021 between the Borough and the Teamsters Local 401, which was negotiated between the parties to amend the current contract, which runs from January 1, 2021 thru December 31, 2021. I further move to authorize the President of Council, Ron Kobusky to sign addendum on behalf of the Borough and authorize the Borough Secretary, Gail Burdulis to attest to his signature and affix the Borough seal. It is noted that the only provision in the amendment is a change in the Health Care Provider commencing October 1, 2021, which will result in a savings to the Borough for the last three months of 2021 as well as in 2022.

MOTION: Mr. John Thomas

SECOND: Mr. Earl Cunningham

VOTE: 6 YES Mr. Alec Ryncavage: Absent & excused

MOTION: A motion to accept the contract proposal for AmTrust North America, the carrier of Worker's Compensation Insurance for the Borough.

MOTION: Mr. William Dixon

SECOND: Mr. Earl Cunningham

VOTE: 6 YES Mr. Alec Ryncavage: Absent & excused

MOTION: A motion was made to approve a letter of support for Hanover Township's LSA application for the purchase of a new screener for the Earth Conservatory. And authorize the President of Council, Ron Kobusky to sign on behalf of the Borough. The reason the Borough is supporting the purchase is because, as a member of the Lower South Valley COG, the borough drops

off approximately 100 tons of yard waste at the site free-of-charge, which saves the borough from paying in order to dispose of the yard waste.

MOTION: Mr. Adam Morehart

SECOND: Ms. Alexis Eroh

VOTE: 6 YES Mr. Alec Ryncavage: Absent & excused

MOTION: A motion made to accept the resignation letter of Ms. Shawnee Jumper dated September 1, 2021 as herein after specified. I move to accept her two-week resignation notice, which as stated in her letter was effective September 1, 2021. It is noted that this resignation on the effective date leaves open the position of Clerk II and also the Right-To -Know Officer.

MOTION: Mr. William Dixon

SECOND: Mr. Earl Cunningham

VOTE: 6 YES Mr. Alec Ryncavage: Absent & excused

MOTION: Motion to approve payment from Liquid Fuels to Bradco Supply Company in the amount of \$3,781.89 for the purchase of street signs, posts, traffic paint and snow plow blades as well as attachment supplies for the plow blade

MOTION: Mr. William Dixon

SECOND: Mr. John Thomas

VOTE: 6 YES Mr. Alec Ryncavage: Absent & excused

MOTION: A motion was made to pay the PennEastern Engineering bills in amount of \$26,008.75 for pave cut payments the Borough received from Pennsylvania American Water and UGI Gas Companies.

MOTION: Mr. William Dixon

SECOND: Mr. Adam Morehart

VOTE: 6 YES Mr. Alec Ryncavage: Absent & excused

MOTION: A motion to accept the Fire and Police reports for August made.

MOTION: Mr. Earl Cunningham

SECOND: Mr. Adam Morehart

VOTE: 6 YES Mr. Alec Ryncavage: Absent & excused

MOTION: Motion to pay monthly bills made.

MOTION: Mr. Earl Cunningham

SECOND: Mr. Adam Morehart

VOTE: 6 YES Mr. Alec Ryncavage: Absent & excused

*On the question: John Thomas votes yes to pay all bills except bill #21-64GF-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

VOTE: 6 YES Mr. Alec Ryncavage: Absent & excused

Motion to adjourn made by Mr. Earl Cunningham.

Respectfully submitted:

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Gail Burdulis".

Gail Burdulis, Borough Secretary