

Borough of Somerset Council Meeting February 25th, 2019 at 7:00 p.m.

Meeting was called to order by President Ruby Miller, opening with recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Roll Call:

Council Members Present: Ruby Miller; Fred Rosemeyer; Judy Pyle; Pam Ream; Sue Opp; Steve Shaulis and Gary Thomas. Mayor Scott Walker also present.

Also present were the following: Borough Manager, Michele Enos; Solicitor, James Cascio and Consulting Engineers, Tom Reilly and Jake Bolby. Also present was Junior Council Member Jonathan Wagner.

Announcements:

(a) *None*

Approval of Minutes of Previous Meetings:

(a) ***January 14th, 2019 – Committee of the Whole Meeting Minutes***

Motion

Mrs. Ream moved, Mrs. Opp seconded to approve the January 14th, 2019 Committee of the Whole Meeting Minutes.

Motion Unanimously Carried

(b) ***January 28th, 2019 – Borough Council Meeting Minutes***

Motion

Mr. Rosemeyer moved, Mr. Shaulis seconded to approve January 28th, 2019 Borough Council Meeting Minutes.

Motion Unanimously Carried

(c) ***Departmental Reports - Approval of Departmental Reports for January 2019***

Motion

Mrs. Ream moved, Mrs. Opp seconded to approve the Departmental Reports for January 2019.

Motion Unanimously Carried

Award of Bids:

(a) Used 1-Ton Dump Truck - Consider awarding the bid to Tri-Star Motors in Somerset for a 2014 F-550 Dump Trunk in the amount of \$48,744.00.

Mr. Thomas voiced his concern that this truck has an electric dump instead of “hydraulics”. He is apprehensive that the electric dump will have problems with its batteries, especially in the winter months.

Mr. Thomas stated that he agrees with purchasing a truck, and feels it is needed for the Water Department, however he’s concerned with buying this used truck with its electric lift over “hydraulics”.

Ms. Enos brought out that she had spoken with manufacturers who disclosed that the truck will use more batteries.

She stated that this particular truck is being considered in an effort to save money in the budget.

Ms. Enos mentioned that we budgeted for a brand new truck that cost around \$80,000.00. She explained that we advertised twice in the local newspaper to receive bids, and only received one bid from Tri-Star. That bid came in at \$48,744.00, which is over \$30,000.00 cheaper than a brand new truck.

Ms. Enos brought out that the used truck is a 2014 model with very low mileage.

Motion

Mr. Rosemeyer moved, Mrs. Opp seconded, to “table” the awarding of the bid to Tri-Star Motors in Somerset for a 2014 F-550 Dump Trunk, in the amount of \$48,744.00, until the next Committee of the Whole Meeting.

Motion Unanimously Carried

General Public Comments:

(a) None

Administrative Business:

(a) Communications (none)

(b) Payment of Bills:

Motion

Mrs. Opp moved, Mrs. Pyle seconded, to approve the payment of bills numbered 32590 – 32739 totaling \$467,724.09.

Motion Unanimously Carried

Policy Agenda:

Old Business:

(a) *None*

New Business:

(a) Zoning Hearing Board – *Consider accepting the resignation of Theodore Deskevich from our Zoning Hearing Board.*

Motion

Mr. Rosemeyer moved, Mrs. Ream seconded, to accept, with regret, the resignation of Theodore Deskevich from our Zoning Hearing Board.

Motion Unanimously Carried

(b) Act 172-Eligibility List – *Consider approving the List of Eligibles that was certified and submitted by the Somerset Volunteer Fire Department President and Fire Chief.*

Ms. Enos stated that the Borough received a certified list from the Fire Department naming those who qualify for the Act 172 benefit. In part, the Act 172 and its Ordinance, require a list of certified eligible participants. She mentioned that it also takes official action by Borough Council to certify the list as well.

Motion

Mrs. Ream moved, Mr. Rosemeyer seconded, to approve the List of Eligibles that was certified and submitted by the Somerset Volunteer Fire Department President and Fire Chief.

Motion Unanimously Carried

Executive Session – None.

Ms. Enos reported that a tree, due to high winds, fell on the back corner of the Public Works Garage causing roof damage. The damage is being fully assessed by the Borough's architect.

Ms. Enos noted that when the information regarding repairs and costs are received, it will be given to Council. Ms. Enos mentioned that a claim was also submitted to the Borough's insurance carrier.

Motion

Mr. Thomas moved, Mrs. Opp seconded, to authorize Management to take whatever steps are necessary to secure pending permanent repairs to the Public Works Building.

Motion Unanimously Carried

Mrs. Pyle mentioned that the "Fire & Ice" Festival attendance was between 9,000 - 10,000 people. She stated that the ice skating rink and fireworks were expensive, but feels it will pay off at some point. Mrs. Pyle stated that everything went well in spite of the inclement weather during the festival day on Sunday.

ADJOURNMENT:

Mr. Thomas moved to adjourn, seconded by Mr. Shaulis.

Motion Unanimously Carried

7:16 p.m.

Michele A. Enos, Borough Manager/Secretary