

SAXONBURG BOROUGH
Budget Meeting Minutes
October 6, 2020

President Weinzierl called meeting to order at 7:09 p.m.

Roll Call Carol Neubert, Joshua Novotny, Sherry Weinzierl, Patricia Rinebolt, Dave Felsing, June Crawford, and Mayor Gillespie were present. Scott Herbst was present via computer screen and speakerphone.

Also in attendance were Mary Papik/Manager, Chief Joseph Beachem, Solicitor Sean Gallagher, Jody Brown/Secretary, and Fred Caesar.

Correspondence

- On September 28, the Borough received a Letter of Interest to fill a potentially open Council seat from Mia Mazza-Petruzzi.

Executive Session Announcement Under the terms of Act 84, Section 8A, subsection 1, Council would meet in Executive Session at the beginning of the meeting to discuss employee, contract, and/or public safety matters. After the Executive Session, Council will reassemble in open meeting and take any actions that are required.

Executive Session The meeting recessed at 7:10 p.m. to go into Executive Session to discuss employee, contract, and/or public safety matters.

The meeting reconvened at 7:20 p.m.

Mayor William Gillespie Jr.

- Mayor Gillespie said he objected to two things that happened at the previous meeting:
 - The Council President's bringing up business outside of the Council's interests in what seemed to be a personal attack against Scott
 - Scott's angry behavior, his storming out, and quitting
- The Mayor asked Council to address the issues and suggested creating rules of decorum to operate the meetings and to give the person speaking the ability and time to do so. He asked for discussion.

Discussion included:

- The Solicitor was asked if he could Chair the meetings as a neutral party. Solicitor Sean Gallagher said the Borough Code lists the Chairperson on Council to take the meetings over, not the Solicitor because he's not an elected official. He said the Solicitor can take over in certain circumstances, for instance when there is a large crowd or multiple perspectives that need to be heard, but he reminded the Council that they conducted very good meetings up to the onset of COVID-19, which has "thrown a wrench in the machinery."
- Sherry said she will be mindful from this point forward and asked the Mayor if it would be agreeable to him that she and Scott meet to discuss their differences.

Motion was made and seconded by Carol Neubert/June Crawford to put the Mayor in charge of pulling together rules of conduct for the meetings.

ROLL CALL VOTE: Neubert: AYE, Crawford: AYE, Rinebolt: AYE, Novotny: NAY, Weinzierl: NAY, Felsing: NAY, Herbst: NAY. The motion failed 3-4.

Minutes **Motion was made and seconded by Dave Felsing/Carol Neubert to approve the minutes of September 15, 2020. The motion carried with Scott Herbst voting Nay.**

Public Comments None

Councilmembers Business to be presented by Councilmembers

- Pat Rinebolt asked about the status of the Holiday Parade on behalf of a Borough resident. Council decided to discuss it later in the meeting as it appears on the agenda.
- Carol Neubert asked if there is an update on Scott's stormwater project. Scott explained that Chuck is tracking down the pricing for the GPS equipment rental. Mary explained that the 2021 budget includes the fee for a CAD license for Chuck.

Manager Mary Papik

Bills

Motion was made and seconded by Dave Felsing/June Crawford to approve the bills as presented: \$11,000.00 paid from the Borough's General Fund to the Saxonburg Volunteer Fire Department, of which \$8,495.43 is from State aid and \$2,504.57 is to cover a donation from Saxonburg Borough Council. The motion carried.

Wire Rope Shop Roof

Motion was made and seconded by Sherry Weinzierl/Dave Felsing to approve proposal from MAK Contracting in the amount of \$7,400.00 to install metal roof, gutters, downspouts to meet historic designation requirements. The motion carried.

Motion was made and seconded by Dave Felsing/Scott Herbst to approve requesting \$7,400.00 from the Friends of the Museum as reimbursement for Wire Rope Shop roof. The motion carried.

The Council recognized and thanked Fred Caesar for his collection of donations to Friends of the Museum that makes the replacement roof for the Wire Rope Shop possible.

Update on Holiday Parade

Mary explained that the parade paperwork is completed and ready to send to the State. However, given the limits on social gatherings that were released today, she asked Council to confirm that they want to proceed. The guidelines are now tiered percentages, 20% or 25%, based on the capacity an area could hold. For example, Mary explained, the sidewalk areas on both the North and South sides of Main Street from Pittsburgh Street to Rebecca Street would be allowed to hold approximately 700 people under the current restrictions.

Discussion included:

- Saxonburg Area Business Association has always been good to the Borough
- Sprinkle's recent big event was controlled and there were no problems
- The possibility of fencing off sidewalk areas and counting participants
- Butler's cancellation of their Holiday Parade
- Butler County's current COVID-19 case numbers

Motion was made and seconded by Carol Neubert/Dave Felsing to cancel the Holiday Parade, with regrets, due to restrictions imposed by the State.

ROLL CALL VOTE: Neubert: AYE, Felsing: AYE, Rinebolt: AYE, Herbst: AYE, Weinzierl: NAY, Novotny: NAY. The motion carried 4-2 with Crawford abstaining.

2021 Budgets

Borough General Fund Budget

Mary reviewed the General Fund budget with the Council in detail and answered questions. Discussions included:

- Police car Unit 344 needs to be retired and a replacement purchased
- The funds the Police Department received through Round 1 of the CARES Act
- Splits between the SAA and Borough on employee timesheets
- Borough employees keep detailed timesheets of each task performed in 15-minute increments, whether in the office or when working from home during the shutdown
- Work completed by Chuck and the Field Crew on the Borough's behalf during the COVID-19 shutdown
- The Capital Expense for replacing the Borough building roof, siding, and windows next year

Motion was made and seconded by Carol Neubert/June Crawford to dispose of Unit 344 so long as its value is under \$1000. The motion carried.

Borough Park Budget

Mary reviewed the Park budget with the Council in detail and answered questions. Discussions included:

- The Park is in the red for 2020 due to COVID-19 rental cancellations; next year looks better if rentals can happen
- The landscaping should be picture perfect for rentals; possibly a landscaper needs to be consulted once a year
- We need volunteers to also help with the landscape upkeep, from residents to Summit Academy students to prison or probation workers
- Marianne Cornetti would like to do a Summer Concert series in the Park, an idea that Council was pleased to hear

Solicitor Solicitor Sean Gallagher, Gallagher Law Group

- Solicitor Gallagher announced that the name of his law firm has now been changed to Gallagher Law Group, with the same principals and great service. The Council expressed their congratulations.

Old Business None

New Business None

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 8:50 p.m.

The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, October 20, 2020 at 7 p.m.

Jody Brown
Secretary