

**MOUNT POCONO BOROUGH COUNCIL  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES  
MONDAY, JUNE 3, 2019  
7:00 P.M.**

President C. Williams opened the Regular Meeting at 7:00 P.M. with the following members present: Vice President F. O'Boyle Councilmembers; D. Casole. T. Ford; A. Montanez; and, S. Stewart-Keeler. Mayor M. Penn, Solicitor J. Fareri, Borough Secretary/ Treasurer L. Noonan, and Zoning/Codes Enforcement Officer D. Noonan were also present.

Councilmember M. Hensel arrived at 8:25 P.M.

Junior Councilmembers S. Darwish and K. Rinaldi were absent.

The Pledge of Allegiance was said by all.

**PRELIMINARY ANNOUNCEMENTS**

President C. Williams announced Borough Council held an Executive Session on Tuesday, May 28, 2019, from 6:30 P.M. to 7:00 P.M. on a personnel issue.

**APPROVAL MINUTES**

Councilmember S. Stewart Keeler moved to accept the Regular Meeting minutes of Monday, May 6, 2019, as presented. Councilmember A. Montanez seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

**OFFICERS' REPORTS**

**MAYOR**

Mayor M. Penn stated that he performed zero weddings this past month. He announced that he has been in contact with Susan Faraone about a Farmers Market. She opened one day last week to set up early. He spoke about the building safety and that the Borough of Stroudsburg recently installed security glass and push button entry with additional cameras. He stated that the Monroe County Sheriff's office conducted a review of their building and made recommendations. He discussed a property on Winona Road with property concerns with possible drug dealers or squatters. He worked with the owner, Regional Police and the District Magistrate and he hopes that this will be resolved soon. There has been a 10-day notice to vacate issued. He also discussed the Land Bank and the Redevelopment Authority stating that the County, the Borough and the School District are all on board and we are one step closer to begin that process. He further discussed the crosswalks and that PennDOT has announced they're not in favor of the 3D crosswalks as a Borough resident has complained. He stated that he is still advocating for them as traffic studies show that they do work. Some do not think they will, but he feels they are worth a try and is working with PennDOT to get approval. He stated that he has spoken with Regional Police about doing speed control and fast car timing through the downtown will begin soon. He also requested that they patrol the Knob more now that it's the summer months. He discussed the Pocono Mountain Regional Police budget and recent emails about the Regional Police votes and discussed areas that he has been vocal on issues such as: upfitting packages for police vehicles; purchasing new insurance; the pension negotiations.

Councilmember T. Ford questioned what the location of the Farmers Market was.

Borough Resident Tom Neville asked what the fee for the Farmers Market was and if Borough Council voted on it.

Councilmember T. Ford moved to approve the Farmers Market setting up a tent near the pavilion or at the bend in the road on School Drive to have a set schedule of no more than three (3) days a week, that they provide certificate of insurance naming the Borough as additional insured and that the payments of the \$400.00 vending permit be paid in two (2) installments, \$200.00 due now and the other \$200.00 due on August 1, 2019. Councilmember S. Stewart-Keeler seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

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**TREASURER'S REPORT**

GENERAL FUND CHECKING ACCOUNT	\$ 517,357.81
PENN SECURITY GENERAL FUND ACCOUNT	982.81
CAPITAL RESERVE ACCOUNT	1,292.56
BANNER BEAUTIFICATION ACCOUNT	3,171.25
STATE LIQUID FUELS	65,555.87
PARK & RECREATION FUND	879.02
PLANNING COMMISSION REIMB. FUND	9,914.16
ROAD FUND – GENERAL FUND	102,092.80
STORMWATER FUND	48,724.67
GENERAL FUND RESERVE ACCOUNT	1,117.32
SANITATION FUND	3,283.20
INTERSECTION& SIGNALIZATION FUND	<u>249,946.50</u>
 GRAND TOTAL	 <u>\$1,004,317.97</u>

Councilmember S. Stewart-Keeler moved to approve the Treasurer's Report dated Monday June 3, 2019, and pay the bills as presented. Councilmember D. Casole seconded. Motion carried. unanimously.

**BILLS TO BE PAID FROM THE GENERAL FUND CHECKING ACCOUNT:**

Ace Hardware	(maint. & bldg./park supplies)	\$ 150.22
Affordable Locksmith	(key cutting services)	62.50
Barry Isett & Associates	(Hirshland)	605.00*
Blue Ridge Communications	(phones)	413.72
Cintas	(uniforms/rugs)	392.04
Dixon Sealer & Supply	(55 gallon tar buggy/Melter)	1,195.00
Ed's Auto	(repairs to 09 Ford F550 & '12 Pete)	2,273.71
Ehrlich	(pest control)	97.00
ESSA Bank	(loan payment)	2,309.20
FNB Visa	(UPS, copier ink, flags)	539.77
Fry Communications	(PA Bulletin)	87.00
Michael V. Gazza	(ZHB Solicitor)	2,201.57*
Geisinger	(health insurance)	6,688.62
Highmark Blue Shield	(eye/dental)	258.62
Home Depot	(flowers for boro bldg.)	272.82
NAPA Auto Parts	(battery for roller)	101.04
Lori Noonan	(mileage reimb & supply reimb)	336.39
Lowe's	(plywood for drain top @ Summit)	22.60
PP & L	(electric)	159.65
PA American Water Co	(water)	744.97
PA State Assoc. of Boroughs	(Webinar – Ticketing System)	45.00
Pocono Mountain Regional Police	(June Mortgage Payment)	2,792.12
PM Public Library	(1 mill dedicated RE & Delinq. Taxes)	12,539.46
PM Vol. Fire Co.	(1 mill dedicated RE & Delinq Taxes)	12,540.43
PM Regional EMS	(1/2 mill dedicated RE & Delinq.Taxes)	6,270.12
Pennoni Associates	(Lot 28 Traffic Study)	1,098.00*
Plociniak Oil	(heating oil)	1,149.79
Quill	(digital recording device)	85.99
Reilly Associates	(Lot 28 Sketch plan review)	1,399.52*
Jean Simchak	(reimb. O. Ramos ZHB Seminar)	50.00
Sunoco	(gas/diesel)	569.71
Tulpehocken Spring Water	(water)	51.49
US Bank	(copier lease)	357.95

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Underdog Computer	(website maint)	\$ 75.00
Verizon Wireless	(cell phones)	137.61
WalMart	(maint. Hand cleaners & sanitizers)	<u>23.95</u>

**GRAND TOTAL** **\$58,097.58**

\*Reimbursable

**BILLS ALREADY PAID FROM THE GENERAL FUND CHECKING ACCOUNT:**

Mt Pocono Payroll	(w/e 05/08/19)	\$ 7,104.63*
Mt Pocono Payroll	(w/e 05/15/19)	5,497.28
Mt Pocono Payroll	(w/e 05/22/19)	5,597.59
Mt Pocono Payroll	(w/e 05/29/19)	<u>5,497.29</u>

**GRAND TOTAL** **\$23,696.79**

\*tax collector was paid in this pay period

**BILLS TO BE PAID FROM THE LIQUID FUELS ACCOUNT:**

Signal Service Inc.	(repairs to traffic signals)	\$8,180.00
P P & L	(electric)	<u>1,770.68</u>

**GRAND TOTAL** **\$9,950.68**

**Navigating the State Ethics Act Minefield**

Vice President F. O'Boyle moved to approve sending the Borough Secretary/ Treasurer, Mayor and Councilmember A. Montanez to the Navigating State Ethics Minefield seminar at a cost of \$45.00 each on Thursday, June 20<sup>th</sup>, from 1:30 P.M. to 3:30 P.M. Councilmember D. Casole seconded. Councilmember A. Montanez abstained. Motion carried.

**ZONING/CODES ENFORCEMENT OFFICER**

Zoning/ Codes Enforcement Officer D. Noonan reviewed the following report for May 2019:

Permits / Certificates Issued (5/1 to 5/31):

Roof – 4  
Sign – 2  
Certificate of Occupancy – 1

Fees (5/1 to 5/31): \$295.75

Rental Inspections: 1

Additional Work / Activities:

- 5/6 - Council meeting.
- 5/9 – PSAB Webinar - Ticketing
- 5/22 – ZHB re: Hirshland
- 5/28 – Council Work Session
- 5/30 – Blighted Property Tour w/ Redevelopment Authority
- Preparing report re: Review of Zoning / SALDO ordinances.

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The Zoning/ Codes Enforcement Officer stated that he is pursuing seven (7) individuals who have started projects without permits and that he will be attending a short-term rental discussion roundtable at the offices of the Emergency Services on Wednesday, June 5, 2019.

**SOLICITOR**

No report

**PERSONS TO BE HEARD**

**Attorney C. Robert Lewis**

Attorney C. Robert Lewis was present on behalf of his client Larry Hirshland regarding the Mount Pocono Crossing Shopping Center. He stated that last fall when they were before Borough Council they asked for and received a time extension because they had three (3) permits there were outstanding. Since that time they have received their NPDES Permit and their Highway Occupancy Permit (HOP), however their small wetlands permit is still in the final round of revision/ approval process and that they are fearful that they will not have that in time for the July 2, 2019, deadline that was set last fall. He further stated they are being proactive and are asking Borough Council to extend that by another six (6) months however he hopes if all goes well that they will have it by the end of July.

Councilmember A. Montanez moved to give a six (6) month extension to the Mount Pocono Crossing Center to get their small wetlands permit the extension will run to October 2, 2019. Councilmember S. Stewart-Keeler seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Attorney R. Lewis also discussed a possible sign text amendment needed for the shopping plaza for a sign for the Wawa gas station. He noted that they went before the Zoning Hearing Board (ZHB) but they did not receive the necessary variance that is needed. Council agreed to discuss this further with Attorney Lewis at the June 17, 2019 work session.

**Karen Struckle Liaison of the Mount Pocono Association**

Mrs. Struckle discussed the crosswalks and hoped that the 3D crosswalks will be approved by PennDOT. She introduced Jodi Bohdal who the President of the Mount Pocono Association, who questioned if a single resident complained would that be enough to stop the 3D crosswalks being approved.

**Mr. Kim 1427 Pocono Boulevard**, owner of the Tae Kwon Do, stated that kids come to his business and cannot cross the street.

There was a lengthy discussion amongst everyone in attendance about the need for better crosswalk and sidewalk safety and help with slowing traffic down through downtown.

Ms. Bohdal asked Borough Council to make it a priority for the crosswalks.

Let the record show that Councilmember M. Hensel arrived at 8:25 P.M.

Councilmember T. Ford suggested that the Borough Council form a Sidewalk and Safety Commission that will meet on a different day than our regular meeting or work session. He also suggested that the committee would work on reporting on areas with greatest needs, search funding, and that the Commission would have 5 to 7 members.

After a very lengthy discussion regarding the Sidewalk and Safety Commission, Councilmember T. Ford moved to begin the process to adopt an Ordinance to establish a permanent Sidewalk and Safety Commission and to send the model Ordinance to the Mount Pocono Planning Commission for review and they report back to the Borough Council by the July 1, 2019, meeting and to advertise for adoption at the next meeting. Councilmember M. Hensel seconded.

Again, there was a lengthy discussion, with Councilmember S. Stewart-Keeler questioning what did previous Borough Councils do and what happened to the money for the funding for sidewalks.

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Councilmember D. Casole stated that she spoke with Jay Borger at PennDOT regarding the sidewalks.

There was a very lengthy discussion with residents.

**Deb Fulton, 65 Reeder Street**, stated that Borough Council needs to move forward and not look back and that a Commission is a good idea.

Councilmember A. Montanez stated that she is not in favor of a separate Sidewalk and Safety Committee.

**Patty Bucca, 140 Winona Road**, stated that Borough Council is not working together, and it will be the residents that suffer.

Councilmember M. Hensel stated that if a separate Sidewalk and Safety Commission is set up, they will do the work and it will help that Borough Council doesn't spend two hours every month discussing the sidewalks.

**Doreen Camplone, 14 Skyline Way**, suggested that the Borough Council and the Mount Pocono Association meet and form a think tank.

Motion went to a roll call vote: Councilmember D. Casole, "Abstained"; Vice President F. O'Boyle, "Yes"; Councilmember S. Stewart-Keeler, "No"; Councilmember A. Montanez, "No"; President C. Williams, "No"; Councilmember M. Hensel, "Yes"; Councilmember T. Ford, "No". Motion failed.

**Robin LaForge, Park Foundation Representative**

Ms. LaForge stated that they are moving along with the Hometown Hero Banners. They are holding a community day on June 29<sup>th</sup>, from 9:00 A.M. to 3:00 P.M. They will have music; Boy Scout Troop 94 will have a flag retirement ceremony and will help clean up the nature area and trail behind the building.

**PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

President C. Williams stated that she is still working on the follow-up on the CDL driver. She also stated that she received a call from the Pennsylvania State Association of Boroughs (PSAB) stating that they govern all Borough's in Pennsylvania and they are receiving numerous calls from Mount Pocono and that they can't handle as many phone calls as they are getting from one municipality, so they have selected President C. Williams as the contact person and any Councilmembers who have questions should send them to the President and she will go to PSAB to get answers. She suggested that all of us work for the good of the Borough and do not slander or tear each other down. She further stated that they were voted in by the residents and that we are the residents' voice, this is not selfless service we serve the Borough we serve the people and some members who were appointed feel differently.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

**Action Items List**

The Borough Secretary/ Treasurer reviewed and updated the Action Item List accordingly.

**SR 611 Pine Hill Road Traffic Signal**

Borough Council agreed that the Borough Secretary/ Treasurer should send a letter to PennDOT requesting that they reclaim the right-of-way at the intersection of SR 611 and Pine Hill Road.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**Anti-Litter Ordinance**

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Councilmember A. Montanez moved to send the Anti-Litter Ordinance to the Mount Pocono Planning Commission for review and recommendation. Vice President F. O'Boyle seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

**STANDING COMMITTEES**

**Junior Councilmember Report**

President C. Williams stated that they are not here as graduation is this week. She hopes that they will be coming back before they go to college.

**Planning**

No meeting.

**Department of Public Works**

President C. Williams stated that the project on Center Street will start. They are ordering the drainpipes and other materials needed.

**Utilities**

No report.

**Water**

Councilmember D. Casole stated that the flushing of water was delayed due to repairs at Industrial Park well tank and continued work on the Pine Hill Road water tank.

**Recreation**

It was noted that First Friday will be held this Friday, June 7, 2019, at 6:00 P.M and that everyone should bring a dish to share.

**Sanitation**

Councilmember A. Montanez stated that complaints are handled as they have been received. No meetings are scheduled.

Borough Secretary/ Treasurer L. Noonan stated that 19.88 tons of recyclables and 55.24 tons of refuse were collected in the borough for the month of April 2019.

**Buildings**

Borough Secretary/ Treasurer L. Noonan noted that there will be a meeting with Potcher Construction regarding the doors and sidewalks. Once the meeting is scheduled, she will let the Building Committee know.

**Budget and Finance**

President C. Williams stated that they will meet again in July to review the second quarter.

**Personnel**

Councilmember D. Casole moved to hire Ronald Kollmer to our Road Crew at an hourly rate of \$17.00 per hour. It was noted that he has his own tools and that he can do some diesel mechanic work. He will be on

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probation for 90 days and after the 90 probationary period he will have full time benefits. This is contingent upon a clean background check. It was further noted that he will be responsible to pay for his insurance premium for the first 90 days. Vice President F. O'Boyle seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

**Regional Police/ EMS**

Mayor M. Penn reviewed the Police stats and the actual time and hours for the month. We are over 163 hours to date however this will balance out throughout the year. He reminded everyone the Regional EMS subscription drive is ongoing at \$75.00 per household.

**COG**

Borough Secretary/ Treasurer L. Noonan gave the following report:

Pocono Mountains COG met on Monday, May 20, 2019, at 10:00 A.M.

There was no Guest speaker for this meeting. The subject of volunteer responders came up and a lengthy discussion ensued. The next COG meeting is being held on June 24, 2019.

President C. Williams noted that the Women's Veteran Museum will have their grand opening on June 7<sup>th</sup> and June 8<sup>th</sup> at the Fork Street Professional Building.

**Donna Shannan, Gold Star Wife**, was in attendance invited all to attend the Museum's grand opening.

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

**Tom Neville, 209 Knob Road**, thanked the residents for coming out tonight and thanked Borough Council for their work.

**Patty Bucco, 140 Winona Road**, thanked the Mayor for his help with the property on Winona Road and the squatter issue.

There being no further business or any further public participation coming before the Board, Councilmember A. Montanez moved to adjourn at 9:40 P.M. Councilmember S. Stewart-Keeler seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Lori Noonan, Borough Secretary