

WorkSession Meeting
September 4th, 2013

Meeting was opened by Council President M. Mevoli at 6:00pm. Those present were G. Gilbert, P. MacAdams, M. Mevoli, J. Granstrom, and J. Meehan. The Solicitor was Timothy Higgins, Esq..

This Meeting was advertised in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act, and complies with all the laws therein

Committee Reports were accepted at previous meeting.

Engineer's Report – Update of ongoing projects by Greg Fusco, Kei Associates:
G. Fusco was absent and engineer report was not discussed.

Open to Public

Kevin Flynn, 6 Third Street, explained that the Athletic Association needs help with the ball field grass cutting. They have two tractors and they are in bad shape because of the overuse for cutting the grass along with dragging the infield. The borough use to cut it two years ago. The cost is just too high for replacement parts on the tractors to continue at its current pace. He said they would continue to drag the infields and maintain the dirt. M. Mevoli said this should not be a problem. D. Domico said she would put it back on the schedule for Public Works. M. Mevoli also explained that he is in the process of setting up a maintenance agreement with a landscape company for maintain the fields yearly. He said with all the rain we had over the summer, we need to keep on top of everything to keep the fields in shape. He wants to get the schools who use the fields to help contribute to the yearly cost. He will put together a committee together to address the issues.

Closed to the Public

Resolution # 127-13 Approval to Submit Grant Application for 2014 Municipal Aid
Motion – J. Granstrom
2nd – G. Gilbert
All in Favor: Carried.

Discussion/Committee Updates

1) J. Granstrom:

He attended a meeting with the Borough Engineer, Mayor, and Dominick Fiorelli, a Representative of the Governor's office, to discuss the town's problems with flooding and infrastructure. He said they spoke at length about how the town floods when it rains and how residence cope with the issues. He said they showed Mr. Fiorelli the problems why drainage may be an issue in some areas. Mr. Fiorelli tossed ideas around with regard to a possible Open Space Projects to utilize all the land along the riverfront. He

also said Mr. Fiorelli wants us to keep a log of every time it floods and the effects of the flooding. J. Granstrom asked that all department heads to start keeping a log from this point forward. Mr. Fiorelli said to the group that he would take our concerns into consideration for future projects and will be available for any issue that may need to be discussed.

2) G. Gilbert:

The borough home on Broadway that is in need of repairs, has a plan design for construction. The plans should be in the borough office shortly. The rehab should begin within the next couple months. He told everyone that there will be people at our public meeting to discuss our website and design options. We want to get a new web designer as soon as possible.

3) P. MacAdams:

He said the EMS is in need of a new ambulance. The current one is falling apart electrically. The cab has a lot of electrical problems that can be fixed but might not eliminate all the issues electrically. The clerk asked that he get more information and research multiple options before any purchase. P. MacAdams said he get a more detailed report on the problems from the EMS Chief.

4) M. Mevoli:

He said that the new healthcare act is requiring all employees who work over twenty-five hours a week to get health insurance. Many of the municipalities are cutting back from thirty two hours to be compliant with the law. He said the law was supposed to begin this year but has been push to next year.

He gave an insurance update in regard to the HIF renewal and safety concerns. He said that the HIF is hoping to stay under a double digit increase for the next year. Last year was the first time in a few years that the increase reached double digits. He also explained that he attended a meeting where they discussed safety issues within Fire, EMS, and Police. He said the insurance agency feels that heavy duty gloves should be worn during searches of people. He gave an example of someone who reached in a person pockets and got poked with a needle. This requires periodical testing of the employee for a year. The repeated testing and medical treatment from a needle prick can be extremely costly. Chief McKinney said that while heavy duty gloves might be safer, it takes away our officers ability to feel. M. Mevoli said that it's not a requirement yet, but it is considered an option. He went on to explain another issue within the insurance that involves transitional duty. He explains that transitional duty is putting people back into the work environment with limited ability cause by an injury on the job. Statistics have shown that people are more likely to recover faster if they can continue to work as they are rehabbing an injury. M. Mevoli explained a case study in which a laborer in DPW had a cervical sprain and was out on workers compensation. The employee underwent physical therapy and worked doing minor inspections and inventory counts. If this person was not given transitional duty, he would have been out for 115 days instead of 21 days. M. Mevoli says this could drastically decrease our risk and overall contributions in workers compensation insurance cost if everyone partakes in a transitional program. He said he will get a committee together a come up with a game plan.

M. Mevoli explained that we currently get mechanical work done in town for a rate of \$85 dollars per hour. He said he was approached by Chief McKinney about a possible shared service with Bellmawr for mechanical work. Bellmawr has three certified mechanics for all the municipal vehicles and have expressed a willingness to service our vehicles. Their rate is \$50 per hour. M. Mevoli said we could save money with all our vehicles and look good with being involved with a shared service. He feels we could save money on parts because we would have to provide Bellmawr with the parts and would not have to pay a mark-up like we do with our current mechanics. M. Mevoli asked to get all the department heads together to explain the benefits. D. Domico said she would reach out to Bellmawr for more information. M. Mevoli said to keep him updated.

M. Mevoli reminded everyone that the Methodist Church was holding their annual 9/11 service on September 11th at 7:00pm.

5) R. Giles, Borough Clerk

He asked council to consider a new vehicle for the Police Department to place a License Plate Reader (LPR) on it. He explained we are going out for a capital ordinance for the Railroad Crossing project at the next meeting and wanted to add the LPR so we authorize it at the same time. Council agreed to put the new vehicle on the capital ordinance.

He also asked council if he can put together the bids specs with multiple options for the replacement of roof at fire house and water plant. Council agreed with the clerk.

Closed to council.

Adjournment:

Motion to Adjourn – G. Gilbert

2nd – P. MacAdams

All in favor: Adjourned.

Ryan Giles
Borough Clerk