

2018-32
STRASBURG BOROUGH COUNCIL
DECEMBER 11, 2018
MINUTES

Members Present: Ray Garraffa Jim Rice (arrived at 7:41 p.m.)
 Dave Dunn Will Hutchinson
 Bob Bennethum (by phone)

Others Present:

Bruce Ryder, Mayor
Lisa M. Boyd, Borough Manager
F. Steven Echternach, Chief of Police
Lynn Commero, LNP
Porter Stevens, Lancaster County Planning Commission
Brian Trout

CALL TO ORDER AND PLEDGE TO THE FLAG: Council Vice President Ray Garraffa called the meeting to order at 7:41 p.m., followed by the salute to the flag. Vice President Garraffa announced that the meeting is being audiotaped and maintained until the minutes are approved. The Borough Manager took the roll call.

REQUESTS TO BE HEARD:

REQUEST TO AMEND TRAFFIC ORDINANCE TO PROHIBIT COMMERCIAL VEHICLES FROM PARKING ON RESIDENTIAL STREETS – BRIAN TROUT: Brian Trout was in attendance and stated that his issue is the overnight parking of large commercial vehicles on residential streets in the Borough. After discussing his concern with Borough Officials, he learned that there is nothing to prohibit it, and asked the Borough to consider an amendment. He stated that he believes the overnight parking of commercial vehicles reduces curb appeal and reduces resale value on all homes. It was the consensus of the members to forward this request to the Safety Committee to look into this request and come back to Borough Council with a recommendation.

Vice President Garraffa welcomed Porter Stevens, the Borough's representative from the Lancaster County Planning Commission. Mr. Stevens stated that he is available to assist with any planning issues.

MINUTES OF NOVEMBER 13, 2018: A motion was made by Dave Dunn, seconded by Jim Rice and passed unanimously to approve the minutes of the November 13, 2018 meeting as printed.

REPORTS:

MAYOR – Mayor Ryder stated we are waiting for a response from Cliff Carter regarding the Demolition by Neglect notice, noting that the time limit has not yet been reached.

PRESIDENT – President Chiodo was not in attendance for the meeting.

2018-33

MANAGER – The Borough Manager’s written report for November 2018 was received and accepted. She reminded the members that the Council has the option to take a position on the Rutter’s Zoning Hearing application. Mayor Ryder stated that the gambling Special Exception is being sought under the “Use Not Provided” and the Zoning Variance is for the parking. Chief Echternach stated that Rutter’s is a magnet for transient traffic, they have had problems with drug dealing, overdoses, drug trafficking and prostitution. His concern is adding video gaming to a truck stop because the truck drivers should be resting to be legal with their log books. A motion was made by Will Hutchinson, seconded by Jim Rice and passed unanimously to authorize the Borough Manager to take a position in opposition of the Rutter’s Zoning Hearing request and to send a letter to Rutter’s.

POLICE – The Police Department’s report for November 2018 was received and accepted.

PUBLIC WORKS – The Public Works report for November 2018 was received and accepted.

ZONING OFFICER – The Zoning Officer’s report for November 2018 was received and accepted.

CONSENT AGENDA: A motion was made by Dave Dunn, seconded by Will Hutchinson and passed unanimously to approve the following items on the Consent Agenda:

PAYMENT OF BILLS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$319,286.12

APPROVAL OF 2019 MEETING SCHEDULE

ADOPTION OF FIRE COMPANY ACTIVITIES RESOLUTION 2018-5

ADOPTION OF POLICE PENSION PLAN CONTRIBUTION RESOLUTION 2018-6

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

APPROVAL OF 2019 FINAL BUDGET: The Borough Manager stated that a .21 tax increase is still needed to balance the budget. A motion was made by Jim Rice, seconded by Will Hutchinson and passed unanimously to approve year 2019 Final Budget

ENACTMENT OF 2019 TAX LEVY ORDINANCE 2018-1: A motion was made by Will Hutchinson, seconded by Jim Rice and passed unanimously to enact the 2019 tax levy ordinance 2018-1 which includes a .21 tax increase, at 2.86 mills for the Borough of Strasburg for 2019.

NEW BUSINESS: None.

OTHER BUSINESS: None.

CITIZENS’ COMMENTS: Chief Echternach stated that in the last 60 days, 3 ½ pounds of marijuana was confiscated, 2 ½ pounds of high grade marijuana and a significant amount of THC from California. He stated that he believes marijuana is a gateway drug and this Department is prosecuting violators as a criminal offense and not a non-traffic citation.

2018-34

EXECUTIVE SESSION – PERSONNEL MATTER: At 8:05 p.m., Vice President Ray Garraffa announced that Borough Council will be going into executive session to discuss a personnel matter. The regular meeting was reconvened at 8:16 p.m. at which time no official action was taken.

ADJOURNMENT: A motion was made by Jim Rice, seconded by Will Hutchinson and passed unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 8:17 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa M. Boyd
Borough Manager