

The April committee meeting 4/6/2021 was called to order by Borough Council President Bruce Markovich and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited. The following items were discussed by committee topic in a contiguous manner beginning at 4:00 p.m.:

In attendance at the beginning of the meeting session: Bruce Markovich, Martin Ditsky, William Chuma, Bob Silver Gwyneth Collevchio, and Mayor Michele Bartek. Council persons Marie Ondrus arrived at 4:20 p.m. at the end of Public Works committee. Councilman John Turcmanovich did not attend.

Public Works 4:00 p.m. to 4:24 p.m.:

The Committee is William Chuma, John Turcmanovich, and Martin Ditsky.

William Chuma reported that the street sweeping started this week. The 1991 sweeper has been repaired and is working great. The public works department is planning to replace sewer inlets and raise manholes. Councilman Ditsky suggested setting funds aside for a new sweeper. Bob Silver suggests a capital funds account be considered in next year's budget.

There was discussion about the parking meters.

Radocha Excavating is waiting for seals for the manholes for the 400 E. Snyder Street Sewer Project to begin. The company that makes the seals has not been producing materials for 10 months.

A sewer problem in the 300 block of E. Bertsch Street was discussed. The contractor, Joe Hutta, is considering moving a resident's line from its connections on Patterson Street to E. Bertsch Street.

Municipal Administration 4:24 p.m. to 4:45 p.m.:

The Committee is Bruce Markovich, Martin Ditsky, and Gwyneth Collevchio.

Bruce Markovich checked with Attorney Yurchak about the Agreement to acquire the Silberline property. It has not been received yet.

The four estimates for ductless air/heat system for the borough office were reviewed.

Mr. Markovich spoke to Tonya StClair at USDA about a 65%loan/35%grant for a borough truck (estimate \$80,000.00) and a \$750,000.00 loan to build a borough garage. For the garage: At 2.25% interest, a 40 yr. USDA loan for \$750,000.00 would be \$2,371.00 per month; total cost \$1,138,000.00. The same loan at Jim Thorpe Neighborhood bank for 20 years is \$3,883.00 total payback \$932,055.00.

Non-binding arbitration is scheduled for April 19th between the borough and public works Teamsters Union 773 regarding an employee's grievance.

There was discussion about computer situations in the police station and in the borough office. Bob Silver wants to approve Joe Lyons, Overwatch, for the police department. There was discussion about how the Overwatch bills are to be paid. Overwatch offers the borough the option to pay for services by credit card or automatic withdrawal from the borough account.

Bob Silver also wants a new website. The borough website is currently offline and Bobby O'Gurek has not been able to rebuild it.

Christopher Ondrus asked about the status of delinquent sanitation invoices and specifically Councilman Ditsky's payment status of his borough bills. Mr. Ondrus left the meeting.

Parks & Recreation 4:45 p.m. to 4:55 p.m.:

The Committee is Martin Ditsky, William Chuma, and Marie Ondrus.

Two applications for lifeguards have been received at the borough office. Smokey Krajnak will show a few councilmen how the pool pumps operate. Bruce Markovich is getting a price to clean the concession stand. Four bid sheets were handed out to contractors to renovate the restrooms at Ashton Park. No estimates have been received.

Martin Ditsky asked whether the stumps will be removed on the Ashton Park hill near Phillips Street. Mr. Chuma explained the borough workers will remove the stumps with the loader. Mr. Ditsky reported a tree down in Ashton Park near the wooded picnic table area.

Mayor Bartek asked whether the borough office was contacted about a special event to be held at Ashton Park parking lot on to benefit fire victims. The office received a phone call asking whether an event could be held at the park and the secretary told the caller to get a special event form to be considered at the next council meeting.

Public Safety 4:55 p.m. to 5:33 p.m.:

The Committee is John Turcmanovich, Martin Ditsky, and Gwyneth Collevchio.

Lansford Police Chief Jack Soberick commented on a letter from Fire Chief Joseph Greco to borough council about a fire at 332 W. Bertsch Street. The March 31,2021 letter recommends more timely code inspections of rental properties. The property at 332 W. Bertsch Street is a registered rental property and believed to have not been inspected in over ten years. Discussion turned to many vacant and dilapidated properties in town and how to handle code enforcement in the future.

Chief Soberick urged council to come up with a game plan to address blighted properties.

The meeting concluded at 5:33 p.m. Respectfully Submitted, *Jill Seigendall*, Secretary Treasurer