

MINUTES OF:
DATE OF MEETING:
TIME OF MEETING:
PAGE NO.

COUNCIL MEETING
SEPTEMBER 15, 2015
7:00 PM
1

The Council Meeting of the Butler Mayor and Council was opened by Mayor Alviene who indicated that the meeting was being held in compliance with the Open Public Meetings Act having been duly advertised and posted in Borough Hall. This was followed by the Pledge to the Flag and a Moment of Reflection

ROLL CALL

Present: Mayor Robert W. Alviene, Councilman Robert Fox, Councilman Sean McNear, Councilman Robert Meier, Councilman Regis, Councilman Verdonik and Council President Vath

ALSO PRESENT: J. Lampmann, Borough Administrator; R. Oostdyk, Borough Attorney, and M. O'Keefe, Borough Clerk.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

June 16, July 21 and August 18, 2015 Regular Council Meeting

Moved: Regis

Second: Meier

Voted Aye: Fox*, McNear, Meier, Regis, Verdonik* and Vath*

Voted Nay: None

*Abstain: Vath on July 21 meeting, Fox and Verdonik on August 18 Meeting

July 7 and August 3, 2015 Council Workshop Meeting

Moved: Fox

Second: Regis

Voted Aye: Fox, McNear*, Meier, Regis, Verdonik and Vath

Voted Nay: None

*Abstain: McNear on August 3 meeting

Closed Session February 17, April 21, May 5, May 19, June 16, July 7 and August 18

Moved: Regis

Second: Vath

Voted Aye: Fox*, McNear, Meier, Regis, Verdonik* and Vath

Voted Nay: None

*Abstain: Fox on August 18, Verdonik June 16 and August 18 Meeting

MEETING OF PUBLIC AND INVITATION FOR DISCUSSION

Beverly Ridsen, 133 Hamburg Turnpike approximately one month ago, she attended a Council meeting and requested that the speed limit trailer be posted, it worked well while it was there, however, once the sign was removed the problem returned. Ms. Ridsen wanted to thank the Butler Police for posting the sign at her request. She asked if the speed limit could be permanently lowered to either 25 or 30 mph, as it is currently 40 mph. Councilman Regis will have the speed trailer brought back to alleviate speeding and perhaps it can be posted there on a periodic basis. She appreciates all the help that the Mayor and Council have provided.

MINUTES OF:
DATE OF MEETING:
TIME OF MEETING:
PAGE NO.

COUNCIL MEETING
SEPTEMBER 15, 2015
7:00 PM
2

Bob Norman, 31 Cascade Way wanted to share an idea with the Mayor and Council to revitalize the downtown business area, he recently passed through the Town of Boonton and he was astounded at the amount of people on the street patronizing the eateries on Main Street in Boonton. He noted that there were nineteen food establishments in the short stretch of Main Street. He feels that food establishments might be the way to go, as they seem to be a success in Boonton. Councilman McNear invited Mr. Norman to the September 21 meeting of the Economic Development Committee, so he may share his suggestions about revitalizing the downtown area.

Ken Montanye, 117A Boonton Avenue provided the Mayor and Council with photos taken of the Stony Brook parking area at approximately 6:15 a.m., based on the photos it appears that people are parking in that location. He feels that there is certainly not enough parking as people have more than one vehicle today and that limits the amount of parking for all tenants. Regarding the site plan, it is his opinion that there should be parking for all of the residents. A prior governing body told him that it is the landlord's responsibility to provide parking for tenants. Butler Arms has 30 apartments, with 21 outside parking spots if you remove the garages there is not enough parking available. Mr. Oostdyk noted that the site plan has adequate parking with 30 garages and 14 stalls. He noted that the problem might be that the people that are living there are not using the garages. Mr. Lampmann explained that correspondence from the engineer contains his recommendations; the adopted resolution should have information that is more definitive. Councilman Fox noted that the plans were approved based on the requirements that existed at that time. The Mayor and the Council suggested that a tenant's association be formed to deal with the parking issue with the property owner. The Mayor asked that a copy of the resolution of the Butler Planning Board be provided to the governing body at the next Council meeting. Mr. Montanye stated that he feels the 911 monument should be vertical, located at the front of the park with perhaps a bench and some flowers. Mr. Montanye again requested additional lighting for the parking lot in the rear of the municipal building; Mr. Lampmann explained that there are no plans at this time to install any additional lighting in the parking lot. Mr. Lampmann explained that several years ago, additional lighting was installed on a Borough building across from the Senior Housing complex and the residents were extremely upset, as the lights were disruptive. Councilman McNear asked if Mr. Lampmann could give an approximate cost, as this sounded expensive to him. Mr. Lampmann explained that this could cost approximately \$3000 or more. Mayor Alviene asked that Mr. Lampmann provide the Mayor and Council with the cost for installation of additional lights, they will make a decision based on the cost effectiveness of installation. He asked that the entrance only sign at the Butler Museum be replaced, as people are exiting through the entrance.

Harry Lozier, 64 Gifford Street speaking on the 911 artifact, he made suggestions regarding pickup and display of the artifact. The Mayor and Council feel that we need to wait and see what it looks like prior to any discussion of placement and display. Additionally, Mr. Lozier asked if there is any more information on the replacement of the railroad crossing. Mr. Lampmann explained that the project is scheduled to begin on Monday September 28 and continuing through October 2, 2015.

MINUTES OF:
DATE OF MEETING:
TIME OF MEETING:
PAGE NO.

COUNCIL MEETING
SEPTEMBER 15, 2015
7:00 PM
3

Aleks Apkarian, Taylor Russnack are here as representatives of the Butler High School chapter of the Distributive Education Clubs of America. They would like to do a “Pink-Out” of the Borough, on the October 16, 2015 they are looking for more community involvement. The purpose of the “Pink Out” is to increase community awareness about breast cancer and raise funding for research. This year the donations received will help a local resident recently diagnosed with Breast Cancer, she will be the focus of this year’s campaign, as they have opted to help someone in their community. They would like to decorate the town with pink ribbons, balloons and possibly a banner to get more community involvement. They are approaching area storeowners about displaying information about the event. Councilman Fox had concerns about clean up after the event, they assured the Mayor and Council that cleanup will be done. The entire event will take place in the week prior to the October 16, football game, this will allow for the greatest amount of exposure. Discussion on placement of the banner took place and it was decided that the banner should be placed across High Street on Borough utility poles.

Bob Norman, 31 Cascade Way expressed concern over the raising of the manhole covers. Mr. Lampmann explained that they are not being raised they are being replaced and the process is not complete.

Seeing no one else come forward, motion to close this public portion of the meeting:
Moved: Fox
All in favor.

Second: Regis

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES AND DEPARTMENT HEADS:

Council President Vath reporting on Finance noted there is not much to report, he met with Jim Kozimor, CFO this afternoon, noting that proposals were requested for Bond Anticipation Notes. Quotes were received with interest rates ranging from .62 and .91%, the contract was awarded to TD Bank whose proposal was for .62%.

Councilman Fox reported that the Borough is in the process of completing the checklist for Carey Avenue. The Butler Firehouse parking lot will be paved on September 28, weather permitting. The Borough is waiting for asphalt from Tilcon so the following roads may be paved Gormley Lane, Walnut Lane, Terrace Avenue and Currie Avenue; he hopes they will be paved before winter.

Councilman Regis reporting on the Police Department noted that in August there were 34 motor vehicle accidents, 330 summons were written, 6 Driving While Intoxicated arrests and 28 arrests for a variety of criminal offenses.

Councilman McNear wanted to remind those present the last concert in the series sponsored by the Economic Development Committee is being held on Friday, September 18, 2015 at Butler Park. Board of Health does not meet during July and August; the September meeting is Wednesday, September 23. There are health clinics scheduled for September 21, a blood pressure screening and a child health conference on September 28; both will take place at Borough Hall.

MINUTES OF:
DATE OF MEETING:
TIME OF MEETING:
PAGE NO.

COUNCIL MEETING
SEPTEMBER 15, 2015
7:00 PM
4

Councilman Meier, reporting on Electric, Butler Power and Light once again assisted with National Night Out making the event a tremendous success. Tree trimming continued in Butler, Kinnelon and where needed in Bloomingdale. Maintenance and repair work was performed as needed, with new service being installed in Kinnelon. A primary shutdown was done in Riverdale to allow a new solar system to be brought online. West Milford was quiet, all meters were read and recorded, delinquent accounts were addressed.

Councilman Verdonik Water Department crews checked all the valves on the roads scheduled for paving to alleviate the need to excavate newly paved roads. Currently repair work continues on the fire hydrants and the water treatment plant has run great through the summer months.

Mayor Alviene attended the ribbon cutting of the new McDonald's on Friday, September 11. The owner will be donating to the Tri-Boro Animal Shelter, and also would like to be a good neighbor, and will help the Borough in any way he can.

Tax Collectors Report – August 2015 – \$4,238,195.70
Power & Light/Water & Sewer Dept. – August 2015 – \$2,780,393.14

APPROVAL OF VOUCHERS AND PAYROLLS

R 2015-81 Authorization for Payment of Bills and Vouchers

Moved: Vath Second: Fox

Voted Aye: Fox, McNear, Regis and Verdonik

Voted Aye with abstention on fire department bills by Meier and Vath

Voted Nay: None

R 2015-81 approved

PRESENTATION OF CORRESPONDENCE, PETITIONS

Letter from Suzanne Turner resigning from the Recreation Commission

Mayor Alviene and the Borough Council wanted to thank Suzanne Turner for her years of service to the Committee.

Letter from James Neill resigning as Chief of the Butler Fire Department

Mayor Alviene and the Borough Council thanked James Neill for all his years of service to the Borough of Butler.

Letter from Montville Requesting Support for their Opposition to the Montville-Whippany 230kV transmission project.

Discussion was held and the Mayor and Council will take no action on matter.

Correspondence from Shri Sai Shakti, LLC regarding property on Outlook Street in the rear of their property located at 1369 Route 23 South.

This item will be discussed at the October Council Workshop meeting.

MINUTES OF:
DATE OF MEETING:
TIME OF MEETING:
PAGE NO.

COUNCIL MEETING
SEPTEMBER 15, 2015
7:00 PM
5

Proclamation Declaring September as National Childhood Cancer Awareness Month in the Borough of Butler

The Mayor and Council agreed proclamation would be prepared and forwarded.

Proclamation Declaring September 17 through September 23 as Constitution Week in the Borough of Butler

The Mayor and Council agreed proclamation would be prepared and forwarded.

ORDINANCE(S) FOR INTRODUCTION

None

ORDINANCE(S) FOR ADOPTION

None

RESOLUTION(S):

The Clerk noted that all items listed with an asterisk (*) are considered to be routine and non-controversial by the Borough Council and will be approved by one motion.

2015-82 Resolution Authorizing Passage of a Special Consent Agenda

Motion by: Fox

Second: Meier

Voted Aye: Fox, McNear, Meier, Regis, Verdonik and Vath

Voted Nay: None

- * **2015-83 Resolution Authorizing Refunds, Overpayments or Cancellations in the Electric Department**
- * **2015-84 Resolution Authorizing Refunds, Overpayments or Cancellations in the Water/Sewer Department**
- * **2015-85 Resolution Authorizing Shared Service Agreement with the Butler Board of Education for Computer Technical Support Services**
- * **2015-86 Liquor License Renewal for the 2015/2016 Licensing Period**
- * **2015-87 Resolution Authorizing the Submission and Execution of a Grant Application for Morse Avenue Reconstruction/Resurfacing Project**

MINUTES OF:
DATE OF MEETING:
TIME OF MEETING:
PAGE NO.

COUNCIL MEETING
SEPTEMBER 15, 2015
7:00 PM
6

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Application for appointment to the Recreation Commission

Mayor Alviene noted that he received a letter expressing interest in becoming a member of the Recreation Commission from Ben Iradi, discussion ensued with the Council and they concurred with the decision to appoint him to take the recently vacated position of Suzanne Turner. The Borough Clerk will notify Mr. Iradi and the Recreation Commission of his appointment.

World Trade Center Artifact – The process is ongoing, the next step will be to pick up the artifact according to the Port Authority’s scheduled dates.

INVITATION FOR DISCUSSION FROM THE PUBLIC:

Mayor Alviene opened this portion of the meeting to the public to speak.

Councilman Fox seeing no one come forward to speak closed this public portion of the meeting.

Moved: Fox
All in favor.

Second: Regis

Motion to adjourn the meeting:

Moved: Fox
All in favor.

Second: Regis

Adjournment: 7:45 p.m.

Adopted: October 20, 2015

Robert W. Alviene, Mayor

Attest:

Mary A. O’Keefe, Municipal Clerk

Dated: October 20, 2015