

The Workshop Meeting of the Borough of Butler Mayor and Council was opened by Mayor Martinez 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.

ROLL CALL

PRESENT: Mayor Martinez, Councilman Fox, Councilman Meier, Councilman Piccirillo, Councilman Regis and Council President Verdonik

ABSENT: Councilman Calvi

ALSO PRESENT: J. Lampmann, Borough Administrator, and C. Woods from the office of the Borough Attorney and M. O’Keefe, Borough Clerk

Motion to Excuse the Absence of Councilman Calvi:

Moved: Fox

Second: Verdonik

All in favor.

Discussion – Social Media- Dawn Hudson is present this evening to discuss various approaches to Social Media. She noted that Social media could be a tool to educate the residents. If hired she would handle any questions that are sent to the website, she also provides information regarding various municipal events. Ms. Hudson has found that Facebook works best to get the information out to the public. Councilman Piccirillo is concerned about negative comments that may be posted, Ms. Hudson has not seen negative comments on the webpages she administers, she does not believe in engaging with negative comments from people. Mr. Lampmann questioned how the webpages are archived, as that is required. Ms. Hudson detailed that just this month they began to archive. Councilman Meier wanted to know if this is something that could be done on a trial basis. Ms. Hudson noted that it could be done on a trial basis, should the Borough decide to engage her services it would be at a cost of \$500.00 monthly or \$6,000.00 yearly.

Discussion – Pride Flag There were no representatives present, a Proclamation proclaiming June as Pride Month in the Borough of Butler will be formally adopted at the May 18, 2021 Regular Council meeting.

Bronze Award Project for Troop 96522 Michelle Theiler is present this evening along with members of Troop 96522 to request permission to place a Kindness Rocks garden in Butler Park. Ms. Theiler explained that this involves rock painting, positive messages, and in the case of the garden they would be placed in a central location. The Kindness Rocks programs purpose is to cultivate connections within communities and lift others up through simple acts of kindness. Their mission statement is “One message at just the right moment can change someone’s entire day outlook and life.” Various locations were looked at, the decision was made to ask about placement in Butler Park, currently there is a circle of rocks that does not have a tree and it would be a perfect location. Ms. Theiler explained that the Bronze Award is the highest award a Junior Girl Scout can receive. The Rock Garden will be checked regularly, people will take rocks and replace them, and the rocks have inspirational messages on them.

Amendments to Chapter 68, 143 and 210 by the Addition of Regulations, Licensing and Fees for the Sale of Marijuana (Cannabis)

Mr. Lampmann explained that this is an issue that must be dealt with prior to August 1, to comply with State guidelines. Mayor Martinez noted that in previous discussions it was determined that cultivation would not be allowed in the Borough, the license type will be detailed in the municipal code but it is limited to retail only. Councilman Fox had some questions regarding hours of operation, they are listed as 7:00 a.m. to 11:00 p.m. daily, with 3:00 a.m. being listed for Sunday hours, the consensus of the Mayor and Council is to have the hours consistent on all days. Mr. Lampmann reminded everyone that this would be discussed at the June Workshop meeting so any changes to the ordinances should be brought to that meeting, as it will be on for introduction at the June 15 meeting.

OPEN PUBLIC DISCUSSION

Mayor Martinez opened the meeting to the public at this time.

Bob Norman, 31 Cascade Way has questions regarding these ordinances wants to know if the sale of marijuana is mandated. Council President Verdonik noted that it is not mandated but the Borough wishes to do this. Mr. Norman noted that this would limited to Route 23. Mr. Lampmann and Mayor Martinez noted that the Borough is limited it to sale only, no on premise consumption, security must be on site. Councilman Regis noted that it helps individuals who suffer from a variety of problems such as PTSD.

Seeing no one else come forward to speak a motion was made to close the public portion of the meeting.

Moved: Fox
All in favor.

Second: Verdonik

Motion to go into Closed Session for Personnel

Moved: Fox
All in favor.

Second: Verdonik

Motion to return to Open Session

Moved: Fox
All in favor.

Second: Regis

Mr. Lampmann wanted to inform the Mayor and Council that he has applied for a grant for play areas, these grants are usually given to underserved communities, there is a fund of 2,500,000 should they award the maximum amount of \$500,000 per community there would be five projects funded.

Mayor Martinez wanted to inform the Borough Council that he was recently made aware of someone who would like to redevelop Main Street. Mr. Lampmann noted that the Land Use Board would need to be involved; the Governing Body would need to set the standards on what the project will entail. In the latest Master Plan, the property is listed as an area in need of redevelopment. Once a decision is made as to how the area will be redeveloped, a Request for

Proposal would be advertised that designates the area with an idea of what the Borough would like the area to look like. Developers would then submit their proposals with an idea as to what they would like to do, based on the presentations received a decision would be made to go forward with the project, Zoning adjustments may be made for the redevelopment area in order to accommodate the redevelopment. Councilman Regis noted that this area would be a little more difficult to redevelop as the property owners will need to agree to the redevelopment. Councilman Fox noted that parking is problematic in the area. Councilman Meier noted that this sounds like a renaissance for Butler. Various ideas were discussed, the Mayor and Council decided to continue to explore options for redevelopment of Main Street.

Motion to adjourn

Moved: Fox

All in favor.

Second: Regis

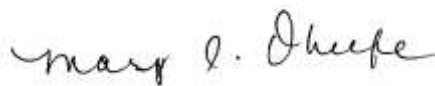
ADJOURNMENT: 7:55 p.m.

Adopted: July 20, 2021



Ryan Martinez, Mayor

Attest:



Mary A. O'Keefe, RMC
Municipal Clerk

Dated: July 20, 2021