

*Summerhill Borough Council
Minutes of the Regular Monthly Meeting
May 10, 2022*

The regular monthly meeting for Summerhill Borough Council was opened by President Becky Templeton with the pledge allegiance to the flag.

Council members present; Brad Bodenschatz (via Zoom), Russell Jones, Matthew Penatzer, Raymond Penatzer (via Zoom), Danielle Ritchey, Becky Templeton, and Joni Trovato.

Others present; Secretary/Treasurer Laura L. Penatzer, Mayor Eric Miller (via Zoom), Tax Collector/Electric Secretary Karmen Baumgardner, and Ron Portash (Mainline Newspapers).

A Proclamation was presented by Council President Becky Templeton to Ron Portash from Mainline Newspapers for his many years of service of reporting the actions of Summerhill Borough throughout the years, with family at his side.

The minutes from the previous meeting were approved by a motion from Joni Trovato, second by Matthew Penatzer, unanimous approval.

By a motion from Matthew Penatzer, the financial statements from the previous meeting were approved, second by Russell Jones, unanimous approval.

Danielle Ritchey approved the bills from the previous meeting by a motion, second by Russell Jones, unanimous approval.

No fund transfer was needed for payment of bills.

All budgets, at 34% for the end of April.

Correspondence:

The minutes from the Forest Hills Municipal Authority were reviewed.

There were no permits issued by Laurel Municipal Inspection Agency, with no minutes being received.

Forest Hills Regional Alliance continues not holding any meetings as to date.

The Croyle Township police report for the months of January and April were reviewed, with January having five incidents and April with eight.

Cambria County Commissioners reported via a letter that all County liquid fuels monies may only be encumbered for a period of two years beginning in 2022. Summerhill Borough who has funds encumbered must use them prior to the end of 2023. Also, due to the County receiving

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reduced liquid fuels amounts from the State, current allocation amounts to municipalities will be reviewed and may need to be reduced beginning in 2023.

AMP Public Power Partners proposed resolution 3-2022 TO APPROVE THE FORM AND AUTHORIZE THE EXECUTION OF THE 2022 SOLAR ENERGY SCHEDULE WITH AMERICAN MUNICIPAL POWER, INC. AND TAKING OF OTHER ACTIONS IN CONNECTION THEREWITH REGARDING SOLAR GENERATED ENERGY PURCHASES, therefore, it was approved by a motion from Councilman Russell Jones, second by Joni Trovato, unanimous approval.

Old Business:

There were nine delinquent light accounts on the electric report, and six certified letters to be sent out. Account# 01-01190-00 that was filed at the local Magistrates Office, was sent to Attorney Stofko for suggestions, where Mr. Stofko advised that there is not much that can be done until she gets served, with the only other alternative to hire Gittings Investigative Service to locate her, considering the cost of that verses what she owes.

The Codification Committee continues to review the files.

Councilwoman Joni Trovato reports that Payton McGough has collected \$4,673.00 donation to date for her Gold Award Project.

Code violations for the month are for overgrown grass at 764 Second Avenue, possibly have it cut and billed to the resident, 543 Main Street for a gutter that is hanging into the alley with windy weather.

Resolution 4-2022, needed for the DCNR grant for Freedom Park was approved by Becky Templeton, second by Russell Jones, unanimous approval.

Discussion on the Recreation Association wanting approval for a metal frame building, no floor, at the ballfield, to store their tractor for the ball season, to be removed at the end of the season, was directed for guidance to Attorney Stofko if a letter of release from liability is needed from the Recreation Association, with Attorney Stofko remarking it is not necessary to do so, assuming they have liability insurance that would be primary in the case of a claim or loss.

Another issue for Attorney Stofko was a letter wanted from Randy Stager with the September 11th National Memorial Trail Alliance, stating they would like Summerhill Borough Council to submit a letter to Pennsylvania Department of Transportation releasing PennDOT from all liabilities for the trails on its right-of-way and that Summerhill Borough would maintain the trail infrastructure. It was Attorney Stofko's recommendation not to send the letter, therefore a motion from Matthew Penatzer to not send the letter was made, second by Joni Trovato,

unanimous approval.

Street Commissioner Luke Fresch questioned through Councilman Russell Jones, at the last meeting that he wanted Council to consider allowing him forty hours a week, being full-time, with no benefits; to be discussed in an executive session.

New Business:

By a motion from Russell Jones, the County Liquid Fuels Aid will be used for crack sealing and resurfacing pavement repairs on several different streets, second by Matthew Penatzer, unanimous approval.

The new drop-off box, to be used for taxes and electric bills has been erected in the office door around back of the municipal building and is being used regularly.

Councilman Russell Jones reports that two new part-time street laborers will be starting in the first part of June and if any of Council sees anything that needs done, please report the concerns to him.

Pavilion rentals are booked for every Saturday in June, reports Councilwoman Joni Trovato.

Reported by Councilman/Electrician Brad Bodenschatz, the streetlights are received, but not the arms, and he questions the Electric Secretary if she has received any calls for the automated meters as to date, which Mayor Eric Miller suggests holding off on the discussion until the next meeting.

The resident ladies who are kind enough to plant the flowers around town would like to move two planters around, have turned in receipts for the flower pots and would like Council's guidance if flowers should be planted at the bridge, to possibly remove the tall grass or just downgrade it, and will be looking into purchasing plants from a new business located on Munster Road that will be giving them a discount on the flower pots.

Council President Becky Templeton reports that a pedestrian sign has been stolen, with another being hit, with her trying to contact Croyle Township Police, but to no avail she gets no one to answer at the station and cannot leave a voicemail. She would like to see the police monitor the ballgames, with Mayor Eric Miller to have the schedule given to the Chief of Police and possibly having a "Yield to Pedestrian" sign posted at the park to slow traffic down.

Summerhill Borough Volunteer Fire Department will be having an open house on May 22nd at their station to celebrate "70" Years of Service. Food and events for children will be held at the station; all are welcome to come celebrate with the firemen!

Secretary/Treasurer Laura L. Penatzer advises Council that this will be her last meeting and will be resigning at the end of the month. Danielle Ritchey accepts her letter of resignation, second by Matthew Penatzer, unanimous approval.

Council entered into an executive session at 8:10pm, with a motion from Danielle Ritchey, second by Joni Trovato, unanimous approval.

The regular monthly meeting was resumed at 8:57pm by a motion from Russell Jones, second by Matthew Penatzer, unanimous approval.

A committee is formed, including Council Members Becky Templeton, Danielle Ritchey, Russell Jones, and Mayor Eric Miller, for the purpose of creating a Job Description and Posting to replace the Secretary/Treasurer position.

Council President Becky Templeton shared information on Wessel and Company, a CPA firm, pertaining to the migration of QuickBooks from the desktop version to a web-based version, assisting with adjusting current records, training, and possible audits in the future. A proposal has not been received to date and no finances were discussed. It was pointed out that a CPA firm or bookkeeper could potentially help fill the duties of the Brough Treasurer until the position of Secretary/Treasurer can be filled.

A request was made to have a protocol created for Grasshopper. Additional discussion included review of current extensions, users, and assignments of extensions to users. It was also discussed to have one representative from the Council members to monitor extension six for Council voicemails. Council President Becky Templeton will work on the protocol and system review/update.

The overpayment to Russell Jones was discussed and decided he will issue a reimbursement check to the Borough for the \$450.00 as soon as possible.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:07pm by a motion from Joni Trovato, second by Russell Jones, unanimous approval.

President

Mayor

Secretary/Treasurer