

**BURGETTSTOWN BOROUGH COUNCIL
REGULAR WORK SESSION MINUTES**

July 22, 2020

Call to Order

Pledge of Allegiance

Public comments and questions not pertaining to the agenda items will be held to the end of the meeting.

Attending: Council Members: Phil Esno
Janet Castellino (Absent)
Annie Hull
Joyce Nicksick
Susan Reynolds

Mayor: Mary Ann Reedy
Solicitor: Lane Turturice (Absent)
Secretary: Debbie Resnik
Treasurer: Debbie Resnik

Visitors: Tom Repole

Roll Call: Janet Castellino -Absent Medical
Lane Turturice

1. Review/approval of Minutes from the Business Meeting of July 6, 2020
Minutes approved as presented
Correction/Questions: None
2. Review/approval of Minutes from Special Meeting of July 13, 2020
Minutes approved as presented
Correction/Questions: None
3. Financial Report:
Susan Reynolds made the Motion to approve payment of July 2020 bills
Second by-Joyce Nicksick
Questions/Comments:
Susan Reynolds asked, "What was Lane Turturice's invoice for?"
Resnik replied, "Billing for the month of June and client communications."
Comment:
None
Council all agreed to have Tri-State Lawns hold off till July 31st.
Resnik spoke on the Liquid Fuels Audit held July 7th
 - a. no findings for 2019
 - b. cleared and signed off exit conference letter

4. Council Comments/Reports:

a. Annie Hull -Fire Department

- No Report

b. Janet Castellino

No Report

- absent due to family medical reasons
- advised Phil she will be meeting with Chief Monday

c. Joyce Nicksick-Parks

No Report

d. Susan Reynolds-Recreation

No Report

Question:

“Why is one tree left and not removed out of the Veteran’s Park?”

Phil, “It will. The guys did not finish.”

d. Public Works-Phil Esno

- sent out a Public Works Report with Agenda
- scout hut is now complete

Met with Rob Phillips

- Johnson’s building should be removed this fall
- Dinsmore home was discussed for purchasing
- Real Estate property over on Center Avenue was discussed

Questions/Comments:

Joyce Nicksick “I read the Land Bank Agreement, and does it need to be signed off?”

Phil, “Yes I signed it, and now the County needs to sign it.”

Annie Hull wanted clarification of a Speed Hump / Speed Bump and what is the cost difference.

Penn Dot defines the difference of the Speed Bump / Speed Humps

- speed bumps are narrower and higher
- vehicles almost need to stop to cross over them
- parking lots areas they halt the traffic
- speed bumps are made to be removable
- speed hump vehicles can drive over them 10 to 15 mph
- speed humps are approximately 14” wide
- permanent speed humps are used in areas where little to no snow plowing is used

Phil needs to review the law once again because there are restrictions on the locations of where you can put speed humps and speed bumps.

Phil's recommends in the future since the cost of the signs and humps are increasing, would be to move from one area to another location.

Susan Reynolds stated, "The council needs to address the public that the ones purchased are in use at the moment and as soon as that area is rectified, council will move them to another location. "

Phil Esno, "I believe we should survey the residents to see if they are making a difference, especially the one we put up on Dinsmore Avenue."

Speed Limit Traffic Display Sign was discussed.

Mayor expressed her concern on the bike crossing on Main Street.

- bike crossing painted on the road will be looked into
- Repole stop signs are up for the bikers, but they do not stop
- will address the county if they can put something up

Children Play signs were placed on Florence Avenue

5. Mayor's Report:

The odor that was in the air has disappeared

Tom Repole discussed with the mayor

Addressed the blue car on Florence Avenue that has not moved for a year.

Resnik stated, "When you called, the police department was notified."

Questions/Comments:

None

6. Solicitor's Report: Absent

No Report

7. New Business

Susan Reynolds made the Motion to accept non-binding agreement with PNC Capital Markets LLC to investigate possibility of a bond issuance for the Borough and to authorize Joyce Nicksick to sign the agreement on behalf of the Borough.

Second by-Annie Hull

Discussion:

Joyce Nicksick explained how she got involved in the bond issues.

Joyce Nicksick stated, "I have a family member who works for PNC, so I do not feel I should sign this document."

Resnik thinks that the Treasurer should sign off on this letter of release

Susan Reynolds, "We need to start someplace, and the council can get educated on bond issues."

Susan Reynolds Amended the Motion to have Deborah Resnik be the signer on PNC letter of release

Joyce Nicksick - abstain reason (relative works for PNC)

Motion carried-None Opposed

Discussion: Solicitor Interviews

- Council members received the cover sheet and questions that was used in the interviews
- 4 candidate applicants were interviewed by: Susan Reynolds, Joyce Nicksick and Tom Repole
- Resnik set up interview date and times
- 1-hour interviews held on 07/07,08, 09, 15/2020
- All questions were asked to the candidates and all 3 interviewers kept their own information

Recommended Candidate:

Joyce Nicksick -Maiello Brungo & Maiello Attorney at Law

- a. packet was excellent and timely even with the COVID
- b. partnership team (2) attorneys familiar with the Borough
- c. would provide quality legal services
- d. would have full excess of multiple attorneys
- e. mention of timeliness
- f. they alert clients if they see something in the law that might affect an Ordinance
- g. They meet with new clients to establish communication plan
- h. level-headed and referenced ADA Safety protocols
- i. they are defense council for numerous insurance carriers, which I feel is a plus.
- j. response time is within 24 hours
- k. they regularly issue opinion letters and email clients using social media (no charge)
- l. years of service is 32 years
- m. solicitors report will be issued monthly to the borough that will update the council and mayor on all legal issues
- n. they service all areas small to large

Susan Reynolds-Maiello Brungo & Maiello Attorney at Law

- a. professional
- b. did not stumble or hesitate with any of the questions given
- c. response time
- d. answered a question by saying our firm must respect your residents (great answer)
- e. liked that they did not feel borough was too small for them
- f. answered questions on Sunshine Laws and Ethics
- g. liked these attorney's personalities

Tom Repole-Maiello Brungo & Maiello Attorney at Law

- a. liked firm's answers
- b. quick responses to all questions
- c. feels the firm understands the boundaries of a solicitor's position
- d. experience matches what the borough needs
- e. feels the firm will be able to work extremely well with council

Questions/Comments:

Annie Hull questioned and wanted clarification of the detailed rate sheet.

Susan Reynolds explained the yearly base fees.

Annie Hull questioned who would be the interviewers second choice?

Joyce Nicksick replied, "We do all have a second choice, but we not wish to provide that information tonight."

Annie Hull made the Motion to hire Maiello Brungo & Maiello Attorney at Law

Second by-Susan Reynolds

Questions/Comments:

Prior to vote Phil Esno explained that his vote was in no way a reflection on the recommendations of the interviewers.

Poll Vote: Motion carried 3 to 1

Annie Hull-yes

Susan Reynolds-yes

Phil Esno-no

Joyce Nicksick-yes

8. Old Business:

Susan Reynolds and Joyce Nicksick discussed the Little Shady Avenue Bridge closing. If the Borough would have to close the bridge, then they would like to see if a light could be placed pulling out from Shady Avenue to Rt 18.

- excessive traffic will be pulling out onto road
- dangerous location to pull out onto Rt 18

Phil Esno agrees that is something council must consider looking into.

9. Public Comments / Questions:

None

10. Executive Session Council entered into @ 7:35 PM

No action will be taken on any issues

11. Meeting reconvened @ 7:57 PM

Joyce Nicksick made the Motion to adjourn

Second by-Annie Hull

Motion carried-None Opposed