

Borough of Susquehanna Depot
Minutes February 10, 2016

Present: Sue Crawford, John Hendrickson, Barbara Larsen, Dana Rockwell Roy Williams, Joseph Varsik and Deborah Zayas

Also Present: Margaret Biegert, Mayor Nancy Hurley, Bob Sweet

Guests: Adam and Eric of True View Security, John Sholtiss, Emerson Whitehead, Kerri Ellen Wilder, Staci Wilson

MOTION: By Barbara Larsen seconded by Sue Crawford to approve the agenda. All present voted yes. Motion carried.

MOTION: Sue Crawford seconded by Deborah Zayas to approve the minutes of January 4, 2016. All present voted yes. Motion carried.

MOTION: By Sue Crawford seconded by Roy Williams to approve the bill list as presented. All present voted yes. motion carried.

MOTION: Sue Crawford seconded by John Hendrickson to adopt resolution #02016 adopting written procedures in how professional services are chosen for its pension plans in order to comply with act 44 of 2009. All present voted yes. Motion carried.

MOTION: By Debra Zayas seconded by Barbara Larsen to adopt 021016-A resolution authorizing Susquehanna Housing & Redevelopment to submit a CDBG blight grant on behalf of the borough.

MOTION: By John Hendrickson seconded by Roy Williams to purchase a 2014 Dodge Charger V6 for \$26,475.00. All present voted yes. Motion carried.

MOTION: By Roy Williams seconded by Deborah Zayas to join the PSAB/TEAM program for \$300.00 per year. All present voted yes. Motion carried.

MOTION: By John Hendrickson seconded by Sue Crawford to promote officer Dennis Murray to position of Sergeant. All present voted yes. Motion carried.

Persons Requesting Time on the Agenda:

Representatives from True View Solutions presented council with an outdoor camera proposal. They had met with Councilmen Varsik and Williams to visit a number of areas within the borough to place cameras. Wi-Fi availability is limited due to the mountains surrounding the borough and antenna will be needed. The costs would be prohibited for all of the cameras requested. They recommended a system to start building a base with the central control and 4 cameras, two on Main St., one on Erie Ave and one on Front St. Because Wi-Fi is totally unavailable at the Erie location a standalone camera with a memory chip limited to a two week period was recommended for that site. The chip would need to be manually removed and viewed. The cameras on Erie and Front Street would be stationary to deter dumping and are movable. The cameras on Main St. would have undetectable 360 degree, timed capability. All the cameras are equipped with infrared capabilities and come with vandal proof enclosures. Proposal with base and 4 camera is \$20,467.73. Additional cameras can be added at the cost of \$2,500 and higher depending on the Wi-Fi needs. Council will review budget and make recommendations.

Correspondence: The SCDA is holding the Easter Egg Hunt at the School on March 19th at 11:00 AM and planning Hometown Days July 21, 22 and 23. Parade will be held July 21st. They requested the use of the borough grounds, to close one lane of Erie Blvd during the day and to completely close it at night. Council agreed.

DPW

Kevin McKee presented council with monthly activity report for review. Councilmen Varsik and Williams updated council on the last DPW meeting. Popple Construction has been awarded the slide project on Route 92 between Vine and High St to tentatively begin in 2 weeks with a projected completion date in September. They will be utilizing Erie Ave near the Home Center to convey material up to Franklin Ave. Original plans included portable lights and one lane traffic. Alternative detours were discussed. The water company is planning a water main replacement on Turnpike from Laurel to Pleasant Ave. Roy and Joe discussed the increased work load of the DPW. Roy explained that the Street department only took care of streets and drainage. The DPW takes care of all borough property. Joe would like the extra work to be revisited during the next budget. Councilmen Varsik and Williams went through a two page list of additional duties, including Dura patching, sealing, vacant properties, tree trimming, leaf pick up,

oversight on outside contractors and the parks. Kevin McKee would like to give future contractors a copy of the ordinance showing they are responsible for repairing streets from curb to curb. Councilmen Williams pointed out that much work has been accomplished with the help of volunteers but the borough cannot count on volunteers in the future. The borough is only one of two municipalities in the state of PA that needs to maintain the bridge sidewalks. There was a discussion about the piles of millings and tree branches. The Reddon park equipment and grounds are in need of much maintenance repair. Councilmen Varsik stated that additional maintenance and police patrols would be needed for the new park. Additional services would be required if the town was to move forward and make improvements. Councilmen Williams requested the finance committee to explore options to allocate additional funds for an extra 12 man hours a week for the DPW department from April – Nov.

Treasurers Report

Council reviewed and approved the bill list after some questions. With final year end balances reconciled, recommended changes were made to the general fund year-end balance transfer and capital reserve line items (see attached). Council reviewed repair estimates to the police charger for over \$5,000. This estimate did not include the ongoing suspension problems that are prevalent in Chargers from 2007-2013. Chief Sweet and councilmen Varsik and Hendrickson and Williams looked at a number of new car options with trade in values. Council review a proposal from Domino's Auto for a 2014 V6 for \$26,475.00 after trade in. The only other anticipated costs would be lettering for under \$500. Funds were available in the capital reserve police car savings line item. Council approved the purchase. The secretary advised that the light pole for Main St had been ordered. Council approved adoption of Resolution # 021016 and Resolution #021016-A. The secretary requested department inventories to be updated. Web-site development was discussed. Sue Crawford will check to see if a school student could be of any help. Council reviewed a heating maintenance contract proposal from Arctic Bear for \$707.00. Since the furnaces were so new, they did not feel it necessary at this point.

Mayor's Report:

Council reviewed the police report. The mayor advised council that she had written to the governor with concerns about the budget impasse. She encouraged council members to do the same. She spoke with the new District Attorney about working with their Drug Task force.

Emergency Management:

Council reviewed the report submitted by Councilmen Hendrickson.

Codes:

Councilmen Williams advised that he is working on a letter for residents on Franklin Ave. and their responsibility for debris and any trees that fall into Drinker Creek from their property. He will also be sending a letter to W. Main Street residents regarding their responsibility for debris over the hill towards Front St. The process set up with the Magistrate is working well. Many violators have complied after letters of complain were sent. Dana asked about snow removal from the sidewalks of those vacant properties. A violation could go out, but if the borough removed the snow it would be difficult to recoup the money. Barbara Larsen noticed that Penn Dot stopped shoveling their sidewalks at the bottom of Franklin Ave.

Parks: The secretary gave updates for recommended design changes to the Ira Reynolds River front park plans and advised council of an upcoming meeting with DCNR on March 1, 2016 to discuss the grant.

Old Business: SCHRA still does not have an answer on reuse for the Euclid Ave property. Councilmen Williams has contacted the owner of the W. Main steps.

New Business: Work on the Tri-Boro flood wall expected to start in the spring.

Executive Session to discuss legal and personnel issues at 7:38 PM

Council Reconvened 8:20 PM

Council made motions to join the PSAB/TEAM program and to promote Denis Murray to the position of Sergeant.

Meeting adjourned 8:23 PM ‘