## BANGOR BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING HELD AT 197 PENNSYLVANIA AVENUE, BANGOR, PA

## **MINUTES**

OCTOBER 29, 2018 7:00PM

## CALL TO ORDER AND PLEDGE TO FLAG

## **ROLL CALL**

#### **Members Present:**

James W. Kresge

Robert Goffredo, Sr.

Barry G. Schweitzer

Jane E. Gorman

Michael J. Bilotta

Robert W. Engle

Lisa Fogel

## **Others Present:**

Nathaniel J. Dysard, Borough Manager

David J. Ceraul, Esq., Solicitor

Daryl Gutierrez, Junior Council Member

#### **Absent:**

Brooke Kerzner, Mayor

Erika Neetz, Junior Council Member

## APPROVAL OF BILLS TO BE PAID

A **MOTION** to approve the bills totaling \$441,020.99 to be paid was made by Bilotta, seconded by Goffredo. All were in favor. **MOTION** carried.

#### **ACTION ITEMS**

- 1. Members of the Slater Baseball Association were present to discuss the proposed improvements to the little league field with Council. Borough Council indicated that funds from the borough would not be possible, but that the borough would help them in other ways. Manger Dysard stated that permits would need to be received from the borough office for any improvements and fees will most likely be waived.
- 2. Manager Dysard reported that PMRS informed the borough that the contribution rate for the sewer plant employees is not consistent with the plan document. The current plan document rate is 5% but the union contract requires a 9% rate of contribution. A **MOTION** was made by Schweitzer, seconded by Engle to approve the revised PMRS Contribution Resolutions. All were in favor. **MOTION** carried.
- 3. Manager Dysard gave Council a summary of the Lehigh Valley Hazard Mitigation Plan. The plan has been prepared by the counties and LVPC as required by FEMA and PEMA. The Plan would need to be approved to receive future funding from PEMA or FEMA. A MOTION was made by Goffredo, seconded by Engle to adopt the Lehigh Valley 2018 Hazard Mitigation Plan Update Resolution. All were in favor. MOTION carried.

- 4. Manager Dysard stated that the Authority is working with Creditech on additional ways to collect delinquent trash and sewer fees. Dysard stated that the trash has been a challenge to collect. Creditech's attorney would contact delinquent accounts directly and explain the lien process. Creditech has reported a 98% recovery on other accounts with only a few needing executions. Any costs associated would be charged back to the delinquent account holder. A MOTION was made by Schweitzer, seconded by Gorman to adopt the Resolution authorizing, empowering and directing the proper officers to approve and adopt the cost/attorney fee schedule to be assessed by its consulting legal counsel in the collection of delinquent utility fees. All were in favor. MOTION carried.
- 5. Lance Prator (President of the COG) was in the audience to represent the COG. Council discussed their issues/concerns regarding their current relationship with the COG. A MOTION was made by Engle, seconded by Bilotta to not renew the annual Slate Belt COG Membership. Vote 6-0 and 1 abstention. Yay Goffredo, Gorman, Bilotta, Engle, Kresge, Engle. Abstained-Schweitzer. (Due to conflict of serving on COG Board). MOTION carried.
- 6. Council continued their discussion on the Act 172 Volunteer Fire and EMS Tax Credits Ordinance. Manager Dysard stated that the only change was an addition on page three (C3), adding Columbia Fire Company. The Ordinance will be on the November borough council agenda for authorization to advertise.
- 7. Manager Dysard continued his review on the preliminary 2019 budgets with Council.

#### **COUNCIL COMMENTS**

- 1. Council Member Schweitzer thanked Council President Kresge on his commentary concerning the COG.
- 2. Council Member Engle is happy that Council is moving forward with the Act 172 Ordinance.
- 3. Council Member Fogel was approached by a resident complaining about no Christmas decorations on South Bangor. There are no street lights on South Bangor for decorations.
- 4. Council Member Goffredo represented the borough at the Bangor/Pen Argyl football game by handing out the MVP awards.
- 5. Manager Dysard commented that a commercial borough property owner came into the office. He provided proof that he is a 100% disabled veteran and is requesting free parking in a municipal parking lot. According to borough's legal counsel a person that is disabled is required to pay for parking at meters but allowed additional time to accommodate for the disability (time to load a wheelchair, etc). There is no legal requirement to provide free permit parking for a disabled individual. Dysard will respond to the property owner in writing that he has access to the marked handicap parking spaces in borough lots with required payment.

Manger Dysard also commented that he was approached by a resident expressing concerns about property maintenance and the borough's efforts in addressing property maintenance. Dysard explained to her that the borough has taken on significant efforts, time and money for property maintenance. Dysard has provided the resident with documentation from the borough's inspector of all the enforcement actions that have been completed. A meeting has been scheduled with the resident, Dysard and the borough's inspector.

# **ADJOURNMENT**

A **MOTION** to adjourn the meeting and go into Executive Session at 8:50 P.M. to discuss legal and real estate matters, with no action to follow was made by Gorman, seconded by Engle. All were in favor. **MOTION** carried.

Respectfully Submitted, Tracy Palmer, Administrative Secretary