

MARCH 10, 2008

Derry Borough Council met in regular session Monday, March 10, 2008 at 7:00 P.M. in the Derry Station Community Room, 200 West Second Avenue, Derry, PA with the following members present: Allen Skopp presiding, Eric Tepper, Curtis Robbins, Todd Krehlik, Kristine Snyder, Chris Holnaider, and Barry Smith. Solicitor Rachel Riedel was present. Marie McCandless reporter of the Latrobe Bulletin and Jeff Himler from the Blairsville Dispatch were present.

Swearing in of newly appointed council member Chris Holnaider by Mayor Susan E. Bortz.

1. Ed Schmitt –from Gibson Thomas Engineering requested a change order #7 for Third Street Project. **MOTION** by Curt Robbins to approve Klapchars Tree Service quote for the removal of trees on Keeling Avenue included in the 4th Ward Project in the amount of \$7,000.00. Motion **SECONDED** by Barry Smith. All members present voiced “aye” in favor of the motion. Motion passed.

MOTION by Curt Robbins for Change Order #7 for Third Street Project in the amount of \$35,777.00 for concrete modifications to the sump area and trash rack including chain link fence. Motion **SECONDED** by Kristine Snyder. All members present voiced “aye” in favor of the motion. Motion passed.

Mr. Schmitt reviewed other information regarding project.

2. Debbie Matteo – 3rd Street, Derry – Observing

MOTION by Curt Robbins to approve the minutes for regular meeting of February 11, 2008. Motion **SECONDED** by Eric Tepper. All members present voiced “aye” in favor of the motion. Motion passed.

MOTION by Kristine Snyder to approve the treasurer’s report for February 29, 2008. Motion **SECONDED** by Curt Robbins. All members present voiced “aye” in favor of the motion. Motion passed.

Meeting went to executive session for personnel reasons at 7:13p.m. Executive session ended at 8:14p.m.

MAYOR’S REPORT

Mayor’s Report for February 2008 with receipts of \$3,172.02 which included traffic receipts of \$2,644.96 and non-traffic receipts of \$371.86. There were 91 complaint calls, 36 traffic citations, and 7 non-traffic citations.

Mayor mentioned Relay for Life for American Cancer Society will be held in June 21st 11am to June 22nd 11am at Latrobe Memorial Stadium.

Mayor Bortz submitted a letter to the editor of Latrobe Bulletin thanking the Derry Area School District for the wonderful performance of Peter Pan.

Information was received by Jack Brown, Housing Development Coordinator of the Neighborhood Revitalization Program by Westmorland Human Opportunities Inc. that any vacant lots within the Borough may be able to be used for a part of a program developing housing, which could be a benefit our Borough.

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SOLICITOR'S REPORT

Sol. Riedel has spoken with the National Church Residents supervisor on behalf of Derry Borough regarding tax exempt status. They are working on a solution between the Borough and their organization regarding the amount to be received in lieu of taxes.

Summary conviction has been consolidated and postponed regarding Porcelain Park. She was contacted by Dennis Rafferty who will be representing ICI property. She submitted a letter of support on behalf of Derry Borough to Michael Forbeck, DEP. She was advised that Porcelain Park has received a violation letter from DEP, and they will be proceeding with an administrative order.

Abandoned properties list was received by secretary and letters have been forwarded to the owners, requesting transfer of property to have them demolished.

Gibson Thomas has forwarded the solicitor's office the information needed to review the Truck Route signs needed for Derry Borough. An Ordinance draft will be prepared for next meeting.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Eric Tepper reports next COG meeting will be held on March 24, 2008. The next Wage Tax Board meeting will be held on May 5, 2008.

COMMUNICATIONS

Westmoreland County Borough's Association will be holding their annual banquet on April 25, 2008, please let the Secretary know if you would like to attend so she can submit an attendance form.

Mayor Bortz mentioned Bob Regola is having a Grant Information meeting on March 13, 2008 at 5:30 in Greensburg. She attended last year and there was much information gained from attendance.

Allen Skopp's son is willing to help us write grants at no cost for the Borough. He works for an attorney's firm in Harrisburg and has grant writing experience.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

1. Porcelain Park – Discussed earlier.
2. **MOTION** by Kristine Snyder to approve the 2008 Police Contract Agreement.
Motion **SECONDED** by Eric Tepper. All members present voiced “aye” in favor of the motion. Motion passed
3. Abandoned Properties – Sol. Riedel reviewed in her report.
4. Truck Signs – Sol. Riedel is preparing draft ordinance.

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5. **MOTION** by Kristine Snyder to approve 2nd Ward Street signs to be purchased in 2nd Ward starting with the Business District. Motion **SECONDED** by Curt Robbins. All members present voiced “aye” in favor of the motion. Motion passed.
6. Flood Plain Regulations – Zoning Officer Sieminkewicz summarized the purpose of the regulatory setbacks for the water channels including McGee Run. A discussion of improving personal property setbacks between council and Bob Sieminkewicz took place.
7. Committee is to review process of Occupancy Permits. Eric Tepper mentions that the process will cost money. President Skopp stated that we need to move forward with developing a process; the ordinance has been in place for sometime. Sol. Riedel mentioned another municipality that has inspections prior to any new tenants moving in and out of a rental property. Merle Musick was to be included in this process originally.
8. Curt Robbins mentions a Code Ordinance Officer is not in the budget presently. Sgt. Friscarella mentioned that there is a time frame given for people in violation of the ordinances, which they will take care within their given time frame, and in turn no money is generated. President Skopp mentions we need to budget for this in January and a discussion needs to take place with the Magistrate regarding an effective process. Kristine Snyder says that the police force should be able to incorporate a few hours a week to devote to these residential violations. Allen asked Kristine to look into in the topic further.

NEW BUSINESS

1. **MOTION** by Curt Robbins to proceed with the 2nd Avenue Culvert. Motion **SECONDED** by Kristine Snyder. All members present voiced “aye” in favor of the motion. Motion passed. A discussion took place to borrow the funds from the Sewer Fund for Engineering Fees and Inspection Fees that are not covered by the CDBG grant received.
2. **MOTION** by Kristine Snyder to waive rental fee for Derry Area Business & Professional Association for the Annual Derry Easter Egg Hunt. Motion **SECONDED** by Kristine Snyder. All members present voiced “aye” in favor of the motion. Motion passed. **MOTION** by Curt Robbins to donate \$75.00 towards the Easter Egg Hunt event. Motion **SECONDED** by Kristine Snyder. All members present voiced “aye” in favor of the motion. Motion passed.
3. **MOTION** by Barry Smith to approve using Liquid Fuel Funds for Salt purchases that exceed the General Fund Budget \$21, 000.00. Motion **SECONDED** by Kristine Snyder. All members present voiced “aye” in favor of the motion. Motion passed.
4. Part-time Police officer tabled. Kristine Snyder requested we advertise in Tribune Review.

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5. **MOTION** by Curt Robbins to send letters to Representative Joseph Petrarca and Senator Bob Regola opposing county wide collection of Earned Income Tax. Motion SECONDED by Eric Tepper. All members present voiced “aye” in favor of the motion. Motion passed.
6. **MOTION** by Kristine Snyder to repair the back hoe after sale of the dump truck. Motion SECONDED by Chris Holnaider. All members present voiced “aye” in favor of the motion. Motion passed.
7. **MOTION** by Curt Robbins to approve Requisition #7 for Fourth Ward Project in the amount of \$89,519.13. Motion SECONDED by Barry Smith. All members present voiced “aye” in favor of the motion. Motion passed.
8. **MOTION** by Kristine Snyder to approve Requisition #13 for Third Street Project in the amount of \$2,148.50. Motion SECONDED by Curt Robbins. All members present voiced “aye” in favor of the motion. Motion passed.
9. **MOTION** by Curt Robbins to send letters to Senator Regola, Representative Petrarca, and Penn Dot requesting help to repair Rt. 217 Bridge. Motion SECONDED by Kristine Snyder. All members present voiced “aye” in favor of the motion. Motion passed.
10. **MOTION** by Curt Robbins to approve Pat Byers and Bob Johnson’s attendance to the DEP Flood Protection Workshop at Seven Springs, April 15th, and 16th, 2008. Motion SECONDED by Kristine Snyder. All members present voiced “aye” in favor of the motion. Motion passed. DEP pays for conference fee, and room and board.

PAYMENT OF BILLS

MOTION by Kristine Snyder to pay the bills. Motion SECONDED by Curt Robbins. All members present voiced “aye” in favor of the motion. Motion passed.

ADJORNMENT

Meeting ended at 9:08p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Lori L. Latta
Secretary