

President Smith called the regular meeting of the Catasauqua Borough Council to order at 7:03 PM with the Pledge to the Flag.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mr. Smith, Ms. Kroope, Ms. Mellish, Mr. Bartholomew, Mr. McKittrick, Mr. Schlegel and Ms. Weaver.

ALSO PRESENT:

Mayor Schlegel, Manager Eugene Goldfeder, Solicitor Dinkelacker, Solicitor Dimmich, Police Chief Doug Kish, and Engineer Gawlik, Treasurer Hein.

MINUTES:

A motion to approve the minutes of the July 10, 2017 regular meeting was made by Ms. Weaver, seconded by Mr. McKittrick. The motion passed seven in favor none opposed.

PUBLIC HEARING:

Public Hearing on the Ordinance Amending the Zoning Ordinance with Respect to the Regulation on Cell Towers. Solicitor Dinkelacker opened the Hearing and explained the purpose of the hearing was for public input, and there would be no testimony.

The Solicitor read the title of the Ordinance (see below) and explained that it related to cell towers and other towers involving electronic communications equipment; regulating where they can go and what circumstances they can be placed within the Borough and Borough Right-of Way.

The Solicitor explained that since this is an Amendment to the Ordinance there were a number of procedural requirements that deal primarily with publication and notification. The Public Notice, a summary of the Ordinance prepared by the Solicitor's office, was run in the Catty Press on July 18, and July 26, 2016, the proof of publication was entered as an exhibit. The Ordinance was also provided to the Borough Planning Commission and the Lehigh Valley Planning Commission on May 10, 2017 for their reviews, it was recommended for approval. The review letters from the Commissions will be added to the record.

A full copy of the Ordinance was sent to the Lehigh County Department of Law and the Catty Press, the Transmittals were entered as an exhibit.

The Solicitor turned the Hearing over to Council President Smith for questions from Council and then open it to the public for questions or comments, then close the hearing record and proceed to vote on the Ordinance.

President Smith asked if there were any questions for Solicitor Dinkelacker at this time or questions for Council. There were no questions or discussion from Council.

Dale Hein, 318 Mulberry Street, Catasauqua, PA, representing Catasauqua Area School District asked if the Ordinance would affect existing facilities. Mr. Dinkelacker answered that any existing facilities, even if in violation of the Ordinance would be consider non-conforming, but in compliance.

President Smith closed the Public Hearing at 7:10 PM, stating that the Ordinance would be voted on later in the meeting.

HEARING OF PERSONS PRESENT:

RACE STREET PARKING:

Claus Anderson, 110 Race Street asked if there were plans to remove parking spaces from Second to Front Street on Race Street. President Smith explained

that the Borough was not involved in that project that it is a Penn Dot project. Mr. Claus is concerned about Penn Dot removing the parking, and snow being plowed onto the sidewalks, and were will he put it when he clears his sidewalk. President Smith said he had no answer at this time, and suggested Mr. Claus talk to the Borough Manager about his concerns.

Mr. McKittrick stated that parking on Race Street would not be affected until Penn Dot begins their project, and there is no start date at this time.

GIRL SCOUT LIBRARY:

Katie Scott, representing the Girl Scout Troop from Holy Trinity Church, and Justice Schlichting a member of the Troop, approached Council for permission to install a small free library in the Borough, to be maintained by the Girls Scouts. She said they would like to get working on this as soon as possible. The library project is being undertaken by several of the Girl Scouts to earn their Bronze Award, the highest award that a Junior Girl Scout can earn. Ms. Scott gave Council a packet of information on what the free library is, and the plan for maintaining it.

Ms. Kroppe asked where they wanted to put the library. Ms. Scott said they would like to put it near the gazebo in the St. John Street Park. President Smith suggested that the location be discussed with the Borough Manager.

Ms. Kroppe moved, seconded by Mr. Schlegel, to allow the Girl Scouts to install a free little library, location to be determined by the Manager.

The motion passed seven in favor, none opposed.

LANTA FRONT STREET STOPS:

Joe Tognoli, 1153 American Street, North Catasauqua, representing the Food Bank and Thrift Shop. Mr. Tognoli said he had heard that LANTA would be discontinuing their bus stops on Front Street, due to the opening of 2-Way Front Street. He was concerned that people would not be able to get to the Thrift Shop and Food Bank.

The Manager explained that LANTA was adjusting their bus stops, to not come up Front Street. The Manager said that Mr. Tognoli should contact LANTA for a new route map.

Mr. Tognoli asked if school busses would be coming up Front Street. The Manager said he had discussions with the School District and they are still discussing and setting their bus routes for the upcoming school year.

Mr. Tognoli said that people are concerned about safety and the liability issues of busses on Front Street, and that the Borough may be liable. President Smith explained that the Borough had done its research and everything was approved by the Lehigh Valley Planning Commission and other agencies, and the Borough was not responsible for LANTA or the School Districts decisions.

President Smith asked Chief Kish if he had any concerns about the width of Front Street and the possibility of increased accidents. Chief Kish said he had no concerns. The Borough Engineer said that Front Street meets the requirements for standard street widths.

221 FRONT STREET:

Jessica Tirado, 221 Front Street, Catasauqua. Ms. Tirado explained that her property is adjacent to the Borough's property at Front and Willow Streets. The property was recently cleared of debris from last year's fire and was graded by the Borough in preparation of a future parking lot.

Ms. Tirado said they just moved back into their home after repairs from the February 2016 fire. She went on to explain that her concern is with the Borough lot's slope. Her basement is getting water when it rains, and she said it is because of the slope and runoff from the lot.

Ms. Tirado said she had brought the issue to the Manager's attention, explaining that her contractor and insurance adjuster said that it needs to be trenched for drainage, to prevent future flooding to her basement.

She said there is still some brick and cement pieces from the 223 property that are preventing her from finishing her fence. She would like these issues taken care of as soon as possible so she can finish her home.

The Manager explained that he had spoken with Jeff MacHose about putting sandbags to create a barrier, and asked the Engineer if there is a better temporary solution.

President Smith asked Ms. Tirado to follow up with the Manager and thanked her for bringing the matter to everyone's attention.

BOROUGH BUILDING:

Cameron Smith, 626 Second Street, Catasauqua. Mr. Smith offered his congratulations on the opening of the new Municipal Building and on behalf of the entire town say thanks for working and coming together to make the building possible and it will benefit all Catasauquans for generations to town.

GEORGE TAYLOR HOUSE:

Amy Kassel, 527 Third Street, Catasauqua. Ms. Kassel said she was a volunteer with the George Taylor House until yesterday. She explained that there had been a monthly meeting on July 15, a meeting open to the public and advertised in the Catty Press. She said that something had gone on between Ms. Kroope and one of the other volunteers. Ms. Kroope had arrived at the George Taylor House with three (3) Police officers demanding entrance to the house, and that it was disgraceful the way she carried on, wasting tax payer money and police officers' time. Ms. Kassel thought that there were only two (2) police officers on duty at any time, and that three (3) was excessive.

She said Ms. Kroope did not approach the meeting, being held under the gazebo, and explain what was going on. She said apparently there were allegations of a theft at the GTH. This incident has caused a lot rancor and tension, and upset and disillusioned many of the volunteers. She said Ms. Emily Zacharda had resigned as Director of the GTH, as had several of the volunteers. She said this is a shame because Ms. Zacharda and the volunteers had done a lot of work and planned many activities for the GTH, and that it was a treasure and resource, and important to the Borough and community.

Ms. Kassel said she thought Ms. Kroope's behavior was uncalled for, unprofessional and immature.

President Smith stated that there had been a meeting after the incident to quantify some of the deficiencies in the relationship between the Borough and the Friends of George volunteers, and that everyone was working to establish an agreement on how everyone could work together for the benefit of the GTH and the Borough.

Mr. Smith invited Ms. Kassel to talk to him, the Manager or Solicitor concerning her concerns.

The Mayor explained that the third police officer was a new officer who was in training. Chief Kish said that if they receive a call, they have to respond and do so in pairs.

President Smith said that Ms. Kroope acknowledged that she may have overreacted, and that she had tried to reach the Borough Manager, and then called the Solicitor and his advice, to protect the Borough's position, was to bring the police, to assess the situation, not to intimidate or threaten anyone.

Ms. Kroope said she did not know there was a meeting that night. She had attempted to contact several people regarding information on GTH website and Face Book pages, numerous times, and no one had gotten back to her. It was not Ms. Kroope's intention to disrupt the meeting.

President Smith thanked Ms. Kassel and the other volunteers for their time and efforts and said he hoped things could be worked out and they would continue as volunteers.

Judy Moran-Burton, 8150 Seemsville Road, a George Taylor House volunteer for the last two years. Ms. Burton said she had come to the Recreation Committee meeting, help prior to this evening's Council meeting. She wanted to offer her comments and said she was in agreement with Ms. Kassel and asked President Smith if he would be available to meet with the volunteers after this evening's meeting, he said he would, or they could schedule a time to meet.

Ms. Kroope said the George Taylor House issues fall under the Recreation Committee, and should have been addressed there. Ms. Burton said that she attended the Recreation Committee and when she realized that no one was there to record the meeting, she decided to attend the Council meeting as well to say something that would go on the record.

Solicitor Dimmich, said he attended the meeting after the incident to help maintain calm on all sides. He realized that a formal agreement was needed so the parties knew what they could and could not do; and to establish guidelines/boundaries for all parties. The Solicitor has prepared a draft agreement. Draft agreements are not normally put out until they are reviewed by Council, but will be given out eventually. The Solicitor went on to explain the FOG never had its bylaws completed and without that they cannot their 501(c)3, so he started immediately working on the bylaws to get them done as soon as possible and move forward. It is his view that the Friends of George and the George Taylor House are very important and it is his view that Catasauqua has an obligation to make the building is protected and run correctly. The Solicitor said he is trying to mesh all these things and defuse personal conflicts, he believes that by formalizing these agreements everyone will know what they may and may not do and what is expected of them.

Solicitor Dimmich said the reason he attend tonight's meeting, even though Solicitor Dinkelacker was also here, was to help clarify the issues surrounding this matter.

Candace Winkler, 344 American Street, Catasauqua. Ms. Winkler stated that she was here on behalf of the George Taylor House and would like to continue this conversation. Ms. Winkler said she was representing several other volunteers who could not be here. She wanted to verify that they were asked to hang in and work it out, but she said they don't want to "hash it out". They don't want to

fight. She said they were on a great trajectory, and had great cohesion and amazing spirit, and even though they have been asked to stay and work things out, they don't want to do that, they don't want to hash it out, and hang in there.

Ms. Winkler said they knew Ms. Kroope was going to show up at the meeting. Ms. Kroope said she received an email that morning. Ms. Kroope interrupted Ms. Winkler several times; President Smith told her if she continued he would have her escorted out of the meeting. Ms. Winkler finished by saying that the volunteers leaving the FOG were doing so because they cannot continue. Ms. Winkler finished by offering her resignation from the Friends of George, and said that there were a total of six members resigning.

Ms. Kroope requested the passwords and login credentials for the George Taylor House website and Facebook page. President Smith said he would look into that when he meets with the volunteers.

CASD BUS STOPS ON FRONT ST: Dale Hein, 118 Mulberry Street, Catasauqua, member of the Catasauqua School Board, informed Council that the School Board would be approving their bus routes at their meeting the next evening, and at this time there are two stops scheduled on Front Street, at Mulberry and Union Streets.

FIRE DEPARTMENT MEMORIAL: Greg Hoch, 513 Race Street, Catasauqua. The Fire Fighters Association would like to honor fallen, and past members of the Fire Department with a Memorial on the west end of the new building. The memorial would be funded by the Fire Fighters Association and existing solicited donations. In addition to the Memorial, they would like to add a brick walk way, with their names and years of service to the Fire Department and Community. Council was copied on the plans for the Memorial. Mr. Hoch said they were requesting permission of Council for this project.

President Smith asked for a motion to approve the request. Mr. McKittrick informed Council that a motion was on the Agenda under Public Safety.

SPECIAL PRESENTATION:

Solicitor Dinkelacker offered some background information on the sale of the tract of land and the subdivision plan. The Solicitor said there were 2 lots; the first is the lot where the Municipal Building is situated, and the second lot, known as the development tract, is everything around it. He said the deeds have been filed and are part of the public records.

The Solicitor said that 2 Public Request for Bids (RFB) had been issued in the last six months or so, and no bids had been received. He said under the law, the Borough may initiate negotiations for private sale of the property. That is the step we are at now, and the Committee that is looking at the sale of this property and the attempt to develop the lot are prepared to take the next step.

The Solicitor said that Mr. Helmer, who has been involved in promoting the property, and understands the efforts that have gone into it, will make a short presentation regarding the next step and ask for Councils input. The Solicitor turned the floor over to Mr. Helmer.

Mr. Chad Helmer, of Taggart Associates gave a presentation to Council on the Request for Proposals (RFP) process for the sale of the Iron Works Property.

He explained the process of moving forward with the private sale of the Property, and how to proceed with effective and efficient coordination with private sector

real estate developers and be as transparent as possible. This will allow public participation to continue throughout the process. He said it is very similar to a standard process the Redevelopment Authority would traditionally follow in such situations, rather than approaching individual developers at random.

The first step of the proposal is that the Borough develop and release a Request for Proposals (RFP) document, a draft of which was distributed to Council prior to the meeting. There is an outline attached that compares the difference between the RFB's that went out previously and the RBP. He went through some of the differences. RFB's were advertised, RFP will be advertised as well. The differences relate to the complexities in the Borough Code in regards to the bidding process, one of which was a minimum bid of \$650,000. The RFP will not require a minimum offer, and will allow for negotiation of a sale price. Another difference was the short time, 60 days, required to close on the sale, the RFP will allow more flexibility for a developed to negotiate the sale of obtain financing.

Steps after RFPs are received, would include creating and RFP team to vet the substantial information provided by the developer, followed by a recommendation by the RFP Committee to Council. The Committee would have an opportunity to interview potential buyers, and rank the top several.

The Borough and the preferred developer would enter into a period of exclusive development, usually 180 days. This time would be used for negotiating terms and executing a binding Agreement of Sale (AOS), and spell out each parties pre-closing responsibilities. The AOS would be available for a 30 day public review period.

Ms. Mellish asked what the anticipated time line of the process is. Mr. Helmer said if Council authorizes the RFP for the sale of the property, is could be advertised by the end of August, followed by a 90 day period of response, which would be November, if the interview process goes smoothly the could be an AOS with a preferred developer identified by the end of the year. This would then begin the 180 exclusive negotiation process, which would put us into summer of 2018, and then the process to "button-up" all the pre-closing requirements would go from there, and that would probably take six months to a year. Closing on the property would most likely be in 2019. Mr. Helmer said that he didn't know if this timeline was different from what most public entities would follow in a process like this. He said this process would allow for a better project, and befitting of what the Borough had in mind from the outset.

President Smith said that it is an investment to the benefit of the Borough for many years to come.

Ms. Weaver asked Council to remember that the area had been re-zoned to a Waterfront District with specific ideas for what the Borough desired down there, specifically a mixed use development.

Mr. Helmer said if it was going to happen quickly, it probably would have happened through the 2 RFBs.

With the approval of the Council President, Ms. Weaver said the review team for the RFPs will be Mr. McKittrick and Ms. Weaver together with the Chair of the Borough Planning Commission. Consultants to the Committee will include the Borough Manager, Borough Solicitor, and Mr. Helmer. She explained that

Council as whole will make the final decision, the review team will offer recommendations based on an in depth review of the proposals received.

President Smith asked if the RFP would be sent to developers that the Borough has dealt with in the past.

President Smith asked Mr. Helmer, as the consultant, if he would recommend listing the property with a Broker, who could use resources at his disposal to get more exposure for the project, and reach outside the Lehigh Valley. He said that a realtor would want a minimum of 4% commission on land sale, but that a realtor's exposure might bring a higher price. Mr. Helmer said he had not seen many public bodies list properties through a commercial real estate broker, and he thinks the primary reason for that is because when a public entity is disposing of property there are many motivations outside of the price of the land, and there are many variables involved in such a deal that are outside of traditional realtors experience.

Mr. Helmer said he did not see any issue in speaking with a Realtor, but that Council would have to be very clear with them from the outset what the Borough's intent is and that it is distinctly possible that the price of the land may wind up being a factor of negotiation, and a broker's motivation will be to get the Borough the highest price possible, not necessarily the best developer to meet the Borough's vision for the property.

Ms. Weaver said that the Borough had already identified 20 different parties, and a broker would be excluded from a potential deal with any of those parties. Ms. Weaver said it is the recommendation of the Planning and Zoning Committee to move forward with the current plan and give it some time, perhaps in the future we may want to talk to a Realtor.

Mr. Smith said he was just considering options to reach the most parties.

Ms. Mellish asked who drafted the RFP. Mr. Helmer said he drafted it, and the copy Council received is a draft version, and he is open to comments from Council.

Tom Taylor, 145 Front Street. Mr. Taylor said he recently moved back to the Borough and asked that everyone calm down and get along, but not forget about the past and what got us to this level, take care of the George Taylor House and the little things, let go of your egos and work together.

Joe Tognoli, 1153 American Street, North Catasauqua. Mr. Tognoli said that when Council first started discussing Two-Way Front Street, it was because a developer wanted it, and now there is no developer, and that we are looking at 2019 before anything will happen, and the residents and businesses are stuck with 2-way traffic until then.

Ms. Weaver moved, seconded by Mr. McKittrick, to authorize the sale of the Iron Works Property, pursuant to the No Bid Statute.

The motion passed seven in favor, none opposed.

Ms. Weaver moved, seconded by Ms. Mellish, to authorize the Issue of the RFP for the Sale of the Iron Works Property subject to review and comments from the Borough Solicitor and Consultant. The motion passed seven in favor, none opposed.

ORDINANCES & RESOLUTIONS:

ORDINANCE: #1353

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 260-24 OF THE CODE OF THE BOROUGH OF CATASAUQUA RELATING TO HANDICAP PARKING; ADDING AND REMOVING CERTAIN HANDICAP SIGNS.

Mr. McKittrick moved, seconded by Mr. Schlegel, the motion passed seven in favor, none opposed.

ORDINANCE: #1354

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE CATASAUQUA BOROUGH ZONING ORDINANCE OF 2004 TO AMEND SECTION 280-19, DEFINITIONS, TO ADD AND REVISE CERTAIN DEFINITIONS RELATING TO COMMERCIAL COMMUNICATION FACILITIES AND TO REVISE AND REPLACE SECTION 280-29 A (11) ESTABLISHING CERTAIN GENERAL AND SPECIFIC STANDARDS RELATING TO THE LOCATION, PLACEMENT, CONSTRUCTION AND MAINTENANCE OF WIRELESS COMMUNICATIONS FACILITIES.

Ms. Weaver moved, seconded by Mr. McKittrick, the motion passed seven in favor none opposed.

SECRETARY/MANAGER:

Manager Goldfeder reported.

WATER & SEWER:

There were 25,535,000 gallons of water pumped to the system in July 2017 for a daily average of 825,000 gallons. There were 28,980,000 gallons of sewage treated for a daily average of 932,000 gallons.

MUNICIPAL BUILDING:

The Manager said that the building keys/fobs should be set up within the next week or so, and will be distributed when they are ready.

TRAINING ROOM:

The Manager said that the Susquehanna Municipal Trust is the first event scheduled for the Training Room. He said that all scheduling of the room will be done through his office.

BRIDGE STREET:

The Manager said that he will drafting an Ordinance to ordain the new Bridge Street extension and also one to revise parking on the street, and should be ready for review at the August Executive meeting.

Ms. Mellish asked where parking will be available for meetings and other business at the Municipal Complex. The Manager said there is a parking lot at the rear of the building.

There will be at least two 15 minute parking spots on the South side of Bridge Street for Municipal business, any parking on the North side will require conversation with the Fire Chief.

Mr. Schlegel asked if the boundaries for the south section of lot 1, the Municipal lot established. The Manager said yes they were.

The Solicitor said that the deeds had been recorded, lot one is basically what is within the curb lines.

Mr. Schlegel asked if lot 2 could be further sub-divided. The Solicitor said yes it could, by the developer. The developer needs to buy everything, but within the mixed use development he could sub-divide off parcels.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

A motion to approve the Treasurer's Report was made by Mr. McKittrick, seconded by Mr. Bartholomew. The Motion passed unanimously.

MAYOR:

Mayor Schlegel reported.

Mayor Schlegel said that she and Mr. Schlegel would be attending the PSAB meeting in October in the Poconos.

The Mayor said she had her first meeting with a resident in her new office and that it was very nice to have a real office to meet with residents.

The Mayor said that there was a low turnout for the First Responder/Military appreciation day the previous Saturday. The weather had been rather cool and may have contributed to the low turnout, but there had not been much time to advertise the event, and that she would be working with the Recreation Committee to help plan and advertise the event for next year. She said they would be looking for volunteers to help.

The Mayor said the event at the George Taylor House was very nice, and expressed her thanks to all who helped with the event.

The Mayor acknowledged the Girl Scouts for their efforts at getting involved in the community.

SOLICITOR:

Mr. Dinkelacker reported.

Mr. Dinkelacker said the written report had been distributed and he would answer any questions.

Mr. McKittrick asked what we can do to meet with the owner/manager of the High Rise at 3rd and Pine Streets, to discuss safety issues that the Borough is facing with respect to the building. Mr. McKittrick said we need some official communication from the Manager or Solicitor to force them to meet with Emergency Management. He said the police are getting calls from residents who are locked out of their apartments and that should be a building management issue, not a Borough issue.

Ms. Mellish suggested that Mr. McKittrick send a letter to the Building owner/management, listing the information the Borough is requesting, and if they do not comply then issue citations.

President Smith asked the Solicitor and Manager if they could draft a letter, and send it. The Solicitor said if they do not comply, the next step would be legal enforcement, and if necessary an Administrative Search Warrant could be issued. The Solicitor said the letter could be sent via first class mail, the law assumes receipt of the letter, and the burden of proof is on the recipient.

Mr. McKittrick said the owner is cooperative, but the Management is not. The Solicitor said the owner is ultimately responsible.

ENGINEER'S REPORT:

Mr. Gawlik reported.

A written report was issued.

WWTP ABATEMENT: The Engineer said the contract for the WWTP Building Abatement project was awarded to Compaction Grouting.

DCEP PERMIT: The Docket renewal public hearing is scheduled for August 16.

IRON WORKS: The Engineer said the Iron Works project is wrapping up.

FRONT & PINE STREET SIGNAL: The Borough has scheduled signage and road stripping in advance of 2-way Front Street, with signal enhancement work to follow.

GENERAL GOVERNMENT: Ms. Mellish Reported.

No new items.

PUBLIC SAFETY: Mr. McKittrick reported.

Mr. McKittrick moved, seconded by Ms. Weaver, to approve the request from the Catasauqua Firefighters Association for a fire fighters memorial and brick walkway. Dedication is scheduled for November 11, 2107, Veteran’s Day.

Ms. Mellish asked how they would determine who would be recognized on the memorial bricks. She said she was in favor of the Memorial, but had reservations about the walkway.

Ms. Mellish said that at times the Fire Department had as many as 500 volunteers at a time. She said if they were going to recognize some they should recognize all.

Mr. Hoch said they intended to recognize fallen firemen, and would go back as far as the records could be accessed, and were using a merit based system, and currently have about 30 names. The motion passed six in favor, one opposed, Ms. Mellish voting no.

PUBLIC UTILITIES: Mr. Schlegel reported.

Mr. Schlegel said the Committee was waiting on a report from Mr. Schrieter regarding the proposed Grease Trap Ordinance.

Mr. Schlegel, said the Shade Tree Commission conducted an inspection this past week and they had heard that the trees at the west corner at the exit of Bridge Street, would obstruct the view of Fire trucks exiting the property. He said it is imminent that the trees be removed in the interest of public safety.

The Manager said he would look into the issue and see what needed to be done.

PLANNING & ZONING: Ms. Weaver reported.

Ms. Weaver reminded everyone that 2-Way Front Street will take effect on Thursday, August 17.

Ms. Weaver said that a Grand Opening Blast was scheduled for Saturday, September 16, and asked for suggestions and volunteers to help with the event. The Manager will be the contact person.

Ms. Mellish asked when the Micro-Brewery deficiency in the Borough Code would be addressed. Ms. Weaver said it is being worked on, and expects a draft amendment to be ready by the end of the month.

RECREATION:

Ms. Kroope reported.

Ms. Kroope moved, seconded by Ms. Weaver, to accept the Proposals from Tom Jones for Consulting Services related to the George Taylor House Window Restoration and Trexler Grant Projects. The motion passed unanimously.

Mr. McKittrick asked if Mr. Jones gets paid if we do not get the Grants. The Manager said that Mr. Jones position is partially funded by the Grants which have already been awarded, and the Grants were written with him as a consultant.

Ms. Mellish asked if we could do these projects without Mr. Jones, could they be handed off to the Borough for oversight, or did he plan to be here forever. The Manager said that Mr. Jones had provided a narrative book and plan of what should be done, and this could be carried out by anyone who has the skills and historic archeological, and architectural abilities, and that Mr. Jones would like to be here forever, but whether or not he will be is grant dependent. The Trexler Grant usually has a limit of 3 years and we are in the 4th year.

The Manager said that even without grant money the Borough can continue the projects at the George Taylor House. Ms. Mellish expressed concern that the artifacts would be left in a big pile and neglected. The Manager said we already have someone working on cataloging the artifacts.

Ms. Kroope said that Ms. Jean Decker had spoken with someone from another historic home, and suggested that we should reach out and talk to other historic sites about possible contractors.

VOLUNTEERS:

Ms. Kroope expressed her appreciation of Ms. Zacharda's work and effort at the George Taylor House, and that she hoped the volunteers would continue on and continue to work in the best interest of the George Taylor House.

Mr. McKittrick asked if when the remainder of the windows need to be replaced or restored, would the Borough be able to match the three that are being restored now, at a reasonable price.

Mr. Bartholomew said that the contractor he spoke to had asked for a meeting with Tom Jones and Jeff Miller to discuss future options for the windows. He said he is not pushing the issue at this time because it is not a necessity.

SKATE PARK:

Ms. Kroope said they are still getting prices for the half pipe, and hope to have the information soon.

FIRST RESONDER APPRECIATION: Ms. Kroope said that the Lehigh County Sheriff's Department and Fire Department, and the Police Department was represented as well at the event, and the cool weather may have affected the turnout. She said she and the Mayor would be working to organize the event for next year.

PUBLIC WORKS:**UGI:**

Mr. Bartholomew reported.

Mr. Bartholomew said that UGI was working throughout the Borough, and Public Works Supervisor MacHose was pleased with what they were doing.

SIGNAGE:

Mr. Bartholomew said he was not sure if all the signage for 2-Way Front Street would be finished in time. Public Works is shorthanded at this time, and expressed concern over traffic from the side streets and alleys while Front Street is closed for line stripping, prior to opening. Chief Kish said that barricades could be put up.

The Manager said Front Street would be closed August 15-16, and reopen on Thursday, August 17.

Ms. Kroope asked if there is a plan in place if there are a lot of problems with 2-way traffic. President Smith said that based on all the research done, he cannot imagine there being a problem.

If there is a problem the Mayor has authority to impose temporary emergency traffic measures.

President Smith asked if there is a plan to have someone come in and do the signs if Mr. MacHose cannot complete it in time. The Manager said that if the signs are here he will get someone to install them if needed.

NEW HIRES:

Mr. Bartholomew inquired about the status of hiring new people for Public Works. The Manager said he and Mr. MacHose had interviewed several candidates and would be making offers of employment soon.

BILLS & ACCOUNTS:

<u>General Fund</u>	<u>Water</u>	<u>Sewer Plant</u>
\$2,331,158.98	\$44,469.39	\$37,689.41
<u>Sewer Collection</u>	<u>Community Development</u>	<u>Gross Payrolls</u>
\$11,369.08	\$15,350.00	\$138,636.40

Bills and Accounts were approved on a motion by Ms. Mellish, seconded by Ms. Weaver. The motion passed seven to zero.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Ms. Mellish asked about the status of the report on the water turbidity in regards to the Fed Ex construction.

NEW BUSINESS:

Ms. Kroope said she had brought to the Manager’s attention about the light system in the new building, the lights seem to be on all the time. Mr. McKittrick explained that it was a software issue and that the electricians still have several weeks of work left in the building.

Mr. Schlegel asked if the elevator had been inspected. The Manager said yes, the Certificate of Occupancy would not have been issued without the inspection.

Mr. McKittrick said he and the Mayor had met the new owner of the Villa Grande property, and he plans to put in an Italian restaurant.

HEARING OF PERSONS PRESENT: NONE

SEPTEMBER COUNCIL MEETING The September Council meeting will be held on Tuesday, September 5, 2017.

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business, the regular meeting of Council adjourned at 9:17 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Eugene L. Goldfeder
Secretary/Manager