

President Smith called the special meeting of the Catasauqua Borough Council to order at 7:00 PM with the Pledge to the Flag.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

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

ALSO PRESENT:

Mayor Schlegel, Manager Eugene Goldfeder, Solicitor Dinkelacker, and Chief Kish.

HEARINGS OF PERSONS PRESENT: None

ACTION ON BIDS:

ACTION ON BIDS RECEIVED FOR RESTORATION OF WINDOWS AT THE GEORGE TAYLOR HOUSE.

The Manager reported that bids were received last week for the Window Restoration Project at the George Taylor House. Two bids were received from CRJ Construction and Nickles Contracting.

Ms. Weaver moved, seconded by Ms. Mellish, to award the 2017 George Taylor House Window Restoration project to CRJ Construction, at their price of \$52,000, subject to County authorization of the bids.

Mr. McKittrick questioned how many windows were being restored for this price. He was informed that three (3) windows were included in the bid.

Mr. Bartholomew said that his son's girlfriend's father who is in the window business, suggested that we can do better by replacing the windows rather than trying to restore them all. He said it is an option we may want to consider and the gentleman provided some literature from the National Parks Service which indicates that replacement could be appropriate.

Ms. Kroope said that when you are doing an historic home we must be historically appropriate. This house is a National Historic Landmark and she feels it is better to restore the windows rather than simply replace them.

Mr. Bartholomew responded that he gave the guidelines to the Manager this afternoon and that in speaking with the gentleman it is more energy efficient to replace the windows and if the Borough ever wanted to air condition the building to help with the humidity their might be funding assistance to help with that, if we had appropriate windows that would make air conditioning worthwhile.

Ms. Mellish said that she would like to see the information first, before she makes any decision on trying to do anything different.

The Manager said that several months ago at the request of Mr. Schlegel, he had inquired of PHMC as to whether replacing the windows would be eligible. The Manager was informed that while replacement could be done in some cases, our grant application was for restoration. To change from restoration to replacement would require an amendment to our grant agreement. He was also informed by Ms. Arnold, the project manager for the Borough that she has seen in many cases where replacement was actually more expensive given the specific requirements of the windows and regulations.

Mr. Schlegel suggested that perhaps this motion should be tabled until we get more information. Before there was a second the Manager responded that there is a local match, perhaps as much as \$4,000. He said however that the County has indicated that the State funds could be used for the local match if we wanted.

In response to a question on how do we know the windows are original, Ms. Mellish said that much of the aging and dating of buildings is done by inspection of the windows.

Mr. Bartholomew seconded the motion to table the action. A roll call indicated 2 in favor, 5 opposed, the motion failed. (Mr. Bartholomew and Mr. Schlegel being the only two aye votes).

Mr. McKittrick said that we should let the gentleman in to take a look at the windows and see if we could go the other way, replacing the windows, for the rest of the project funds. It all comes down to price and finished product.

Ms. Mellish said that she likes that we are restoring the three windows and we have time to research the rest of the windows to see if it does make more sense, given the price that we now have for the first three.

The motion to conditionally award the contract to CRJ Construction, subject to County approval, passed on a roll call vote of 5 in favor, 2 opposed (Mr. Bartholomew and Mr. Schlegel voting no).

PUBLIC HEARING:

PUBLIC HEARING ON ZONING AMENDMENT. Attorney Dinkelacker said the purpose of the Public Hearing is to receive input on an amendment to the Catasauqua Zoning Ordinance to regulate cell tower facilities. The Ordinance has been taken from a model ordinance which we want to adopt before any person apply. Unfortunately there were two minor procedures that may have been missed, which we cannot verify if they were completed. They are submitting the full text of the ad to the paper were the ad was published and sending a copy to the Lehigh County Department of Law. Since we are uncertain whether they submitted it is best to postpone the hearing to a later date. The hearing will be continued

until July 31, 2017. Attorney Dinkelacker will research whether it is necessary for the Borough to re-advertise the public hearing since the hearing was started this evening and is being continued to a date certain.

Attorney Dinkelacker said the Borough does not have to be concerned about any applicants coming forward since the document is considered a Pending Ordinance and is enforceable with respect to all applications except within a subdivision or land development context.

The Hearing was adjourned to reconvene on July 31, 2017 at 7:00 PM, at which time the Hearing will be completed.

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business the special meeting was adjourned at 7:35 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Eugene L. Goldfeder
Secretary/Manager