

## **BOROUGH OF NEW FLORENCE MINUTES APRIL 20, 2021**

President Jim Moore, called the regular meeting of the New Florence Borough Council to order on Tuesday, April 20, 2021 at 6:30 pm in the School Building.

### **ROLL CALL**

#### **Members Present:**

Jim Moore  
Jeff Rager  
Chuck O'Shell  
Gwen Dellett  
Ron Gyure  
Neva Gindlesperger, Mayor  
Jeff Miller, Solicitor

#### **Absent:**

Kay Mayer  
Cheryl Priest, Secretary

### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Mike Betts reported that he has completed cleanup of the yard mess at the Huber residence at 16<sup>th</sup> and Ligonier Streets. Council thanked Mike for his efforts.

### **POLICE REPORT**

Gwen Dellett said that a police report has been generated and was very well done but some portions need to be redacted before it can be released. Mike Koch said the weekly police hours are averaging in the mid 90's and hopes to get to the target of 104 hours soon.

The officers have picked up the borough's ENRAD speed control device for testing and calibration.

Jim Moore reported that St. Clair Township and Seward Borough have passed motions at their meetings to join forces in seeking an ordinance officer. Jim Moore motioned that New Florence also participate in the joint effort to hire an ordinance officer. Chuck O'Shell seconded. All in favor. Motion passed.

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Jeff Rager made a motion to accept the regular March 2021 meeting minutes as written. The motion was seconded by Chuck O'Shell. All in favor. Motion passed.

## **TREASURER'S REPORT**

No Report. Jim Moore says that Cheryl Priest and Trish Betts have been working extremely hard to reconcile all account in QuickBooks and hopefully will be finished in time for the May meeting.

## **SOLICITOR'S REPORT**

Jeff Miller reported that PennDOT has no record of the borough's Jake brake ordinance. He has asked them to begin the process of a study to allow the borough to restrict use of brake retarders in town.

Jeff also has marked up the EADS contract for the 9<sup>th</sup> Street drainage project. Ron Gyure made a motion to execute the EADS agreement contingent upon their acceptance of the changes. Chuck O'Shell seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion passed.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

### **BUILDINGS, GROUNDS, & EQUIPMENT – Ron Gyure, Chair.**

The borough received two sealed bids for 2021 Mowing. Jim Moore opened and read the bids. The results were:

CadeScape of Windber \$13,890.00  
MPH Lawncare of New Florence \$11,859.14

Kristen Teeter motioned to accept the MPH Lawncare bid. Ron Gyure seconded. All in favor. Motion passed.

Ron Gyure reported that he could not start the police cruiser. He recommended we put some fuel additive in it and run it periodically. Ron also reported we have purchased an extendable pole saw and portable road sweeper for maintenance work.

Ron Gyure reported that he has finally received three bids to replace the wheelchair lift at the school building. He says the bids are not consistent in scope and, therefore hard to compare. Jim Moore and Ron Gyure will write up a scope and specs and request updated bids. Jim Moore will contact MDIA to discuss permit requirements for the work.

## **STREETS AND DRAIN**

The borough received two sealed bids for the 2021 paving projects. Jim Moore opened and read the bids. Both bids were determined to be responsive and compliant. The results were:

Laurel Asphalt of Windber \$36,700.00  
Quaker Sales of Johnstown \$31,100.00

Kristen Teeter motioned to accept the Quaker Sales bid. Ron Gyure seconded. All in favor. Motion passed.

Chuck O'Shell said Compass Excavating can complete the 15<sup>th</sup> and Chestnut storm drain work in one to two days. They will advise as to when the work can be scheduled.

The tabled catch basin cleaning project from last year was discussed. It was decided that we should look at cleaning and replacement. Jim Moore asked the Streets Committee to provide a list of the target catch basins for the project. Jeff Rager motioned to have EADS write the specs for bid solicitation. Chuck O'Shell seconded. All in favor. Motion passed.

Mark Watt has decided to retire as the Borough Supervisor. To date no one has expressed a serious interest in the job. Cuck O'Shell said Al Thomas said he would be willing to help us but does not want the job.

## **GRANTS & FUNDING**

Jim Moore presented information on several available grant sources:

- GTRP – for greenways, trails, and parks.
- Westmoreland Co. – for residential lead abatement
- ERAP – for emergency rental assistance

All information will be posted on the Borough Web Page

Ron Gyure recommended that we consider a grant funded project to construct new sidewalks along 13<sup>th</sup> Street between Uni Mart and Dollar General. Jim Moore suggested we have EADS look at it.

## **MAYOR'S REPORT**

Kristen Teeter reported that she has seen drivers run through the flashing red school bus lights on two separate occasions at 18<sup>th</sup> and Ligonier Streets.

Mayor Neva Gindlesperger reported that the New Florence - St. Clair Township Sewage Authority needs members. The board has three seats open two of which should be filled by borough residents. She asked that council fill the seats as soon as possible.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

Jim Moore reminded council that our Tax Collector is retiring after this year. If nobody is interested in the job, then we may have to hire Berkheimer to do the collections.

### **BUILDING GROUNDS**

### **NEW BUSINESS**

Ron Gyure say the Community Development Committee will be meeting this week to set a date for the yard sales.

After discussion, Council decided on June 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> for its spring Dumpster Days.

Jeff Rager announced that the VFW will be holding its annual Gun Bash on June 26th. The event will be outdoors.

### **ADJOURN**

Kristen Teeter made a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Chuck O'Shell. All in favor. The motion passed.