

Arona Borough Regular Meeting - April 2018

Location: St. Mark's Church

Date: 4/2/2018

Time: 7:30 PM - 10:00 PM

In attendance:

Kathy Sikora, David Rupert, Barclay Reamer, Elizabeth Griffin, Stanley Morgan, John Staney, Joe Ruffing, Joe Levandosky

Meeting Minutes

Agenda Item	Minutes
1: Call to Order	The meeting was called to order at 7:30PM by Council President Kathy Sikora, and began with the Pledge of Allegiance.
2: Audit Review	<p>Highlights of the 2017 Borough audit was reviewed by Katheleen Sanner.</p> <p>The Auditors presented the 2017 audit for approval and expressed concerns about proper documentation for future audits.</p> <p>There were several areas of concern regarding future audits.</p> <p>Questions were raised regarding West Penn Power electric bills and late fees. Some bills during 2017 were paid late and the borough was charged those fees.</p> <p>Bank fees are also an issue with Key Bank. Kathy Sikora explained that the fees were automatically charged due to a policy change at Key Bank. Council has already taken steps to change banks to avoid unnecessary fees.</p> <p>Auditors felt that a lot of paperwork was missing. Council has already taken steps to change several methods of bookkeeping for 2018 to eliminate any questions regarding paperwork.</p>
3: Reading of Minutes	<p>The minutes of the March 2018 were read.</p> <p>Barclay Reamer made a motion to accept the minute as presented. Elizabeth Griffin seconded the motion. Minutes were accepted.</p>
4: Treasurer's Report	<p>BILLS PRESENTED FOR PAYMENT</p> <p>West Hempfield Storage - (Yearly 2018) - \$457.92 West Penn Power (Ball Field) - \$20.65 Pitt Rental Center - (Plowing/Salting Streets) - \$705.00 Secretary Wages (March 2018) - \$267.66 Joe Levandosky - (Reimbursement for telephone service) - \$60.00 Police Service - \$1090.00 Advanced Disposal - \$526.2</p> <p>County Controller - (Postage for Taxes) - \$51.87 US Postal Service - (Stamps) - \$20.00</p> <p>RECEIPTS FOR DEPOSIT</p> <p>Post Office - \$137.50</p> <p>Motion was made by John Staney to pay the bills excluding the Advanced Disposal charge until a contract determination could be reviewed. The motion was seconded by David Rupert. Motion passed.</p>

5: Old Business

ADVANCED DISPOSAL - Dave Rupert reported that Advanced Disposal has not contacted him to determine what the borough must do to get a new contract in place with the company. The borough is now received a garbage bill and Rupert advised to not pay it until there is an agreement in place with the company.

DRAIN CLEANING - Barclay Reamer reported that Penn Dot did not offer any call-back on whose responsibility it was to clean out drainage in the borough. There was a general suggestion about consulting the solicitor before council proceeds on how to have the drains cleaned.

ORDINANCES - Prior to a meeting with council solicitor Scott Avolio, discussion was held regarding which ordinances were most important to the borough so they can updated to reflect changing times since they were originally written. Most felt that abandoned or junked cars were the most pressing of the current ordinances and this will be addressed with the solicitor.

WALKING TRACK -Council was informed that the last contractor that applied a seal coat to the walking path in the park is no longer in business. Council members decided to search for a new contractor and report back at the May meeting.

SAFE DEPOSIT BOX - Joe Ruffing closed the safety deposit box at Dollar Bank. Miscellaneous papers were in the box. All old statements. There may be some charges for breaking into box because we didn't have a key.

STREET LIGHTING - Joe Levandosky reported that the contract with West Penn Power to replace the street lights was submitted to West Penn and the borough will be placed on their work schedule to have the conversion completed.

HILL STREET SURVEY - The survey is still scheduled to be completed by the borough engineer.

ELECTRICAL BOX IN PARK - Elizabeth Griffin will make one last inspection of the electrical box in the park and will contact Newcomer electric to see if they will honor an expired estimate to replace the box. Joe Ruffing made the motion to replace the box at a cost not to exceed \$3500, which is approximately \$500 more than the expired estimate. David Rupert seconded the motion to schedule the work if it does not exceed the \$3500 limit.

2018 BUDGET - Joe Levandosky raised a question about the 2018 budget. The budget was on hold until estimated income could be determined. Council advised that since nothing changed from the previous year, to use the same income amounts for 2018.

MONUMENT REPLACE/RESTORE - There was no update on the status of the Veterans Memorial in the borough. David Rupert stated he was aware of a contractor that might be able to perform the upgrade and will try to get them to attend the May meeting.

BALL FIELD REPAIR - Elizabeth Griffin & Stanley Morgan reported that the backstop and bleachers in the ball field were in poor condition. Barclay Reamer made a motion to hire a licensed contractor to make the necessary repairs at the field as long as the total cost does not exceed \$2000. The motion was seconded by Joe Ruffing.

BOROUGH COMPUTER - Discussion was held to decide if a new computer is necessary for borough business. Dave Rupert offered to get estimated pricing to replace the equipment.

CLEAN-UP DAY UPDATE - Joe Ruffing reviewed the plans for the clean-up day in May.

Flyers have been printed and will be mailed in 2 weeks. 10 posters were printed to hang in churches, post office, etc.

Got approval from Westmoreland Greenways to accept TV's and other electronics. Refrigerators and air conditioners must be brought don't to the park. (We will not load these items on the truck)

Need supplies for the volunteers.....gloves, paper towels, garbage bags, etc.

Flagmen to help cleanup roads.....

Food and refreshments at pavilion.

Looking for volunteers to help on collection day.

6: New Business	<p>ROAD REPAIR - Kathy Sikora stated that Doug Regola will attend the May meeting to discuss re-paving of the streets within the borough. A review of all the streets and the necessary repairs will be done before the paving is put out for bid. John Staney suggested that a catch basin that was created on private property on East St & Maple St. might be a liability issue for the borough. A suggestion was made to consult the solicitor for liability issues. If necessary, also check with Doug Regola.</p> <p>FAMILY DAY - Joe Ruffing suggested planning a Family Day where all the residents of Arona could come to the pavilion and enjoy a day of food, fun, and maybe even entertainment. Suggestions and input were requested and he would like to address it at a future meeting.</p> <p>STANEY RESIGNATION - Councilman John Staney tendered his resignation at the meeting. He was thanked by Kathy Sikora and members of council for his many years of service to the Arona community. Council will discuss Mr. Staney's replacement at the May meeting.</p>
7: Adjournment	A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Joe Ruffing. The motion was seconded by Elizabeth Griffin and the meeting was adjourned at 10:00PM.