

Arona Borough - January 2018

Reorganization/Regular Meeting

Location: St. Mark's Church

Date: 1/18/2018

Time: 7:30 PM - 8:55 PM

Meeting Minutes

Agenda Item	Minutes
1: Call to Order	The meeting was called to order at 7:30 by President of Council, Kathy Sikora, and began with the Pledge of Allegiance.
2: Re-Organization	<p>The re-organizational meeting of the Arona council was called to order by Mayor Jacqueline Bevan.</p> <p>A brief report of the 2017 election results was given by Kathy Sikora.</p> <p>Resident Jarrod Kifer was elected to a two-year term for council, but declined the results. This left an open position on council. After brief discussion, Mayor Jacqueline Bevan swore in all members of council for their new terms.</p> <p>To fill the open council position due to Mr. Kifer's resignation, John Staney made a motion to appoint Joe Ruffing for the remainder of the two-year term. The motion was seconded by Dave Rupert and the motion was carried.</p> <p>Mayor Bevan swore in Mr. Ruffing.</p> <p>Council took motions to appoint the new president of council. John Staney nominated Kathy Sikora as council president. Dave Rupert seconded the nomination. The motion carried.</p> <p>Council took motions to appoint the new vice-president of council. John Staney nominated Dave Rupert as council vice-president. Kathy Sikora seconded the motion. The motion was carried.</p> <p>Mayor Bevan adjourned the re0rganizational meeting.</p>
3: Reading of Minutes	<p>Two corrections were made to the December 2017 minutes.</p> <p>The term of election for Stanley Morgan was changed from two to a four year term.</p> <p>The term of Jarrod Kifer was changed from a four to two year term.</p> <p>A motion was made by John Staney to accept the minutes as corrected. The motion was seconded by Barclay Reamer. The motion carried.</p>
4: Treasurer's Report/Financial	<p>BILLS PRESENTED FOR PAYMENT</p> <p>MAWC - (Water) - \$30.10 Pitt Rental Center - (9 Invoices for Plowing/Salting Streets) - \$1815.00 West Penn Power - (Electric/Borough) - \$573.25 Joe Ruffing - (Reimbursement for copies) - \$50.67 Pritts Feed Mill - \$230.00</p> <p>Kathy Sikora reported that the Pritts Feed Mill bill was paid previously using Check# 1616. Joe Levandosky will call for verification.</p>

	<p>Stanley Morgan made motion to pay bills as presented. Barclay Reamer seconded the motion. The motion carried.</p> <p>RECEIPTS PRESENTED FOR DEPOSIT</p> <p>Penn Borough (2 checks) - \$487.45 United States Postal Service - \$137.50</p>
<p>5: Old Business</p>	<p>Kathy Sikora reported that after income figures for the 2018 budget were updated, the budget would be ready for posting in the Arona Post Office lobby. In additional, final preparations for the 2017 audit were being completed.</p> <p>Kathy Sikora also reported that a different insurance company would be submitting a bond application for Joe Levandosky.</p> <p>A review of the Arona Park pricing was discussed. The current price structure is the park and pavilion can be rented by residents of the borough for \$75. Non-residents can rent the park & pavilion for a fee of \$125.</p> <p>Since there is a \$30 fee to have someone open and close the park during each rental, the council discussed the possibility of increasing the rental rates for the park. After further discussion, Elizabeth Griffin made a motion to increase the non-resident rental rate to \$150 while the rate for borough residents would remain the same. John Staney seconded the motion. The motion was carried.</p> <p>Council also decided to offer the open/closing duties of the park to Brian Dulkis. (Currently doing both the opening/closing in addition to the park reservations.) Park reservations will now be handled by Joe Levandosky.</p>
<p>6: New Business</p>	<p>Kathy Sikora outlined areas of service that will need to be addressed during the year. Council members discussed who will volunteer to head these areas.</p> <p>PARKS & RECREATION - This area requires someone that the park grounds and pavilion be checked, maintained, and repaired as the need arises. (Open)</p> <p>PUBLIC SAFETY - Walter Geiger currently takes care of traffic and safety concerns within the borough. It is recommended that council check to see if Mr. Geiger's current bond provided by the constable service will cover him during work within the borough, or if the borough will have to provide bond coverage for his service.</p> <p>ROADS - Member would act as liaison between the borough and Penn Dot. (Open)</p> <p>COUNTY LIASON - Member would act as point of contact for any matters on thru county level. (Open)</p> <p>STREET LIGHTING - Someone would need to report power outages (street lights, etc.) within the borough. Joe Levandosky will check for reporting procedure. (Open)</p> <p>POLICE LIASON - Point of contact for borough and Penn Borough Police/State Police. Joe Ruffing is currently acting in this capacity and will continue to do so.</p> <p>Kathy Sikora reported that Penn Borough police officer Erik Colamarino provided Christmas gifts to several underprivileged families in Arona this past year. Council decided to send a letter of thanks to officer Colamarino. Joe Levandosky will draft the letter for review at the February meeting.</p> <p>Joe Ruffing suggested that the borough hold a 'clean-up' week for sometime in late April or early May 2018.</p> <p>Several of the points discussed were:</p>

	<p>Arranging volunteers to assist with clean-up for people in the borough that may be unable to complete on their own. Council will need to check on insurance concerns for volunteers or the possibility of using waiver releases. (It might be a good idea to ask the borough pastors if they could help in finding volunteers for the event.</p> <p>Arranging for an auto salvage company to remove and dispose of junked cars.</p> <p>Getting information from Advanced Disposal for refuse removal and associated costs.</p> <p>Have someone check with Figis for yard signs promoting the event.</p> <p>Westmoreland Cleanways has offered recycling services with the exception of paints and chemicals.</p> <p>Clean-up would occur all week with the final day being the removal of all junk and refuse.</p> <p>Currently, the only expenses expected would be for garbage bags, signs, possibly recycling charges, and refreshments.</p> <p>Joe Ruffing will report back with more information at the next meeting.</p> <p>Kathy Sikora advised that Scott Avolio (Solicitor) and Doug Regola (Borough Engineer) would attend the February meeting.</p> <p>The time for the February meeting has been changed to 7:00PM.</p>
7: Public Comment	<p>Borough resident Donna Gribshaw addressed council regarding salting and clearing an undeveloped road that runs along her house. (across from William Miller Street) She was also concerned that a culvert near her house is eroding and may cause damage to her house if left unrepaired. The salting and plowing will be addressed with the borough contractor. The culvert on that street previously was determined by the Borough engineer that it was Penn Dot's responsibility. Ms. Gribshaw was advised to contact Penn Dot about possible solutions.</p>
8: Adjournment	<p>A motion was made by John Staney. The motion was seconded by Joe Ruffing.</p> <p>The meeting was adjourned at 8:55PM.</p>