

**BROWNSVILLE BOROUGH
FAYETTE COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA**

AUGUST 14, 2019

An Executive Session was called by Council President **Jack Lawver** at 6:00 P.M.

The Regular meeting of the Council of the Borough of Brownsville was held this evening in the Council room at the Municipal Building. The meeting was called to by **President-Jack Lawver** at 6:00 P.M. by reciting the Lord's Prayer and the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag of the United States of America.

The following members were present: **Jack Lawver, James Lawver, Ronald Bakewell, Lester Ward, Beth Bock** and **Paul Synuria**,. Also present was: **Jeffrey Wilhelm**-Borough Secretary and **Sam DeFalso** –Solicitor.

RECOGNITION OF VISITORS:

Annette Buffer-A representative of Power of Music announced they will hold a music event at the Cast Iron Amphitheater on October 6, 2019 sponsored by Mon Valley Academy of Arts and Power of Music.

Connie Gore-Gives an update on the Borough Webpage. It has reached over 143,000 reads and 811 visitors so far this year.

Lisa Synuria-They would like to use the Cast Iron Amphitheater for Trunk or Treat the Saturday of Trick or Treating.

James Lawver makes a motion to approve the Halloween Event. **Lester Ward** seconds the motion. Motion carries.

With the success of this year's Community Days, the committee has chosen August 8, 2020 for next year's event. **James**

Lawver makes a motion to approve the event for August 8, 2020. **Beth Bock** seconds the motion. Motion carries. **Beth**

Bock also comments that there was an issue with cars for the Iron Crossing Apartment complex being in the parking lot at the Community Days Event. She stated they told the manager in advance that the cars would need moved. She asks if the tenants are authorized to park in the lot overnight. **James Lawver** mentioned that there was a gentleman's handshake allowing them use of the parking lot since there is not enough parking at the complex.

Mrs. Peterson – Informed Council that nobody notified her of the event and she would have moved her vehicle prior if she would have been notified. **James Lawver** suggest posting on their bulletin board at the apartments for future events.

John Moores-Complains about the terrible road condition of Katherine Avenue extension as well as the trees and foliage obstructing the road. **James Lawver**-I texted Lewie and told him to clean the brush and patch the holes on Katherine

Avenue. **Paul Synuria** asked **Jack Lawver** that we voted to increase the EI Tax by one percent to support fixing the roads.

Why hasn't this taken place? **Jack Lawver** responded that we didn't get this done in time for the primary election. We

will have to do this in November. **Lester Ward**-We need to committee meetings before it is placed on the ballot. **Paul**

Synuria suggest we get on this so we don't have the same issues next year.

James Lawver makes a motion to approve the July 10, 2019 minutes. **Ronald Bakewell** seconds the motion. Motion carries.

Mayor's Report: No Report Available

FINANCE & ADMINISTRATION:

Chairman, **Lester Ward**-gives the Financial Report for August 2019: Department Bills \$15,665.28, Utilities \$18,404.12 for a total of \$34,069.40. Account balances as of 07/31/19. Spendable Accounts: Liquid Fuels \$83,442.50 and General Fund \$162,821.18 for a total of \$246,263.68. Accounts allocated for Specific Projects: Payroll \$16,876.51, Police Pension Fund \$30,779.58, Fire Escrow \$207.42, K-9 \$3,725.09, Northside Park Project \$11,112.85 and Act 13 \$36,491.27 totaling \$99,192.72. **Lester Ward** makes a motion to pay the bills.

James Lawver seconds the motion. Roll call: **Beth Bock**, yes; **Paul Synuria**, yes; **Jack Lawver**, yes; **Lester Ward**, yes; **James Lawver**, yes and **Ronald Bakewell**, yes. Motion carries.

INFRASTRUCTURE:

Chairman, **James Lawver** –The gas line projecting paving was to begin last Wednesday but it didn't. I texted and didn't receive anything back.

PUBLIC SERVICE:

Chairman, **Paul Synuria**- gave the following police report. Calls for Service: Unknown, 0; Brownsville Township 9, Brownsville Borough, 62; Out of Town, 6- Total 77. Citations: Out of Town, 0; Brownsville Township, 0; Brownsville Borough, 14 Total 14. Total Incidents: Brownsville Township, 1; Brownsville Borough, 8; Out of Town, 0 Total 9.

Arrests-1 and Prisoner Transports-1. Mileage: Unit #1-1023 and Unit #2-0 Total Miles-1023. I did receive the car log as we requested. I requested a copy of the schedule from the Chief and was told I needed to talk to the Mayor about it. I am requesting a schedule now since the Mayor is never available. **Lester Ward** –Maybe we should request a meeting since we already made the requirements for the schedule. **Paul Synuria**-We tried to meet with the Mayor before and he never showed up. **James Lawver** makes a motion that **Paul Synuria** gets a copy of the schedule from the police once the schedule is made. **Ronald Bakewell** seconds the motion. Motion carries. **Jack Lawver**-I forwarded a message from the Charliroi police chief requesting us to send a car out for National Night Out at 5:30 PM tomorrow evening. **Paul Synuria** makes a motion that we send an officer for the National Night Out with the stipulation of no overtime. **Ronald Bakewell** seconds the motion. Motion carries. **Paul Synuria**-I didn't get any word back on the GPS's. **Jack Lawver**-The cameras are available now for the police cars so we will have to order them. **James Lawver**-Do we have a price? **Jack Lawver**-They average \$1100.00-\$1300.00. Secretary adds the Solicitor stated the monies could be used from the K-9 to purchase the cameras. **James Lawver** makes a motion to purchase the cameras with monies from the K-9 fund not to exceed \$1500.00. **Paul Synuria** seconds the motion. Roll call: **Paul Synuria**, yes; **Lester Ward**, yes; **James Lawver**, yes; **Ronald Bakewell**, yes; **Jack Lawver**, yes and **Beth Bock**, yes. Motion carries.

BUILDING & GROUNDS:

Chairman, **Beth Bock**-I think we should have a plaque or a permit for each resident using the parking lot. There is to be no overnight parking excluding the residents. This way we would know that the overnight parking isn't being abused. The plumber gave us a bid to replace the toilet in the public rest room in the lobby that has been cracked for the sum of \$600.00 for labor and parts. **Paul Synuria** makes a motion to purchase the handicap toilet and labor for the fee of \$600.00. **James Lawver** seconds the motion. Roll call: **Ronald Bakewell** yes; **Beth Bock**, yes; **Jack Lawver**, yes; **James Lawver**, yes; **Lester Ward**, yes and **Paul Synuria**, yes. Motion carries. **James Lawver** asked **Lester Ward** if there is money to replace the roof at the Street Department Building that has been approved. **Lester Ward** responded, yes for the \$19,500.00.

UTILITY SERVICES:

Chairman, **Ronald Bakewell** –Nothing to report.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT:

Chairperson, **Tracy Zivkovich** – Not Present. Woody's Report by **Lester Ward**: Complaints, 32; Inspected Houses, 0; Court Hearings, 6; Citations issued, 54; and Letter Sent, 19. We applied for a \$50,000.00 LSA grant for demolition of the old hospital and nurse's home. **Jack Lawver**-They did get K-2 to design a plan for the demolition. The \$15.00 on the property transfer fees will go toward the demolition as well as the Redevelopment Authority as funding set aside for the project. **Lester Ward** states that Beth is working on a LSA grant for windows for the Borough Building and Southside Fire Department is working on one for their parking lot. These will have to be submitted Friday. **Jack Lawver** –I was approached by the Historical Society since I am a resident of Front Street that they are interested in obtaining a vacant house on 218 Front Street for a Welcome Center for the Historical Society and partnering with the Borough since we have a better chance of getting the house from the repository sale. This is the same process we did with the Railroad Museum. **James Lawver**-There was an individual who may be interested in restoring it as a residence. **Ronald Bakewell**-The structure is not sound. It is broke in half. I did look at it. **Jack Lawver**-They have more opportunities to get money than we do. I did go through with Ron Herrington and an engineer and there are issues. **Lester Ward** and **James Lawver** suggested to table the decision until the next meeting. **Jack Lawver**-Maybe we could send a letter to the county to tell them we are interested so they could hold it. **Paul Synuria**-This letter is dated July 6th. When we get letters like this, can they be emailed to Council so we have time to before making a decision and to be more prepared. **Jack Lawver**-I will take the blame for this. I had the letter in my truck and didn't have the truck. We will get a meeting with them and get things ironed out.

LIBRARY:

Representative, **Paul Synuria**- reported that the library had 322 people that attended the Summer Quest activities over an eight week period. There were 150 people stopped in their tent during Community Days. They have added study spaces throughout the library. New carpeting was also installed. There are upcoming events being planned. We have an acting librarian who will be there for awhile

FIRE COMPANIES:

Representative, **Jack Lawver** –We had a successful Kennywood Day. Tickets are gradually decreasing but it was still a success. Next year Northside and Southside are planning the Fayette County Fireman's Convention.

TAX BUREAU

Representative, **Lester Ward**- No report.

CORRESPONDENCE:

Zoning Board / Brownsville Municipal Authority (DEP was on them about storm water running into their sanitary drains. They said we had a couple drains here and they could plug the drains without cementing them shut. They said there shouldn't be any issues with overflow.) / Brownsville Historical Society

OLD BUSINESS:

Ronald Bakewell makes a motion to ratify paying \$700.00 for the police actuary study that occurred and that will come out of the police pension fund. **Paul Synuria** seconds the motion. Roll call: **Lester Ward**, yes; **Ronald Bakewell**, yes; **Jack Lawver**, yes; **Paul Synuria**, yes; **Beth Bock**, yes and **James Lawver**, yes. Motion carries.

NEW BUSINESS:

James Lawver makes a motion to change the Resolution number from last year Resolution for this year's LSA grants and to add the hospital Resolution. **Lester Ward** seconds the motion. Motion carries.

Paul Synuria makes a motion to allow the Mayor to perform Marriage Ceremonies. **Beth Bock** seconds the motion. Motion carries.

Motion to adjourn by **James Lawver** and second by **Ronald Bakewell**. Motion passes.



Borough Secretary

TREASURER'S REPORT

REGULAR GENERAL FUND

BANK BALANCE	07/31/19	162,821.18
Outstanding Checks		<u>4,946.46</u>
BANK BALANCE	07/31/19	157,874.72
 CASH BALANCE	 07/01/19	 150,551.22
Receipts		<u>50,513.58</u>
		201,064.80
Expenditures		<u>38,243.62</u>
CASH BALANCE	07/31/19	162,821.18

JULY 2019 RECEIPTS

Mayor Ross Swords	(Fines/Forfeits)	1,286.92
Code Enforcement	(Fines/Forfeits)	110.16
Brownsville Police	(Police Reports)	30.00
Brownsville Police	(Auto Violations)	60.00
Various	(No Lien Reports)	30.00
Various	(Occupancy Permits)	80.00
Various	(Solicitor's Permit)	30.00
County of Fayette	(Delinquent RE Tax)	4,053.26
Clerk of Courts	(Fines)	38.74
Recorder of Deeds	(R.E. Transfer Tax)	1,233.76
SWRTB	(EI Tax)	20,559.47
SWRTB	(Delinquent Per Capita)	74.28
SWRTB	(LS Tax)	133.08
Waste Management	(Franchise Fee)	4,000.00
EMC Insurance	(Dividends)	980.29
Brownsville Township	(Police Protection)	3,750.00
Teen Anget Productions	(Waste Removal Reimbursement)	185.68
Market Street Academy	(Rental)	250.00
Tena Congelio	(RE Tax)	13,339.51
Tena Congelio	(Phone Reimbursement)	175.47
Interest Credit	(General Fund)	<u>112.96</u>
		50,513.58

MONTHLY BILLS JULY 2019

FINANCE

De Lage Landen	144.58
Dodaro, Matta & Cambest, P.C.	2,850.00
Herald Standard	67.60
Quill	410.69

BUILDING

Terminex	40.00
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CODE ENFORCEMENT

RECREATION

POLICE

Bevard	295.17
S & D Calibrations	30.00
Trapuzzano's	390.00
John Brant	600.00

STREET

Bevard	153.00
Fayette Parts	2.88
US Municipal	1,265.00
Hunter Excavating	8,698.57
Do It Best	199.28

FIRE

Center Independent North Side Fire	214.71
Center Independent South Side Fire	303.80

Total	\$15,665.28
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