

**BROWNSVILLE BOROUGH
FAYETTE COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA**

OCTOBER 9, 2019

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, Tracy Zivkovich, Ronald Bakewell, Lester Ward, Beth Bock and Paul Synuria.** Also present was: **Jeffrey Wilhelm-Borough Secretary and Krisha DiMasio –Solicitor.**

RECOGNITION OF VISITORS:

Kim Brashear-Informing Council that the Historical Society has received there deed for the property they acquired on the corner of Market Street and they will be having it survey soon. There plans are to use the property for signage. She thanks the Council for their help in helping them acquire the property at 218 Front Street and the title search is in progress.

Connie Gore-She has notified West Penn and the covers will be coming off the lines soon. She thanks for Jim for his help on getting the brick street in front of her house repaired after Columbia Gas damaged. **Solicitor**-Jim showed me the areas in concern and I have contacted Columbia Gas's Attorney. We are working on the issues. Connie ask the Street Department to cut the weeds on Front Street. She will also add pictures to the webpage.

Christian Seseek-Explains he submitted a letter to Council last month of his interest in the property at 218 Front Street. He tells his family has lived in the area for four generations and he was one of the original students who started on the Students In Action program. He explains that he is committed to making a difference in the community. He thinks that putting this property on the tax register again will make a difference. If we can get any income in the Borough it will make a difference in the budget. He suggests that Council should have a conversation with the residents in the area before moving forward with any project. He asked Council to reconsider their decision of the property and states he would maintain the property. **James Lawver** asked Christian's father if he would be helping Christian with property and he states yes. **Jack Lawver** says the decision last month was to put the property on hold and the Historical Society was going to check to see if they're IRS liens on the property. It is on hold for anyone purchasing the property. **James Lawver** asked Christian if he did a title search while working at the tax office? Christian answers that he did and found no IRS liens on the public search. **Solicitor**-It is very difficult for us to take on a liability of a property when we have so many other things that need addressed financially. By making us the middle man we would be spending a lot of money to get very little back. The best way to go is for you to go to the county and ask them to sell it to you free and clear. **Lester Ward**-It would take around a million dollars to restore the property. This is a lot of money for an individual and might not be as bad for an organization that may get grants for the restoration. **Tracy Zivkovich** asks Kim Brashear if they are asking the Borough to lease the property on Front Street. Kim Brashear replies that the County suggested we come to the Borough and go in this direction. We would restore it in colonial and Victorian style and use it display historical items. **Solicitor**-I gave my opinion at last month's meeting that I am very opposed of taking the liability of this property. You would be taking on a large amount of liability. I think there are other way they can obtain the property.

James Lawver makes a motion to approve the September 11, 2019 minutes. **Lester Ward** seconds the motion. Motion carries.

Mayor's Report: September: \$1,448.34 (Police \$1,124.79 / CEO \$323.55) **James Lawver** makes a motion to accept the Mayor's Report. **Lester Ward** seconds the motion. Motion carries.

FINANCE & ADMINISTRATION:

Chairman, Lester Ward-gives the Financial Report for September 2019: Department Bills \$1,647.61, Utilities \$18,236.23 for a total of \$19,883.84. Account balances as of 09/30/19. Spendable Accounts: Liquid Fuels \$65,828.39 and General Fund \$146,714.04 for a total of \$212,542.43. Accounts allocated for Specific Projects: Payroll \$23,449.26, Police Pension Fund \$31,576.26, Fire Escrow \$187.42, K-9 \$3,335.09, Northside Park Project \$11,112.85 and Act 13 \$34,241.27 totaling \$103,902.15. **Lester Ward** makes a motion to pay the bills. **James Lawver** seconds the motion. Roll call: **Lester Ward**, yes; **Ronald Bakewell**, yes; **Jack Lawver**, yes; **Tracy Zivkovich**, abstains (lack of information); **Paul Synuria**, yes; **Beth Bock**, yes and **James Lawver**, yes. Motion carries. **Lester Ward** informs Council of a budget meeting next week. There will be an email sent to Council asking for availability.

INFRASTRUCTURE:

Chairman, **James Lawver** –The roof on the borough garage has been completed. We received three bids for paving of Aubrey Lane and Catherine Avenue. They are: Hunter Excavation \$17,360.00, Lee's Plumbing \$27,400.00 and Maund Industries \$48,300.00. **Solicitor**-Lee's Plumbing and Maud Industries are over the bidding amount so you have to bid the job out. Hunter is under so if you would choose them, it would not have to be bid out. This would come out of Liquid Fuels. **Lester Ward** we will have to see if we have funding available for this project. **Ronald Bakewell** makes a motion to approve Hunters Excavating if funding is available. **James Lawver** seconds the motion. Roll call: **Beth Bock**, yes; **Paul Synuria**, yes; **Tracy Zivkovich**, no; **Jack Lawver**, yes; **Lester Ward**, no; **James Lawver**, yes and **Ronald Bakewell**, yes. Motion carries.

PUBLIC SERVICE:

Chairman, **Paul Synuria**- Chief Jablonsky is on vacation so I have no police report. The cameras are ordered for the police cars. We need to think about fixing the SUV. There is an estimate of \$1500.00-\$2000.00. **James Lawver** asked the **Solicitor** if the repairs can be taken from the K-9 fund. **Solicitor** responds that it can since we do not have a K-9. **Ronald Bakewell** makes a motion to have the SUV repaired using the K-9 fund. **James Lawver** seconds the motion. Roll call: **James Lawver**, yes; **Beth Bock**, no; **Tracy Zivkovich**, no; **Paul Synuria**, yes; **Lester Ward**, yes; **Ronald Bakewell**, yes and **Jack Lawver**, yes. Motion carries. **Tracy Zivkovich**-Why would take the money from the K-9 fund instead of the General Fund? **Lester Ward**-The General Fund will have to last us until April of next year. The K-9 fund is available to be used for police matters. **Mayor**-It is free money that didn't work to get and now they want to spend it. There is not one Councilman here that worked for the K-9 fund.

BUILDING & GROUNDS:

Chairman, **Beth Bock**- We met with K-2 engineering and they are working on the specs for the new heating and air conditioning system. This will be paid with a \$50,000.00 weatherization grant we received last year from the Redevelopment Authority. **Jack Lawver**-The engineer determined we could get systems for all three floors for the \$50,000.00 but the design will be \$10,000.00. We will need to come up with design cost. We had Cintas to install five mats in the borough building. The cost will be \$45.00 weekly. I was thinking the fee was monthly but when we discussed today we found out it was weekly. We are not being charged until we decided if we would want them. **Lester Ward** determined we cannot afford this service at this time. **Beth Bock**-I would like to put mailboxes on the wall between the mayor's office and the police station. I will put no US mail on the boxes. It will be used for complaints when the police are not here in the mornings. **Jack Lawver**-The issues we had when they were up previously is that there was mail being put in them and the office did not have access to their mail. **Beth Bock**-That is why I would put no US Mail on them. **Paul Synuria** makes a motion to have the mail boxes reinstalled with no US mail posted. **Beth Bock** seconds the motion. **Tracy Zivkovich** states she would like to add to the motion to adopt a procedure on how they are to be used. Paul and Beth agree to amend the motion to include this. There was one opposition vote. Roll call: **Paul Synuria**, yes; **Tracy Zivkovich**, yes; **Lester Ward**, yes; **James Lawver**, yes; **Ronald Bakewell**, no; **Jack Lawver**, yes and **Beth Bock**, yes. Motion carries. **Beth Bock**-I will check into the area of aging to hire a janitor. **Tracy Zivkovich**-Do we require a criminal background check for somebody hired for this position? **Jack Lawver**-Yes, we always have in the past. **James Lawver** makes a motion to allow Beth to contact the area of aging to hire a janitor. **Lester Ward** seconds the motion. Motion carries. **Beth Bock**-I would like for everyone to consider if we should use permits or install arms for the borough parking lot.

UTILITY SERVICES:

Chairman, **Ronald Bakewell** –Nothing to report.
James Lawver leaves the meeting at 7:16 P.M.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT:

Chairperson, **Tracy Zivkovich** –**Jack Lawver** thanked the Perennial Project, the American Legion and the community for their work. **Tracy Zivkovich** thanked everyone for understanding and well wishes in her absence of ten months. She explains that she had an accident with severe head injuries. **Woody's Report** by **Lester Ward**: Complaints, 28; Inspected Houses, 3; Court Hearings, 6; Citations issued, 65; and Letter Sent, 2. **Tracy Zivkovich** asks for the list of people cited. She stated here mother sent here a nasty gram because something was sent to her.

LIBRARY:

Representative, **Paul Synuria**- Saturday, November 16th they will be having a vendor event from 5:30-7:30 P.M. October 24th from 10:00-12:00 PA Career Link will be at the library.

FIRE COMPANIES:

Representative, **Jack Lawver** –We are in the planning stages of our County Convention next year scheduled July 12th – July 18th.

TAX BUREAU

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

CORRESPONDENCE:

Tri-County Borough's Association

OLD BUSINESS:

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

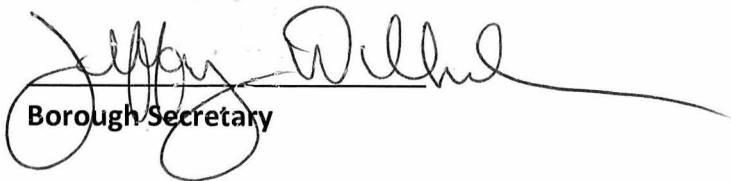
NEW BUSINESS:

Ronald Bakewell makes a motion to adopt Resolution R-06-19 (Strategy by the Mid Mon Valley Regional Enterprise Zone Steering Committee) after it is amended. **Paul Synuria** seconds the motion. Motion carries.

Paul Synuria makes a motion to authorize up to 3 members to go to the Strategic Planning for Fire Service Operations at \$69.00 each. Roll call: **Tracy Zivkovich**, yes; **Lester Ward**, yes; **Paul Synuria**, yes; **Beth Bock**, yes; **Jack Lawver** and **Ronald Bakewell**, yes. Motion carries.

Trick or Treating will be from 4:00 P.M. -6:00 P.M. followed by Trunk or Treat at the Amphitheater. The Halloween Parade will begin at 7:00 P.M.

Motion to adjourn by **Beth Bock** and second by **Lester Ward**. Motion passes.



Borough Secretary

TREASURER'S REPORT

REGULAR GENERAL FUND

BANK BALANCE	09/30/19	146,714.04
Outstanding Checks		<u>5,862.30</u>
BANK BALANCE	09/30/19	140,851.74
 CASH BALANCE	 09/01/19	 137,372.74
Receipts		<u>69,398.59</u>
		206,771.33
Expenditures		<u>60,057.29</u>
CASH BALANCE	09/30/19	146,714.04

September 2019 RECEIPTS

Mayor Ross Swords	(Fines/Forfeits)	828.66
Code Enforcement	(Fines/Forfeits)	651.64
Brownsville Police	(Police Reports)	45.00
Brownsville Police	(Parking Violations)	20.00
Various	(No Lien Reports)	30.00
Various	(Occupancy Permits)	80.00
Clerk of Courts	(Fines)	342.41
Recorder of Deeds	(R.E. Transfer Tax)	1,546.19
SWRTB	(EI Tax)	13,982.20
SWRTB	(Delinquent Per Capita)	616.53
SWRTB	(LS Tax)	23.28
Brownsville Township	(Police Protection)	3,750.00
Commonwealth of Pennsylvania	(Municipal Pension)	30,722.99
Commonwealth of Pennsylvania	(Fire Relief)	8,653.65
Commonwealth of Pennsylvania	(Liquor License Fees)	650.00
Tena Congelio	(RE Tax)	7,356.21
Interest Credit	(General Fund)	<u>99.83</u>
		68,398.59

MONTHLY BILLS SEPTEMBER 2019

FINANCE

De Lage Landen	152.25
Herald Standard	139.23

BUILDING

Terminex	40.00
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CODE ENFORCEMENT

RECREATION

POLICE

Bevard	348.14
Giannetti Motors	58.32

STREET

Bevard	117.00
Fayette Parts	330.00
Lew Hosler	156.52
Alex McCann	48.32
PA One Call System	9.12
Do It Best	33.29
J.G. Services	92.16

FIRE

Center Independent North Side Fire	
Center Independent South Side Fire	123.26

Total \$1,647.61

