

DECEMBER 20, 2010 COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

The December 20, 2010 Council Meeting was called to order at 7:40 P.M. in Council Chambers at the Municipal Building, Mayor Anthony DeLuca presiding.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA ITEMS

Mayor DeLuca announced that the Agenda will stand as presented. Will you please stand for the Pledge of Allegiance.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Council and the audience stood for the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL

Present: Mayor DeLuca
Dr. Kincaid
Mrs. Kuhn
Mr. Palumbo
Mr. Underwood

Also present were: Municipal Manager Rayan, Finance Director Schrecengost, Solicitor's Office Bonnie Brimmeier and Gateway Engineer's Rick Minsterman and Manager's Secretary Sorce.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Underwood made a motion to approve Minutes of November 29, 2010 – 2nd Budget Hearing Minutes and December 6, 2010 Council Meeting Minutes.

Mr. Palumbo seconded the motion.

There being no further discussion the motions were approved by a 5-0 vote.

EXPENDITURES

APPROVAL OF WARRANTS

Dr. Kincaid made a motion to approve the Master Expenditure Summary dated December 20, 2010 – Journal Vouchers 7 - \$3,283,895.51 – C.D. Requisitions 18 - \$74,001.14 – EECBG Requisitions 0 - \$0.00 – Checks Numbering 16359 – 16506 in the amount of \$823,398.53 making a grand total of \$4,181,295.18.

Mr. Underwood seconded the motion.

There being no further discussion the motion was approved by a 5-0 vote.

RESOLUTIONS

Mrs. Kuhn made a motion to adopt **Resolution No. 2010-073** authorizing Fedele Insurance Services, Inc. to place The Municipal Insurances including coverage for the various fire trucks for the Policy Year January 1, 2011 through December 31, 2012; authorizing Fedele Insurance Services, Inc. to place Flood Insurance on The Municipality's behalf for the Policy Year July 20, 2011 through July 19, 2012.

Mr. Underwood seconded the motion.

Don Sanker, 780 Long Road, this Resolution goes far beyond insurance for fire trucks, it offers umbrella insurance, public officials liability insurance, police professional liability insurance, workman's compensation insurance. So the title is somewhat misleading because it covers all of those things. The question I have is why are you in December authorizing an Insurance Policy for flood insurance that will begin in July of 2011 through July of 2012. Not worried about the money, it is \$8,000.00 but why in December would you be authorizing insurance that does not begin until July and probably for which application has not yet been made and will probably not be made for at least another four or five months? So why are you authorizing it now?

Moe Rayan answered we just want to make sure that we continue our insurance and have enough window in 2011 to look for new vendors and so on. Don Sanker replied now wait a minute you want to be able to look for new vendors yet you are authorizing the contract now. If you want to look for new vendors you would not be authorizing it now you would be saying we are going to delay and we are going to look for new vendors maybe in April or May of next year for this insurance. Moe replied we are authorizing Fedele right now to look for and to place the Municipality. Don Sanker replied so you are saying Moe that this authorization is to say you can go shop the insurance at the various insurance companies for a premium not to exceed \$8,000.00. Moe replied that is correct. Yes. Authorizing Fedele Insurance to go ahead and shop for the Municipality. Don Sanker replied and you believe that he needs six months to shop that as opposed to two or three or four months down the road some where.

Mrs. Kuhn replied let me clarify one thing Moe. It doesn't really make any difference because of the fact that we are just authorizing Fedele Insurance to look into the insurance for the flood insurance July 20, 2011 through July 19, 2012, so really in essence Don what is the difference if we authorize him to do it now or if we wait two months before the time. This is just authorizing him to get this, this is not the bid we are not giving him the bid for the Flood Insurance. Am I correct Moe? Moe responded yes that is correct. Don Sanker replied this is not the bid this is just authorizing him Chris to look for Insurance not to exceed \$8,000.00 with whatever insurance company that he can find and this is simply that authorization to do that. Moe and Mrs. Kuhn replied yes. Mrs. Kuhn responded if you see #3 Don it starts out with the comment of Authorization. Don Sanker I understand where you are coming from that is fine but let me go back to my original comment why does the Resolution say Fire Insurance, Insurance on the Fire Trucks but it doesn't address all of these other issues which is exactly what you are doing because you are spending an excess of \$900,000.00 and the Resolution itself unless you read into it it does not address anything but the fire trucks. Why? Why is the wording done that way? Moe replied the Resolution itself addresses that Don. Don Sanker replied but the heading, if I was to open this and look at the first page of your Resolution which was read into the minutes which is what was read it says the Municipality Insurance is including coverage for the various fire trucks now why wouldn't you list all the other things covered. Mrs. Kuhn replied it is incorporated in the Resolution Don. What you are saying is that you want it to be in the bold heading that it is saying, worker's compensation insurance, police insurance, etc. you want that put into the heading, but it is already in the Resolution. Don Sanker replied it is in the Resolution but if I was to look at this front page, Mrs. Kuhn replied that is like someone who reads the newspapers Don and only reads the headlines and not the story. Don Sanker said all I am saying is it is misleading.

Mickey O'Connor, 1095 Maple Avenue – Percentage increase. Is it up or down? Or is it staying the same? Moe replies actually it is down on the fire trucks itself.

Mrs. Kuhn just so the public knows, I don't know if they received a copy – Mayor and Council received an interoffice Memorandum dated 12-9-2010 where it does say that the Municipalities Flood Insurance will become due in July 2011. We are only given a small window of time to pay the premium before it expires to make sure that we continue to have this coverage, this Resolution also authorizes Fedele Insurance Services to place the Municipality Flood Insurance for the Policy Year July 20, 2011 through July 19, 2010 for a premium not to exceed \$8,000.00 so it was addressed to Mayor and Council.

Moe replied I have the premium history here Mickey if you are interested. I have the dollar value as to what it was and what it is going to be. Grand total of \$958,345 – 11-12, \$980,904 – 10/11.

There being no further discussion the motion was approved by a 5-0 vote.

Mr. Palumbo made a motion to approve **Resolution No. 2010-074** approving the 2011 through 2013 Labor Agreement between The Municipality of Penn Hills and The Adult School Crossing Guards and authorizing the Proper Municipal Officials to execute same.

Mr. Underwood seconded the motion.

Mayor asked Moe to give a brief description.

Moe replied that the summary of the changes are as follows: The current contract for the wages was 3% for 2008 through 2010 – that remains the same 3% increase starting 2011 through 2013 – one additional day for holidays and personal days to the new contract which was Memorial Day – for the Bereavement Pay we changed the language to coincide with other bargaining agreements – some changes in the probationary period – the current contract read Probationary Period all new employees shall be considered probationary employees for the first twelve (12) months of their employment. That was changed to reflect the actual school year – all new employees shall be considered probationary employees for the first nine (9) months of their employment. There will be no other changes. So basically it was one additional day of Holiday.

Don Sanker – Do we split this pay with the School District. Moe replied yes we do. Don Sanker - has the school district already approved this or is this on their agenda for January. Moe replied through the Business Manager it was approved. Don Sanker on the 3% increase is that 3 percent per year? Moe replied that is correct. Don Sanker so each year they get 3% percent. Moe replied 2011-2012-2013. Don Sanker replied thank you.

Mickey O'Connor 1095 Maple Avenue. What is the hourly rate that they are getting?

Moe replied \$11.78 per hour for 2010.

Mickey replied thank you for looking it up.

Mrs. Kuhn - the 3% is consistent with what was on for 2008, 2009 and 2010 and then with the addition of Memorial Day but with the bereavement pay, it has that the employees may receive leave not to exceed one calendar day, is that paid leave? Moe replied yes that is correct. Mrs. Kuhn replied thank you.

There being no further discussion the motion was approved 5-0 vote.

REPORTS

Mrs. Kuhn replied I do want to thank the Manager, I called him last week and had asked him if he could have the Planning Director give like a monthly update on what was going on as far as in the Municipality because of the fact that I know serving on Council we are all confronted and asked by residents what is going on with this property and that property or what have you so I did ask the Manager if the Planning Director nothing in real detail give us information so if we are asked exactly what is going on we have an answer for them that is knowledgeable and I did receive and I know we all did the memo from Moe and I do want to thank you and extend it to Howard because I do appreciate that that is being done. If you would just indulge me a little bit for the public to know because I think this is very important because a lot of times they do not realize that there is activity even as bad as the economy is throughout the entire nation that Penn Hills still has things going on, so this is very important and I am very pleased that he has given this to us and I know that he said that the Auto Zone is under construction at Lime Hollow so that is very good and that Walmart at Saltsburg Road is still active – there are twelve different things but I do appreciate this Moe and if you would extend this to Howard because when we are asked it is nice that we have information to give the Public so they know that things are moving along in Penn Hills.

Mrs. Kuhn - I also see that the Manager did send out to the Water Companies both to Wilksburg Penn Joint and Oakmont Water Authority that there will be an additional five dollars taken off for the reduction of the sewer charge for the 1st quarter so that was good news and it was also good news that Wilksburg Penn Joint isn't raising their water rate. So that is good news for the Municipality as well.

Mayor DeLuca responded more importantly ALCOSAN did not raise their rates. Mrs. Kuhn responded that was the biggest, that was us holding our breath with ALCOSAN so that was great news.

Dr. Kincaid responded he would like to make a brief comment. In regards to the tragedy that took place last week in Panama City, I did make a brief call to the Manager which I very rarely do and I assume other people may have and I just wanted to compliment him and commend him for his response to that in regards to us and I am sure more will be said at a later point. I don't need to elaborate on it but I wanted to commend Moe because I was very much stricken and very grieved over the situation and then I thought about the times in which we live these things are happening everywhere and Penn Hills is not exempt because there are many demented people all around so I just wanted to compliment him for responding to me and I am sure he will be doing more later. Thank you Mr. Mayor.

DISCUSSION SESSION

Mayor DeLuca responded we will go to Discussion Session and what we have before us is the Calendar for 2011 and 2012. Does anyone have problems with the dates that are circled? Is everyone O.K. with meeting two times in the summer time? Dr. Kincaid responded if we need to that is what we have to do. Mayor DeLuca said what we did is one of those days was the regular meeting and the other day was only the expenditures. Mrs. Kuhn said right and I think that is fair because there are a lot of vendors if you only have one meeting they might not get paid for 4-5 weeks if we only have one meeting and that is not fair to the vendor.

Mickey O'Conner – 1095 Maple Avenue – The budget that you had the public hearings on is that the one that you are going to vote on later on this month or have there been amendments to that budget. Mayor DeLuca responded no it is going to be voted on December 30, 2010 at 3:00 p.m. Mickey O'Conner the documents you had the meetings on is the document you are going to vote on? Mayor DeLuca responded the only change that is going to be in there is the \$5.00 service charge fee reduction. Is there a policy in effect with Wilksburg Penn Joint Water Authority that they notify Code Enforcement when they turn the water off on a property? Mayor DeLuca responded that Code is there and they have to notify the Health Department because once they shut that water off they can no longer be in that house. Mickey responded I know I have been in a couple that the water was shut off. I just wondered if WPJWA is turning off the water and if they are notifying Penn Hills or not. Mayor DeLuca responded yes they are notifying Penn Hills.

I know one lady was shut off and she called me and I talked to Code and Code was down there when they shut her off. Mickey said o.k. I will check with Code on a couple of houses.

ADJOURNMENT

Mayor DeLuca entertained motion to adjourn.

Dr. Kincaid made motion to adjourn.

Mr. Underwood seconded the motion.

Meeting adjourned at 8:04 P.M.

Mayor DeLuca and Council wished everyone a Merry Christmas.

MAUREEN M. SORCE
MANAGER'S SECRETARY

DATE