

**EPHRATA BOROUGH COUNCIL
WORK SESSION MINUTES
JUNE 3, 2019**

The Ephrata Borough Council Work Session was called to order by President Susan Rowe on June 3, 2019, at 7:00 p.m., in the Council Chambers of the Borough Office, 124 South State Street.

The meeting began with a moment of silence which was followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

In attendance in addition to the President were Vice President Thomas Reinhold, President Pro Tem Melvin Weiler, Council Members Timothy Barr, Linda Martin, Ricky Ressler, Victor Richard, Greg Zimmerman and Mayor Ralph Mowen.

Also in attendance were Borough Manager, D. Robert Thompson, Police Chief William Harvey and Borough Solicitor James R. McManus, III, Esq.

Visitors included:

- Teresa Caruthers, 229 Railroad Avenue, Ephrata

First Opportunity for Citizens to be Heard

Teresa Caruthers, 229 Railroad Avenue, Ephrata, in referencing last month's voting session in which a vote took place regarding the diesel project, inquired as to whether further discussions of the matter had occurred. President Rowe advised that since Council took action on the matter, the subject is now closed unless a member of Council would make a motion to open the matter for further discussion.

Ms. Caruthers inquired if there was any planned opportunity for Ephrata residents to discuss the diesel issue as well as questions regarding utility bills. President Rowe advised the Municipal Enterprises Committee meeting is open to the public and provides a forum for questions to be answered. President Rowe advised the Committee meets the third Monday of every month at 6:30 PM. Ms. Caruthers inquired as to where the public can find information as to when Committee Meetings are held; in which, President Rowe advised meeting information is available on the Borough's website.

Mr. Richard further advised during his term as Chairman of the Municipal Enterprises Committee, he has never received any phone calls from concerned taxpayers. Mr. Richard expressed his appreciation to Ms. Caruthers for her comments, but stated he has never received any feedback regarding her concerns. Ms. Caruthers advised she has been spending time with some residents who have expressed interest and lack of knowledge on how to access members/committees of the Borough Council. Mr. Richard stated, "... it is unfortunate to hear things like that, but we have monthly meetings which are all open to public and a lot of the people do not care to attend for whatever reason." Mr. Richard further advised that many matters are typically discussed at length within those meetings. Mr. Richard added, "... we go to extent to have things open and we would like to people to show up." Mr. Barr stated, "... there is a lot of information on the website and they can find anything they want ... our names, our numbers, addresses, emails."

In answering Ms. Caruthers' inquiry regarding the process of becoming an elected official, Ms. Martin advised that both the Democratic Committee of Lancaster County and the Republican Committee of Lancaster County are organizations that can be contacted for information regarding elections, what is required and what positions are open.

After allotting a brief time for further citizen comments and/or remarks and with no one in attendance approaching the podium, President Rowe turned to the discussion of Committee Actions.

Discussion of Committee Actions

Development Activities Committee

Mr. Weiler advised the Committee reviewed an HVAC repair invoice for the Ephrata Public Library. The repairs go beyond normal maintenance on the system. The money would be taken out of the borough building maintenance fund. The Committee will recommend that Borough Council authorize a payment of \$1,715 directly to H.C. Nye at the June meeting.

Mr. Weiler advised the Committee reviewed a request from Josh and Laura Haupt, 1256 Marilyn Avenue to place additional fencing within an electric easement. They received approval in July of 2016 to place fencing in a portion of the five-foot easement at the rear of the property. They would like to extend the fencing along the entire rear property line. The Electric Department reviewed the request and didn't see any issues with it. The Committee will recommend that Borough Council grant the request at the June Council meeting subject to executing a hold harmless agreement in a form acceptable to the solicitor and the applicant will be responsible for the cost of preparation and recording of the agreement.

Mr. Weiler advised Councilperson Martin presented a draft brochure for holiday banners. The program is sponsored by Mainspring of Ephrata. This is similar to requests made in prior years, but were never executed. The Committee will recommend that Borough Council agree to absorb the cost of an additional banner change-out for a new set of holiday banners at the June Council meeting.

President Rowe, in referencing the HVAC at the Ephrata Public Library, inquired if there has been any consideration of installing a new HVAC system at the library instead of the continuous repair of the system which seems to not be working effectively. Mr. Thompson advised the current issue involved a belt, which wears out over time, and most of the cost is due to the labor involved. Mr. Thompson further advised if/when there are major expenditures occurring, consideration will be given to look into the installation of a new HVAC system.

President Rowe, in referencing the holiday banners, inquired if the labor previously approved was included in the 2019 budget; in which, Mr. Thompson advised it was not included in the budget because there was no action taken in 2018. President Rowe further inquired if all religious affiliations will be able to participate in the program; in which, she was advised it is open to everyone. President Rowe inquired due to the Borough using taxpayer funds to acknowledge a religious holiday, if that is something that could come back on the Borough. Mr. Thompson clarified that none of the banners have a religious nomenclature noted. Ms. Martin added that all banners will say "Seasons Greetings ... Happy Holidays from _____." Ms. Martin further advised this particular topic was addressed a couple of years ago with input from the Solicitor; in which, it was decided to have the banners be generic with "a one size fits all" to celebrate the specific time of year and not a specific religious holiday.

President Rowe, in referencing discussion item #3 on the Committee's report regarding the Zoning Ordinance rewrite, advised while listening to the recording of the meeting, she heard that both the

Borough Planning Commission and the Lancaster County Planning Commission had their respective hearings on the matter. President Rowe inquired if the notes of those meetings will be made available to Council to review. Mr. Thompson advised the comments from the Commissions, as well as the Solicitor, will be made available for Council to review.

Mayor Mowen, in referencing the Zoning Ordinance, inquired if there is any way for Council to be notified of what is new and/or what has been changed. Mayor Mowen further stated he is specifically interested in anything referencing solar panels installed in a residential area; in which, Mr. Thompson clarified that anything pedestal mounted are either prohibited or with limited exceptions. Mayor Mowen concluded his comments by stating, "... it would be nice if the changes could be highlighted" for easier perusal of the document. Solicitor McManus advised this is a completely new ordinance – lengthy, complex and filled with cross references. Solicitor McManus further stated, "... the more you read, the more questions you are going to have ... but I will tell you this ... the failure to become familiar with this is pennywise and dollar foolish because litigation is often related to land use issues ... matters that go to the Zoning Hearing Board ... perhaps there is an appeal and litigation ... so I would urge everybody ... even if you don't understand the document thoroughly ... to try to prepare yourself as well as possible." Solicitor McManus further advised we are required to have a hearing before the adoption of the ordinance and he does not feel the hearing is the proper place to have the document properly explained in detail.

Ms. Martin sought clarification regarding Discussion Item #2 regarding the developer of Ephrata Crossings. Ms. Martin stated, "... they got a grant for \$2,200,000 ... but they wanted to make improvements at the Bethany Road and East Main Street intersection ... I remember that conversation taking place ... and we want the developer to commit to the intersection improvements so he is going to post a \$400,000 bond guaranteeing that work to be done." Mr. Thompson advised the discussion was the developer was to pursue a \$2.2 grant from the Commonwealth; and as part of that grant submission, the improvements to add a dedicated right-hand turn lane at the intersection of Bethany Road and East Main Street was included in the application. Mr. Thompson further advised that both he and the Solicitor attended meetings at Ephrata Township encouraging the supervisors to conditionally improve plans that require the developer to make improvements in the Borough.

Solicitor McManus advised improvements to that particular intersection is something that "... we've been after for years" and the developer of Ephrata Crossings has stated that he wants to make the improvements. Solicitor McManus advised as the Ephrata Crossings was developed further to the west, the developer applied for a grant for improvements along 322 and the intersection of Pleasant Valley Road and was receptive to including the Bethany Road and East Main Street intersection; however, the legal issue is, even though we made an appearance before Ephrata Township, the law says that in approving a subdivision and land development plan, you cannot require offsite improvements. Solicitor McManus stated, "... our intersection is offsite improvements" which does not allow leverage in negotiating those improvements. Solicitor McManus advised that he has met with the developer and his counsel with the indication being if they get the full grant, they will include the Bethany Road and East Main Street intersection which will cost approximately \$400,000. Solicitor McManus stated, "... we're almost going to have to accept what the developer says in good faith ... I don't know what leverage we have to force the

improvements ... my concern is if they run out of money in the Ephrata Crossings section, then there's nothing for this."

Solicitor McManus further advised he has reviewed the form of an initial improvement agreement which pledges that they will do the improvements of the intersection regardless of the status of the grant; however, without a letter of credit and performance bond, we would have to litigate the matter. Solicitor McManus stated, "... we would like to find a way to get that financial guarantee in place."

Mr. Thompson advised that one option is if the developer is agreeable to posting a \$400,000 bond, then the Borough would pay the annual premium (approximately \$12,000) to carry the bond; however, Solicitor McManus advised that we have not heard back from them if that is an acceptable option. Solicitor McManus further informed Council that the developer is seeking the Borough to be the occupant of the Highway Occupancy Permit at this intersection.

Mayor Mowen inquired, "... when they were going to apply for the grant, didn't they need something from the Borough?" Mr. Thompson advised they wanted a Letter of Support which was sent stating, "... if the full grant is awarded ... \$2.2 million ... that \$400,000 would be used toward an improvement on Bethany Road." Mr. Thompson further advised it was also stated, "... if the full amount is not awarded, we would not support the project."

Mr. Thompson advised the discussion of the matter at the Highway Committee was, "... what if the developer is not out any money by us paying the cost to cover the financial security ... so for \$12,000 we can almost guarantee \$400,000-plus which is a win for us." Solicitor McManus advised it is not known if there would be obligations outside of this scope of work that the developer is showing us with respect to the northern portion embankment rights of way limited area and it is not known whether PennDOT is going to request additional work be completed.

Public Safety Committee

Mr. Ressler advised the Committee reviewed the Ephrata Farmers Day Association, Inc. request to waive Ephrata Borough Code §123.1 *Livestock: hives of bees. No person, firm or corporation shall keep any hog, cattle, goat or sheep or any hive of bees at any place within the Borough of Ephrata*, in order to conduct a livestock judging, general fair activities, and a petting zoo for the 2019 Ephrata Fair during the week of September 23 to 28, 2019. Mr. Ressler advised the Committee is recommending approval of the request via the Consent Agenda.

Mr. Ressler advised the discussion items were informational in nature. Mr. Ressler further advised the Fire Service Feasibility Study will be discussed at the June Committee Meeting.

Mayor Mowen sought clarification regarding the progression of the Fire Service Feasibility Study; in which, Mr. Ressler advised at this time, the Committee does not have the information needed to "move with this." Mayor Mowen advised that both Ephrata and Clay Townships indicated they would discuss the matter. Mr. Ressler clarified that the Managers of both Ephrata and Clay Townships have to take the matter back to their respective Councils. Mayor Mowen expressed his concern that the matter may have to wait until August prior to anything happening. Mr. Ressler clarified that if this can be added as an Action Item for this month, the voting will occur next month.

Mr. Ressler further clarified prior to voting on the matter, more information is needed (i.e., costs, information regarding the study, etc.) in completing our due diligence. Mayor Mowen advised he believes cost information was provided; in which, Chief Harvey advised, "... we do not have the work agreement before entering a contract with the consultant." Chief Harvey further advised after receiving the agreement, he would have Solicitor McManus review the document to make sure it is conceptual for contractual reasons. Mayor Mowen stated, "... it's a least two months down the road." Mr. Ressler stated, "... we need to do due diligence ... we're not going to ram this thing through ... we need to do due diligence."

Mayor Mowen advised he is unhappy as this matter has been "dragging on and dragging on." Mayor Mowen further stated, "... I think you don't understand the crisis." Mr. Richard advised he believes Committee members do understand the crisis; however, with vacations and such, the work just did not get done in a timely fashion. Mr. Ressler added, "... I also don't think there is going to be an instant remedy ... but it needs the study and needs follow through ... if we knew the solution, we wouldn't need to do a study." Mayor Mowen stated, "... I'm looking to get it started because right now we'll be looking probably to next year or further before we get anything out of this because the study is going to take six months or so." Mr. Ressler advised, "... depending on what this study says, we could be very well looking at that in any case because we have a budget and we may not be able to put something major into that budget for this year ... so we'll have to wait and see what is going to come down the road." Mayor Mowen advised he understands and stated, "... but this something that we've been diddling with now for almost ... well for six months and it .. you know ... it just is taking longer than I really think was necessary ... and if discussions weren't done that should've been done, bad us and ... so the way it is right now ... hopefully, we'll have everything for the June Public Safety meeting ... and, hopefully, Council will be able to vote on it in July ... and, hopefully, get started in July ... unless something else comes up that it is pushed off down the road."

Highway Committee

Mr. Barr advised the Committee reviewed the requests from the Ephrata Farmers Day Association, Inc. per their letter dated April 15, 2019 to conduct activities associated with the 101st Ephrata Fair from September 23rd through September 28th, 2019. The Committee will recommend that Borough Council conditionally approve the requests subject to Borough receipt of a PennDOT issued Special Events Permit with the Ephrata Farmers Day Association, Inc. as applicant and satisfactory certificate of insurance naming the Borough as additional insured at their June 10, 2019 meeting.

Mr. Barr advised the Committee reviewed a clear sight distance concern at the Hunter Alley approach to West Fulton Street brought forth by Lt. Shumaker of the Ephrata Police Department via an April 25, 2019 e-mail. Citing opportunities for obstructed clear sight distance at most intersections throughout the Borough the Committee is taking no action to improve clear sight distance at this intersection at this time.

Mr. Barr advised the Committee reviewed an Ordinance to amend the Code of the Borough of Ephrata, Chapter 305, Vehicles and Traffic, Section 305-100, Schedule XVII: Parking Prohibited at all Times, by adding thereto certain locations along West Pine Street and North Oak Street. The Committee will recommend that Borough Council enact Ordinance No. 1549 at their June 10, 2019 meeting.

Mr. Barr advised the Committee a Resolution providing for price adjustment of bituminous materials in small quantities. Price adjustments are associated with Bid #19-2 Henn Avenue Full-Depth Pavement Reclamation and Bid #19-3 2019 Street and Alley Improvements. This Resolution is a requirement when using liquid fuels tax monies to pay for certain street and alley improvements. The Committee will recommend that Borough Council adopt Resolution No. 2019-10 at their June 10, 2019 meeting.

Mr. Barr advised the Committee reviewed the results of Bid #19-2 Full-Depth Pavement Reclamation (FDPR) – Henn Avenue and was advised that the apparent low bid price is over budget estimate due to increased costs associated with revising the FDPR parameters from a budget estimate depth of 8” to a bid depth of 12” due to existing street conditions observed prior to bidding. Although this bid came in over budget estimate by \$77,905.69, Bid #19-3 for 2019 Street and Alley Improvements came in \$131,338.75 under budget estimate. Total budget estimate for both bids is \$755,000 while total low bid amount for both bids is \$701,566.94 providing a difference of \$53,433.06 under budget estimate. The Committee will recommend that Borough Council award Bid #19-2 to apparent low bidder: New Enterprise Stone & Lime Co, Inc. from Ephrata, PA in the total bid amount of \$322,905.69 at their June 10, 2019 meeting.

Mr. Barr advised the Committee reviewed the results of Bid #19-3 2019 Street and Alley Improvements and will recommend that Borough Council award the bid to apparent low bidder: Berg Construction, LLC from Morgantown, PA in the total bid amount of \$378,661.25 as part of the Consent Agenda at their June 10, 2019 meeting.

Mr. Barr advised the Committee reviewed a May 22, 2019 e-mail from Joseph Lenart, Construction and Maintenance Supervisor, with UGI Utilities, Inc. requesting to close East Fulton Street between South State Street and Lake Street from June 17, 2019 to June 21, 2019 and June 24, 2019 to June 26, 2019 between the hours of 7:30 AM and 4:30 PM, daily, weather permitting. Local traffic needing access to East Fulton Street would be permitted through the road closure at Lake Street to Railroad Avenue. Eastbound and westbound Fulton Street detour routes will be established using South State Street, East Main Street and Lake Street. Flaggers will be staged at the State & Fulton intersection and the Lake & Fulton intersection to ensure compliance with the road closure and confirm access to local traffic. The Committee will recommend that Borough Council approve the road closure as requested and authorize staff to extend the road closure, as necessary, through July 3, 2019 at their June 10, 2019 meeting.

Mr. Richard, in referencing UGI’s road closure request, advised additional days were added to the request, if necessary, due to possible weather events so that the Committee would not have to revisit the request.

Mr. Richard, in referencing the clear sight distance topic, advised in reviewing the photos, the Committee did not see a need to pursue further action.

Mr. Ressler, in referencing UGI’s road closure request, advised it is an action item at tonight’s meeting, and the dates have been corrected including the date extension.

Mr. Ressler, in referencing the clear sight distance topic, advised the Committee felt virtually every intersection in town has the same problem and could have the same result. Mr. Ressler further advised if Lt. Shumaker could provide another reason why the intersection of Hunter Alley/West Fulton Street needs to be looked at, to please encourage him to bring the information forward to the Committee.

President Rowe, in referencing UGI's road closure request, advised she has a concern regarding the June 24-June 26, 2019 timeframe and inquired if it will impact the Pioneer Fire Company's Annual Open House being held on June 25th. Mr. Thompson advised it will be communicated to UGI of the event and they will need to be finished on the June 25th by 4:30 PM.

Mayor Mowen advised an additional topic to be added for approval is the road closure of S. State Street for the Pioneer Fire Company's Open House. President Rowe advised there is a special meeting of the Highway Committee being held on Wednesday, June 19, 2019, at 6:30 PM to discuss the matter further. Mr. Thompson, in referencing the newly approved "Guidelines for Committees," advised since this topic was not previously reviewed by the Committee, there would be no action taken on the matter at tonight's meeting.

Municipal Enterprises Committee

Mr. Richard advised Borough Manager Thompson discussed with the Committee swapping proposed storm water projects on Lake Street in 2019 with Spring Garden Street extended between East Main Street and Sugar Alley for 2020, as shown on Page 146 of the budget document. The project along Spring Garden Street extended has become a higher priority as storm water has been causing damage in the right of way adjacent to private property while the Lake Street project can be deferred for another year. Both projects are estimated at \$100,000 so there is no anticipated financial impact. The Committee will recommend that Borough Council amend the 2019 Budget and Program of Services by moving the Lake Street project from 2019 to 2020 and the Spring Garden Street project from 2020 to 2019.

Mr. Richard advised Borough Manager Thompson reviewed the first quarter budget report with the Committee. Expenditures are tracking on budget and revenues are lagging behind for invoiced items for service in the first quarter. There are no concerns at this time.

Mr. Richard advised Borough Manager Thompson reviewed a memorandum concerning the proposed Biochar project with the Committee. Due to several factors including the immediate need to replace dewatering equipment at WWTP No. 1 and the fact that the market for the Biochar material has not yet been developed sufficiently for the Borough Authority to rely upon for disposal of wastewater solids, the staff is recommending that the project no longer be pursued. The Committee supports the recommendation by staff. Borough Manager will contact Representative Zimmerman to inform him of our decision.

Mr. Richard advised the Committee reviewed a status report for the Borough solar project. The project is waiting for PPL to conduct a final inspection before it is authorized for commercial operation. Mr. Richard advised a ribbon cutting event was held on May 29, 2019, and was well attended with the exception of press outlets. Mr. Thompson advised the event was coordinated by the developer and Staff did provide them with press contact information.

Mr. Richard advised Borough Manager Thompson informed the Committee that although he has been authorized to execute any and all RICE Peaking documents for the AMP project he will be reviewing those documents with the Committee at the next committee meeting following the execution of the documents.

Mr. Richard advised Borough Manager Thompson discussed with the Committee a requested change to the Borough's behind the meter technical specifications whereby instead of using the base power supply cost as the rate (\$0.07358) to pay for annual true up power we will use the energy rate (\$0.08). The Committee will consider the change and asked the Borough Manager to prepare an amended behind the meter technical specification document for their review.

Ms. Martin advised she received an inquiry from a resident regarding the solar panels that are not facing the right way; in which, Mr. Thompson advised the panels are not currently generating any electricity at this point in time. Mr. Thompson further advised he received an update this afternoon in which there was a proponent programmed that was not responding which had to go back to the shop for reprogramming. Mr. Thompson further advised it has been returned, placed and is waiting to be internally tested as well as PPL tested. Mr. Thompson advised as a result in not generating electricity, the panels were not synchronized; however, they should now be all synchronized and be moving together. Mr. Richard advised upon him traveling by the site this evening, he observed that the panels were all perfectly synchronized.

Community Services Committee

Ms. Martin advised the Committee discussed last month's request from Blue Ridge Communications to provide free Wi-Fi at the Pool and Grater Park. To access the internet, individuals will have to use the Blue Ridge App. The only concern discussed is that the App is unfiltered. It is very common to have unfiltered free Wi-Fi. There are usually terms and conditions of the App that need to be checked off before sign up is complete. There is no liability or cost to the Borough. The Committee will recommend that Borough Council approve Blue Ridge's request at their June 10, 2019 meeting.

Ms. Martin advised Rebecca Gallagher explained to the Committee the need to acquire a City/Borough License from BMI Licensing Sales and from American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers (ASCAP) for all events/venues held in the Borough where music is played. The Licenses will cover all Borough properties. The annual fee, for both licenses, is \$715.00. If the Borough Solicitor is a member of International Municipal Lawyers Association there is 10% discount offered. The liability to the Borough, if caught operating without the licenses, is more costly than purchasing the licenses. The Committee will recommend that Borough Council approve the unbudgeted expense to purchase the BMI and ASCAP Licenses at their June 10, 2019 meeting. Going forward, the purchase of the Licenses will be included in the annual Budget and Program of Services as an operating expense.

Ms. Martin advised the Committee heard from Jim Summers, Ephrata Recreation Center, who discussed two police incidents that occurred at the pool on opening weekend. One incident was alcohol/hookah related and the other was an unattended child. Mr. Summers reported that staff did a good job handling both incidents.

Ms. Martin inquired when police are dispatched to the pool and they remove Citizen A who is misbehaving and is asked to leave, is there a protocol in place to identify who that person is so that a "Watch List" could be established; in which, Chief Harvey replied, "It depends ... there have been some instances where pool staff has intervened and advised there is no longer a problem and we have asked him to leave ... there are sometimes where interaction takes place and some operative information is obtained." Chief Harvey further advised he is unsure if the pool keeps a listing of individuals who have been ejected as that is a pool management issue. Ms. Martin inquired if the Constable will be at the pool every weekend; in which, Vice President Reinhold advised he spoke with the Constable who stated he typically did not start his employment at the pool until the school year ended.

Mr. Thompson advised individuals have to sign in at the entrance to the pool; however, if the individual leaves and comes back at a later time, they can provide a different name. Mr. Thompson further advised this was a discussion item with Mr. Summers who informed him if they were to check ID's, they would not get the people processed in a timely manner.

Mr. Zimmerman, in referencing the purchasing of music licenses, sought clarification regarding the verbiage, "for all events/venues held in the Borough where music is played." Ms. Martin advised it would include events such as Concerts by the Creek, Brewfest, Parties on the Plaza, Eicher Art Center events, Brown Bag Lunches and band performances at the park. Mr. Zimmerman inquired if events held at the Ephrata Public Library or the Ephrata Recreation Center are also covered; in which, Mr. Ressler clarified the license covers ALL Borough-owned properties. President Rowe requested the Committee Report be updated to reflect that information.

Vice President Reinhold, in referencing the Committee Report's Action Item #1, requested the year be corrected to 2019.

Mr. Barr advised prior to Mr. Zimmerman's inquiry and the clarification received regarding why the Borough is covering the cost of the music licenses, he was wondering why Mainspring of Ephrata was not helping to cover the cost of the licenses; however, Mr. Barr concluded his comments by advising he now understand as the license covers all Borough-owned properties.

Personnel Committee

Vice President Reinhold advised the Committee looked over the evaluation and self-evaluation forms for the Borough Manager. The Committee was again satisfied with the forms as presented the past two months but would now like to a return to five levels of assessment rather than the three they requested. President Rowe will revise the documents to include five levels of assessment and add seven numerical levels to each key element and each core competency. The items will not be brought forward for action but will be discussed again in July for possible action in August.

Vice President Reinhold advised the Committee looked over the evaluation and self-evaluation forms for the Chief of Police. The Committee was again satisfied with the forms as presented the past two months but would now like to a return to five levels of assessment rather than the three they requested. President Rowe will revise the documents to include five levels of assessment and add seven numerical levels to each key element and each core competency. The items will not be brought forward for action but will be discussed again in July for possible action in August.

Vice President Reinhold advised the Committee reviewed the Workshop Topics as prioritized at the Borough Council Retreat. President Rowe explained the formula she applied to each topic using the information provided by retreat attendees. President Rowe did not have time to discuss the additional suggestions provided for possible topics. The Committee instructed President Rowe to facilitate having the item that was considered a top priority, the budget process, in place for a workshop and extend an invitation to all of Council to attend that workshop. The Committee decided to try and have the workshop planned for July 1st at 6:00 PM. The other topics will be discussed as time permits at the July Committee meeting. Vice President further stated the game plan is to have a workshop topic at 6:00 PM prior to the Work Session each month.

Vice President Reinhold advised the Committee discussed setting up meetings (meet and greets) with various managers within the Borough to gain a better understanding of their positions as well as their views on working for the Borough.

Budget and Finance Committee

President Rowe advised the Budget and Finance Committee did meet on May 28, 2019, with no action items to bring forward at tonight's meeting.

Vice President Reinhold advised Staff reviewed the results of Councilmember Barr's request to look into the matter of changing the Borough's street lights to LED. Vice President Reinhold advised the Borough has 1,948 street lights and that we do not meter our street lights so all information is based on estimates. Vice President Reinhold reported, on the conservative side, the Borough will save approximately \$31,500 per year which will result in a payback of 25 years on the investment to change to LED. Since the Borough has the infrastructure in place due to the AMI project, we could add modules which will allow us to dim/brighten the lights remotely as well as turning on the use of motion sensors. This might be beneficial to the PD in certain areas of the Borough due to crime. The Borough electric team has replaced approximately 900 lights to date and there are budgeted funds in 2019 and 2020 to complete the project. No further action is required at this time.

Vice President Reinhold sought clarification that by the end of 2020, all 1,948 lights will be changed out to LED lights; in which, he was advised that would not be the case. Mr. Thompson advised there are about 1,000 lights yet to be replaced; and based on the current workload of the Electric Department, employees are not going to be able to replace 500 a year. Mr. Thompson advised that the replacement project will continue to be worked on as it can be according to their schedule. President Rowe advised in listening to the Committee Meeting recording, it implies that all 1,948 street lights will be changed to LED. Mr. Thompson advised he will clarify the data and will update the Report to reflect the correct information.

Vice President Reinhold advised a topic that was discussed at the meeting was the fact that the Borough pays a significant amount each year for tree trimming at Borough electric lines as well as parks and other Borough properties. This amount has increased with the many storms that we have experienced and the Committee will discuss the possibility of adding this expenditure as a capital item in the 2020 budget.

Mr. Richard, in referencing to Discussion Item #3 on the Committee Report, which states, “Staff reviewed the PILOT program funds received so far this year. We received \$32,000 from WellSpan which will be utilized for 2 projects: a new drone for the PD department in the amount of \$27,000 and bikes for the bike share project in the amount of \$5,000.” Mr. Richard advised he would like to see WellSpan’s donation be noted as such and not associated as part of the PILOT program as they are two separate matters.

Mr. Richard further inquired about the \$2,701.65 received from “other organizations” asking how many organizations gave funds; in which, Mr. Thompson advised it was from more than just one organization.

Mr. Barr, in referencing the LED street lights, advised he has seen the dimming of lights/ brightening of lights throughout his travels and feels this could be a significant savings for the Borough. Vice President Reinhold advised this could be implemented in our current street lights via the AMI Project. Mr. Thompson further advised that the backbone AMI uses is the smart lighting system.

Special Projects Committee

President Rowe advised the Special Projects Committee did not meet in June.

Recommendations

It was moved by Mr. Barr, seconded by Mr. Ressler, and unanimously passed that Borough Council approve UGI’s request to close East Fulton Street between South State Street and Lake Street permitting local traffic access to East Fulton Street from Lake Street to Railroad Avenue from June 17-21, 2019 and June 24-26, 2019 between the hours of 7:30 AM and 4:30 PM and authorize Staff to extend the road closure, as necessary, through July 3, 2019.

Second Opportunity for Citizens to be Heard

After allotting a brief time for further citizen comments and/or remarks and with no one in attendance approaching the podium, President Rowe turned to the discussion/announcements portion of the meeting.

Discussion/Announcements

Mr. Weiler recommended all Borough Council members read the new Zoning Ordinance to gain a better understanding of its contents.

Ms. Martin reported at the last “Exercise on the Plaza” event held on Saturday, June 1st, there were 18 people in attendance and all “loved” the activity. Ms. Martin advised this event will be held for the next two weeks and will be continued in the fall. Ms. Martin advised the “Brown Bag Lunches” are going very well with more people attending creating “positive traffic” downtown.

Mr. Barr extended his prayers and thoughts to the residents of Virginia Beach, Virginia, due to the tragic work-related shooting that occurred there last week.

Mr. Richard advised at his attendance at the ribbon cutting event at the solar site, it was interesting to see how it works as “it was quite impressive.” Mr. Richard advised he was appreciative to have an opportunity to meet the “faces” of the names he has heard over this timeframe.

Vice President Reinhold thanked Ms. Caruthers for her attendance at tonight’s meeting as well as various Committee meetings. Vice President Reinhold reminded Ms. Caruthers that Committee meeting information is available on the website and encouraged her to share that information with other residents. Vice President Reinhold, in referencing the diesel generator project, advised that the timing was essential and, “... sometimes Council’s decision does not satisfy residents, but we do the best that we can ... and we try to do the best for the utility as well which helps run the Borough.”

Vice President Reinhold, in referencing the Ephrata Community Pool, advised that there have already been some negative incidents that occurred. Vice President Reinhold, in speaking to Mr. Thompson, requested information on how much the Borough has gained in profit since 2012. Vice President Reinhold expressed his desire for individuals to treat the facility with respect; however, there are individuals who do not do so. Vice President Reinhold stated, “... he is trying to figure out ideas on how we can keep the Ephrata Community Pool, the Ephrata Community Pool and not the “Ephrata Cesspool.”” Vice President Reinhold advised he understands it is difficult to capture the general admission attendance, so he is thinking the general admission rates may need to be looked at again. Vice President Reinhold advised he has already had members ask him if they have any means to ask for refunds and maybe consider going to another pool. Vice President Reinhold further stated, “... there are two different crowds there.” Vice President Reinhold advised if the rates are increased 50%-55% (\$20.00 an Adult compared to \$13.00; \$15.00 a Child compared to \$10; and about \$10.00 for Seniors compared to \$6), this may help increase membership which will help with obtaining identifying information. Vice President Reinhold stated, “... we really, really need to get a number on what the pool capacity should be ... we should have something posted there.” Vice President Reinhold advised there could be ways to think how it could become a “member’s pool” so people respect it a little bit more.

Mayor Mowen inquired if the pool rates could be changed mid-season; in which, Vice President Reinhold advised until discussion and voting of the issue occurs, it would be at least August until the matter could be resolved.

Mayor Mowen advised if anyone has roses in their garden to take a closer look at them as Spotted Lanternfly's are drawn to them.

Chief Harvey advised on Tuesday, June 4, 2019, the Police Department will be leaving the County's email system and will be utilizing a new email system.

Chief Harvey reminded Council that both he and Paul Swangren are Certified Instructors for the Department of Agriculture and if there is a group wishing to have a presentation on the Spotted Lanternfly to contact either one of them.

Mr. Thompson advised Council he will be out of the country on vacation starting at 11:00 AM on Thursday, June 6, 2019, and returning on Tuesday, June 18, 2019; however, he will be attending the monthly AMP Board Meeting which requires him to be out of the office starting at 12:00 PM on Tuesday, June 18, 2019, and returning on Friday, June 21, 2019.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned.

D. Robert Thompson, Secretary