

WINDBER BOROUGH COUNCIL

MINUTES: May 25, 2010

RE-SCHEDULED REGULAR MEETING OF MAY 18, 2010 – 7:00 PM.

Advertised on May 19, 2010 in the Tribune Democrat

The meeting was called to order by President Anthony Turcato at 7:00 PM. and led the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag.

ATTENDANCE

The following council members were in attendance: James Furmanchik, George Ledney, Barry Jerley, Sonya Pekala, James Spinos, Anthony Turcato, and Michael Winas. Also in attendance were Mayor Simon Ohler, and Borough Manager Fred Oliveros. Solicitor Jeff Berkey did not attend.

MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

There weren't any minutes of the previous meeting available for approval.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS

There wasn't any public comment on any of the agenda items.

CORRESPONDENCE

The Windber Women of the Moose has invited a representative of the Borough for a special presentation on Sunday June 14, 2010 at Veteran's Memorial Park at 2:00 PM. There is also Windber Area Authority Minutes, a letter from Labor & Industry, the Teamsters, and a Water Quality Report.

BUSINESS ITEMS

Approval of payment of bills

Furmanchik made a motion that was seconded by Ledney to approve payment of bills. Spinos questioned a bill from Barclay Electric regarding repair to a traffic signal. Manager Oliveros provided an itemized summary of all of the charges on the bill. Mayor Ohler questioned as to whether all of the traffic lights have been replaced with the LED lights. Pekala indicated that only two signals have been changed thus far. Motion approved unanimously by voice vote.

Approval of the PennDot subdivision on behalf of St. Anthony of Padua Church.

Tim Newman of PennDot indicated that they are subdivided the property owned by the church in order to purchase it. The site has been leased by PennDot as a maintenance site for many years. Furmanchik made a motion that was seconded by Pekala to approve the subdivision. Motion was approved unanimously by voice vote.

Ratification of hiring of a part time Property Maintenance Codes Officer.

Oliveros indicated that he has offered former employee Tyler Fischer the part time position as mentioned at the previous meeting. Mr. Fischer has accepted and will be

starting tomorrow. We need council approval of the hiring. Furmanchik made a motion that was seconded by Spinos to approve the hiring. Ledney explained that there was some excess money in the executive accounts to pay the employee. Motion approved unanimously by voice vote.

Resignation of Tina Wendell as Recording Secretary

Ms Wendell resigned because she has numerous part time jobs and she could do them all. Preparing the minutes is very time consuming therefore she decided to give it up. Oliveros indicated that we only had two resumes submitted previously and one of those pulled out. For now he will record the minutes and Cheryl will assist in the transcription. He added that if anyone knows of someone who may be interested to let him know. Pekala made a motion that was seconded by Furmanchik to accept the resignation. Motion approved unanimously by voice vote.

Furmanchik questioned if the Borough should re-advertise the Recording Secretary position. Oliveros indicated that there was not a whole lot of interest when it was previously advertised. Ledney stated that we could advertise the position on our website. Spinos feels that a police background check should be done on new employees. Oliveros remarked that one was done on our new public works person. They can be done very quickly online.

BOROUGH REPORTS

There weren't any reports from the standing committees

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Police Department Study Update

Council went into executive session at 7:12 PM to discuss police contractual issues. Ledney questioned Randy Griffith of the Tribune Democrat regarding comments attributed to Ledney in today's article.

Council returned from executive session at 7:42 PM and the meeting was reconvened.

Turcato made a statement regarding a request for a proposal for police services from Richland Township. He indicated that to date we haven't received a proposal from Richland Township. However we are in continued negotiations with Paint Township and there will be no further comment at this time.

Report on Fire Department meeting of May 13, 2010

Oliveros indicated that the item was put on the agenda in order that those council members who attended would like to comment for the benefit of those who could not attend. Oliveros felt that the meeting went rather well and a lot of issues we cleared up that maybe we didn't understand. Furmanchik felt that the meeting was needed for a long time and that things should run smoothly once again. Spinos feels that we should continue doing these types of meeting and it was one of the best meetings he attended thus far and now he has a totally different

outlook with regard to the Fire Department. Furmanchik feels that we have to support the Fire Department especially through the tough economic times. Jerley stated that the Fire Department answered every question that was posed to them and everything was handled professionally and they are trying to do things the right way. They do a lot of things that no one knows about especially with fund raising. They are not guaranteed the contribution from the Borough because it has to be voted on. Mayor Ohler stated that to have a definite contribution it would have to be done by ordinance and the money set aside for the Fire Department. Assistant Chief Aaron Cicon stated that they are in the process of writing a grant for a 100 foot ladder truck to be able to reach some of the properties that are set back from the streets. They have to document the need for this truck by doing property surveys. They are afraid that they will not receive the full amount and they would have to come up with the rest. They would have to refuse the grant if they couldn't come up with the funds. The newest truck owned by the Fire Department is a 1992.

NEW BUSINESS

Nativity Scene in Miner's Park

Manager Oliveros stated he was approached about placing a Nativity scene in Miner's Park over the Christmas season. He indicated that he had no objection but he wanted to run it by Council. There would be no expense to the Borough with the purchase of the scene. Jerley made a motion that was seconded by Furmanchik to approve the Nativity scene proposal. Motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

Paving Priority List

Oliveros presented a list of some of the areas in most need of paving. He would like Council's permission to proceed with the advertising for bids for paving. Pekala made a motion that was seconded by Ledney to allow the Manager to advertise for bids for paving. Motion passed unanimously by voice vote. 28th and 29th Streets would be part of the CDBG Entitlement funds to be used for paving. Spinosa wanted to know when Graham Avenue was going to be paving in particular the 13th Street crossing. Mayor Ohler stated that the Kiski Junction Railroad is going to redo the 13th Street crossing and the one on Somerset Avenue. They are going to fix the signal on 13th Street also. Rick Skiles commented that there is a sunken storm inlet at 18th Street and Graham Avenue.

Next meeting date is June 15, 2010 unless there is a need for a special session.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:27 PM.

Respectfully Submitted

Fred Oliveros
Borough Secretary