

**Borough of Pitcairn
Council Meeting
Minutes
December 9, 2019
7:00 pm**

**Meeting called to order – President Michael Tobias
Pledge of Allegiance was recited.**

Roll Call:

Doug Crothers
Kevin Dick
Cammeo Farally
Dona Galia
Lorraine Myers absent
Jim Rullo
Mike Tobias
Mayor Stevick

Mr. Tobias announced that Council held an Executive Session at 6:00 pm to discuss legal and personnel items.

Mr. Rullo motioned to approve Minutes from November 11th and November 25th Borough Council Meetings. Seconded by Mrs. Farally; motion carried unanimously.

The 2020 Organization Meeting will take place on Monday, January 6th at 6:30 pm at the new Borough Building at 609 Broadway.

Presentation by Joel Winston of the Cohen Law Group regarding the proposed Wireless Pole Attachment Ordinance. Council must vote on certain specifics before the Ordinance can be advertised for adoption. Mr. Winston summed up the proposed 5g wireless ordinance and government regulations permitting local communities to charge some fees, regulate rights of way, establish zoning to a point. Utility and Public Works Foreman James Comunale was also in attendance for input. There was lengthy discussion, questions from the audience regarding the concept of 5g and benefits of faster internet. The law prohibits discrimination among carriers, no community can prohibit them or face legal consequences. It is best to set rules now. So far Verizon is using Crown Castle in Pitcairn. These are small towers, capped in dimension, you can impose design, structure standards. Mr. Rullo: can we set the zones. Mr. Winston: you can't really prohibit them it is a combination of federal and local standards. You can set local zoning and review permits. Lisa Petrosky: can we put in restrictions. Mr. Winston: these cover the public ROW. They blend in and smaller, on top of poles. They need to be close to buildings, not for long distances. Jim Comunale: the one on Agatha is Sprint. These new antennas cannot interfere with our high voltage, they will be on poles without primary lines. Mr. Comunale advised putting the cost of a new pole into the make ready charge. Mr. Winston: we are on the cutting edge here and Pitcairn is rare because we own poles. The total fee is capped for application. He felt that at some point, if we can itemize our costs and submit the study to the government, perhaps they would approve a higher limit. Cost studies themselves can range between \$5K or \$15K. Mr. Winston: if we own the poles and that could depreciate, we should look into that. He encouraged the borough to continue to own the poles. Mrs. Marto asked Mr. Winston to read the fees. Mr. Comunale expressed concern that they will need an electric meter. No other company has a meter socket on a pole. That means the electrical lines will be 5 feet off the ground on our pole. On Agatha, he observed they did not mount the meter to code, too high, he can read it RF but still. He added: they will have to run fiber to the pole and there will be pole attachment fees. Will it interfere with radios, Tom Dick asked. No. Mr. Comunale said it will help. Mr. Tobias asked Mr. Winston: do you want to have Council vote tonight to advertise. Mr. Winston: not tonight, we are at 98% completion. Mrs. Marto asked about the electricity they will use. Mr. Winston: Pitcairn is entitled to the maximum amount and those fees are in the proposed ordinance and they will pay for electric. You can do a feasibility study there is a cost to do that. Mr. Tobias: are most boroughs charging the highest allowed. Mr. Winston: yes, but long term you may want to do a study. You can amend the fees in the future, the existing ordinance already handles the large towers, this is for the small 5g. He continued: you can limit them in a historic zone or conservation areas. Continued.

The FCC law was only recently issued, and any company can come here. After discussion regarding zoning and weighing the benefits, no limitations were placed.

Mrs. Galia motioned to advertise ordinance 1036 regulating wireless communication facilities in the Borough of Pitcairn for adoption when complete. Seconded by Mr. Dick; motion carried unanimously.

Citizen Comment

Resident John Rocco complained of increased criminal activity at a specific address and the recent event of shots fired. He asked the status of the surveillance camera he requested. Chief Farally: we are working on that, it requires additional fiber. Outside agencies and the crime lab are also involved. He asked Mr. Rocco to speak with him after the Meeting.

Mayor Betsy Stevick

Mayor Stevick reported Pitcairn Police worked 162 complaints in November. She asked Council and the Borough Engineer to consider placement of additional signs for the new building entrance on Broadway.

Personnel – Dona Galia

Mrs. Galia motioned to approve Borough employee holiday lunch on December 20th from 1:00 to 3:00, closing offices during that time. Seconded by Mr. Dick; motion carried unanimously.

Streets – Mike Tobias

Mr. Rullo motioned to reappoint Mark Wallace to the Zoning Hearing Board for a three year term. Seconded by Mrs. Galia; motion carried unanimously.

Parks and Recreation – Cammeo Farally

Mrs. Farally motioned to close the S and T Bank held Community Day bank account and to transfer the money to the existing Park and Recreation Special Events bank account. Seconded by Mr. Dick; motion carried unanimously.

Mrs. Farally thanked everyone who came out to Old Fashioned Christmas which was a great success as well as the bonfire and hay ride the following weekend. She thanked Public Works, Dona Galia and Lorraine Myers for their donations of food items, and the Park and Rec Committee volunteers.

Mrs. Galia motioned to enter into a cooperation agreement with PennDOT to provide one manhole during the 2020 SR130 paving project. PennDOT to perform replacement. Seconded by Mr. Rullo; motion carried unanimously.

Finance and Economic Development – Jim Rullo

Mr. Rullo motioned to pay bills as presented. Seconded by Mrs. Galia; motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Rullo motioned to adopt Ordinance 1032, fixing the real estate tax rate of 9.25 mills within the Borough of Pitcairn for the year 2020. Seconded by Mr. Crothers; motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Rullo motioned to adopt Ordinance 1033 amending Ordinance 917 fixing the salaries and rates of compensation for the appointive officers and monthly and hourly employees of the Borough of Pitcairn beginning January 1, 2020. Seconded by Mr. Dick; motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Rullo motioned to adopt the 2020 General Fund budget as advertised for public review in the amount of \$3,822,930. Seconded by Mr. Crothers; motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Rullo motioned to approve the following end-of-year transfers from the General Fund: \$100,000 to the Capital Projects Fund, \$20,000 to the Electric System Capital Projects Fund, \$8,942.74 to the Bond Repayment Fund to equal \$200,000. The Manager is asking permission to investigate PLGIT for better interest rates for this fund. From the Sewer Revenue Fund, \$100,000 to the Sewer Revenue Capital Fund. Seconded by Mr. Dick; motion carried unanimously.

Health and Welfare – Kevin Dick

Mr. Dick motioned to authorize the Borough Engineer to submit the 2019 Wasteload Management Report to ALCOSAN. Seconded by Mr. Crothers; motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Dick motioned to adopt amendment to Ordinance 1023, the Quality of Life Ordinance, permitting fees to be changed by Resolution. Seconded by Mr. Rullo; motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Dick motioned to adopt Ordinance 1034: a Stormwater Management Act 167 Ordinance of the Borough of Pitcairn. Seconded by Mrs. Galia; motion carried unanimously.

Electric – Lorraine Myers

Public Safety – Doug Crothers

Mr. Crothers motioned to accept the resignation of part time Police Officer, Blake Huck. Seconded by Mr. Dick; motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Crothers motioned to hire part time police officer Tara Caruso. Seconded by Mrs. Galia; motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Crothers motioned to hire part time police officer Justin Woodard. Seconded by Mr. Rullo; motion carried unanimous.

Solicitor's Report

Nothing for the public meeting.

Engineer's Report

EADS Engineer, Don Black highlighted his report, applying for grants, Pitcairn received \$300,000 for Hillside, \$525,000 for Center. EADS met with geotechnical company on Hillside and they think we can do the soil nails repair, the amount won't fix the whole problem, but the main lower slide. EADS will bid it out like Center, we bid it out so we can build upon it, add alternates as we move up the road. The grant apps have no match, you are not obligated, but we will ask the contractors to bid on the whole thing, the lower portion on Hillside slid first, then again after the upper portion, the crack is moving closer to center of road. Mr. Dick asked Mr. Black about making Hillside one-way coming down and placing a Do Not Enter sign at the base. Mr. Black agreed it should be one way. Chief Farally suggested local traffic only.

Mrs. Farally: can we block it completely? After discussion it was agreed upon to make it one-way, downhill, Do Not Enter at the bottom. Mr. Comunale said he would coordinate with Monroeville.

Borough Manager's Report:

Ms. Dietz read aloud the bank fund balances and the Tax Collector report for November 2019.

Police Chief Report:

Chief Farally announced the Department has been working with organizations to distribute toys.

Mr. Tobias thanked everyone for the honor of serving on Council. Mrs. Galia presented him with a plaque and thanked him for serving as Council President. Mr. Dick presented Mr. Crothers with a plaque, thanking him for all of his hard work and dedication to the community. There was applause. (A plaque for Mrs. Myers would be presented at a future meeting when she was in attendance.)

Mr. Dick motioned to Adjourn at 7:55 pm. Seconded by Mrs. Galia; motion carried. Council members wished everyone a good Christmas and New Year.

Respectfully submitted,

Annette Dietz