

**Borough of Pitcairn Council**  
**Workshop/Business Combined Meeting**  
**Minutes**  
**September 13, 2021**  
**6:00 pm**

**Meeting called to order – President Dona Galia**  
**Pledge of Allegiance was recited.**

**Roll Call:**

John Bova  
Kevin Dick  
Debra Freeman  
Dona Galia  
Lisa Petrosky  
Jim Rullo  
Michael Tobias  
Mayor Margaret Stevick

**All Present.**

Mrs. Galia announced Council held an Executive Session at 12:00 pm on August 30, 2021 and 5:00 pm this evening to discuss a personnel matter.

CCAC representatives were in attendance and explained their multi-year request for playing fields use for baseball in the Fall. A movie crew is using their fields for filming. They provided a schedule for Council in advance, several times a week, mainly for practices, occasional scrimmage. Mrs. Freeman, referencing the scrimmages on the schedule, asked how many vehicles would be expected in case the Borough has a seasonal event. For practices, about 12 to 15 vehicles. They don't anticipate playing competition here. If there is a competition, not many more. Mr. Rullo asked: will you maintain the fields. CCAC responded the regular maintenance would fall to Pitcairn, but they could rake after using it. Mr. Dick: no one else is using it right now. Mr. Dick: our crew maintains the field two to three times a week. He added he is asking Gateway to build a mound. Mr. Dick felt we need a left field fence which would lead more people to rent it. Mrs. Galia asked for questions from the public. There were none.

**Mrs. Freeman motioned to approve Resolution 22-2021, entering into a three year agreement with CCAC for playing field use, fees to be paid as follows: 2021 - \$2,000, 2022 - \$2,500 and 2023 - \$3,000. Seconded by Mr. Bova; motion carried unanimously.**

**Mr. Bova motion to approve Minutes from Borough Council's Combined Meeting, August 16, 2021. Seconded by Mr. Rullo; motion carried unanimously.**

**Citizen Comment**

Lavette Smith of the Pitcairn Dreamers and Achievers School thanked the Chief and Council for increased patrolling by police officers. She said the recent shooting was across from her daycare. She hopes the patrolling will continue on foot and in vehicles.

Deb Marto asked the Borough Engineer about Center Avenue, observing that it is sinking more, if pavement is added, doesn't that add to the weight. She felt it had dropped 8 to 9 inches in places. Mr. Black responded when it is paved where the slide was repaired, any depressions in that area will be fixed and it should not drop further.

Heather Luimes of PitCare approached Council regarding Propel Pitcairn School gymnasium. Pitcare is asking when the current agreement is up for renewal, the Borough requires Propel to offer broader community access as it is the only gym in Pitcairn. Because the School is not regularly using it in the afternoons and evenings, Jeff Owen of Pitcare contacted Propel with the request to run their free athletic programs out of the gym when not in use. Pitcare already partners with Focus Beyond the Field in the summer outdoors on the playing fields but are wanting to extend that program during the winter, weekdays from 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm and occasional weekends for special events. Pitcare is asking for council's support. Mr. Bova asked if Propel has responded to Jeff Owen's letter. Ms. Luimes: they said

they may need it for events. Pitcare indicated they could work around those. They have not responded since. Mrs. Petrosky observed that in the past Propel cited Covid 19 as a reason to close the gym for use and she respects that but thought there should be some end to that. Ms. Luimes: we would not be using it at the same time as the school, we can take every precaution, including defogging. Mr. Bova added that he had looked over the lease and Mr. Owen's letter which summarizes it. Mr. Bova: our informal conversations haven't been productive. We may have to have our Solicitor write a letter affirming it is a community facility and the Borough as a right to request more involvement. Ms. Luimes also suggested the Borough authorize Propel to issue Pitcare a key to avoid complaints in the past that a school employee had to stay to lock up.

Mayor Stevick read aloud a proclamation to Phil and Evelyn Arlia, in attendance tonight, recognizing his years of service to the community and wishing him an enjoyable retirement. Mr. and Mrs. Arlia thanked Mayor and Council, voicing gratitude for the privilege and pleasure of serving the community and wishing Pitcairn the best in the future.

#### **Mayor Betsy Stevick**

Pitcairn Police worked 248 complaints in the month of July, collected \$325 in Borough fines, \$760 from the Magistrate, \$269 from the County, \$150 in Quality of Life tickets.

**Mayor requested a motion to approve a handicap parking space in front of 385 Kenney Avenue. Mrs. Petrosky motioned and Mr. Rullo provided the second. Motion carried unanimously.**

Mayor Stevick reminded the public school is open and to follow the school bus laws. Halloween is the 31<sup>st</sup> of October from 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm, as is Monroeville's.

**Mayor Stevick requested a motion to approve hiring of substitute Karen Richards and Wilma McCoy as School Crossing Guards. Mayor reported about twenty children at the stop on Wall Avenue. Motion made by Mr. Dick; seconded by Mr. Bova. Motion carried unanimously.**

#### **Personnel – Dona Galia**

Nothing this evening.

#### **Streets – Kevin Dick**

Mr. Dick motioned to advertise Jake Brake Ordinance as submitted by Solicitor, for adoption on October 11<sup>th</sup>. Seconded by Mr. Bova; motion carried unanimously.

**Mr. Dick motioned to obtain quotes for fence for playing fields. Seconded by Mr. Bova; motion carried unanimously. Mr. Dick added he will ask Gateway to install a mound. Council agreed.**

#### **Parks and Recreation – Debra Freeman**

Mrs. Freeman announced the Harvest Festival will be held on October 23, following the parade. More details to come.

#### **Finance and Economic Development – Lisa Petrosky**

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

Mrs. Petrosky reminded the public to attend and support Pitcairn Night Market, Friday, September 24<sup>th</sup>,

6:00 pm to 9:00 pm. Vendors will be along Broadway between Dan's Floral and Dick's Sports Bar, car cruise, food, live band, activities for kids.

**Mrs. Petrosky motioned to advertise 2022 Budget Meetings at 5:00 pm Monday, October 11<sup>th</sup>, and Monday, November 8<sup>th</sup> to be followed by regular Council Meetings. Final Budget Meeting Monday, November 22<sup>nd</sup> at 5:00 pm. Budget to be advertised for adoption on December 13<sup>th</sup> at regular Council Meeting at 6:00 pm. Seconded by Mr. Rullo; motion carried unanimously.**

**Mrs. Petrosky motioned to approve Resolution 21-2021 adopting the 2022 MMO's as calculated by the actuary: \$42,766 for the Police Pension and \$74,934 for the Non-Uniform Pension. Seconded by Mr. Bova; motion carried unanimously.**

#### **Health and Welfare – Michael Tobias**

**Mr. Tobias motioned to approve attendance by Code Officer Nick Turner to Residential Building Academy, September 27 to October 1, 2021 for a cost of \$395. Seconded by Mrs. Freeman; motion carried unanimously.**

**Mr. Tobias motioned to adopt Resolution 20-2021 approving Vacant Property Program application for 924 Creighton Avenue by Diane Mignogna. Seconded by Mrs. Petrosky; motion carried unanimously.**

#### **Electric – Jack Bova**

Summary of Pennsylvania Municipal Electric Association Conference attended by Mr. Bova and Mr. Dick. Mr. Bova reported that during the conference they were able to network with the few other Pennsylvania municipalities that own electric companies as well as service contractors. Our lead electrician is retiring next year and as we prepare, we are asking other boroughs how they provide the services. Mr. Bova added, Pitcairn has been asked to consider a solar installation though we don't have much available land, we are exploring that.

**Mr. Bova motioned to approve Resolution 23-2021, the purchase and financing for a new electric department bucket truck, from PLREI for \$146,914, financing \$90,000 through S and T Bank at 2.95%, 5 year loan. Seconded by Mrs. Freeman; motion carried unanimously.**

Referencing the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of 911, Mr. Bova thanked Mayor Stevick for her time and effort over the years as a volunteer at the Shanksville Memorial.

#### **Public Safety – Jim Rullo**

**Mr. Rullo motioned to accept the resignation of Police Officer Anthony Peduzzi. Seconded by Mrs. Freeman; motion carried unanimously.**

**Mr. Rullo motioned to approve Resolution 24-2021, the hiring of Tara Caruso for Community Relations Ordinance Officer at \$23.03 an hour, full time employee, as of September 13, 2021. Seconded by Mr. Bova; motion carried unanimously.**

**Mr. Rullo motioned to end negotiations for police services with Wilmerding if no agreement is reached by October 1, 2021. Seconded by Mrs. Petrosky. Mrs. Galia explained we have been negotiating through solicitors. We submitted an agreement to protect Pitcairn. They have not**

replied yet. It would be difficult for Chief to meet the January 1st start date if negotiations go beyond October 1<sup>st</sup>. Motion carried unanimously.

**Solicitor's Report**

Nothing further.

**Engineer's Report**

Mr. Black reported he has spoken to Liberoni regarding the paving of Hillside and Center. They will come to Pitcairn next week or week after. Mrs. Petrosky asked if they gave a quote for paving 13<sup>th</sup> Street. Mr. Black replied they will submit a quote when we meet with them on site and get back to Council.

Mr. Dick asked if the two other alleys discussed by Council were also included. Mr. Black confirmed they were.

**Borough Manager's Report**

Ms. Dietz read aloud the bank fund balances and summarized the Tax Collector report.

**Police Chief Report**

Chief Farally responded to Ms. Smith's prior request for visible policing and he reassured her the heavy police presence will continue.

**Mr. Dick motioned to start the process of putting computers in the police cars. There is money in Public Safety. Seconded by Mr. Rullo; motion carried unanimously. Mayor Stevick thanked Mr. Dick.**

Mrs. Galia added the Borough has had a lot going on; our police have handled things very professionally.

**Mr. Dick motioned to adjourn at 6:32 pm. Seconded by Mr. Rullo; motion carried.**

Respectfully submitted,  
Annette Dietz