

**Borough of Pitcairn
Council Agenda Workshop Meeting
Minutes
September 23, 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
Jim Rullo
Mike Tobias
Mayor Stevick
All present.

Council held an Executive Session at 6:00 to discuss a personnel item.

Citizen Comment

Update from Rebecca Mizikar of Grounded: the organization cannot use the Kenney Avenue vacant lot as it could take five months for the Borough to take ownership through the County's Vacant Property Program and the grant Grounded was awarded will expire. The project needs to be finished in October. Ms. Mizikar asked Council to consider 457 Second Street and the lot at Wall and Walcarin, distributing handouts to Council which included suggested play elements made of natural materials as well as working with other community groups already active in Pitcairn. They are ready with contractors and supplies first weekend in October. Discussion took place that neither lot was ideal for the intended use. Mr. Crothers: Pitcairn Community Renaissance has a vacant lot on 300 block of Second St. He will approach the nine-member board and get back to her in a day or two.

Virginia Crothers asked status of easements for flood project. Mr. Dick: there have been delays on some of the easements due to new questions from the DGS attorney. A meeting was recently held with the Solicitor and Interstate Acquisitions to handle these new requirements. Mrs. Crothers asked when the meetings will be broadcast. Council asked Ms. Dietz to inquire of Jim Comunale if it is possible.

Tom Dick began a discussion of his suggestion that Pitcairn hire a Fire Marshal as opposed to using the County. He complained of a recent incident where they were made to wait two hours until the Fire Marshal arrived. Tom said they get paid by the hour and he does not. He said as Fire Chief he has options. Rather than keep three pieces of equipment and guys waiting on site, he can have the Police guard the building until the County Fire Marshal arrives. He realizes the County is free of charge to the Borough, but asked that Al Hussey be hired as Fire Marshal, he also knows about Code, adding that Code Officers Mr. Prucnal and Nick Turner are still learning.

Tom Dick asked Council to restart the cable system. He felt people would be willing to pay more to leave Verizon. Councilman Dick: when local channels were free it was viable. As channels increased in cost, Pitcairn Cable was more expensive than the competition, subscribers decreased and the system was losing money. Tom Dick asked why Pitcairn allowed Verizon in town and why doesn't Comcast come into town. Mr. Dick reported Council met with Comcast and they were not interested in coming to Pitcairn.

Mayor Betsy Stevick

Mayor Stevick reported Pitcairn Police worked 237 complaints. She read the various fines collected.

Personnel – Dona Galia

Mrs. Galia: the Borough's monthly Safety Committee received State certification again this year to achieve a 5% discount on Workers Compensation Insurance. All Borough facilities will be inspected in October.

Mrs. Galia invited everyone to the new Borough Building Dedication on Saturday, September 28th at 10:00 am. Board members of the Gilliland Foundation are coming; please attend to thank them for their generous donation toward the building.

Streets – Mike Tobias

Mr. Tobias: bids for the sale of 428 Highland will be opened on October 14th during Council’s Meeting at 7:00 pm.

Parks and Recreation – Cammeo Farally

Mrs. Farally asked Ms. Dietz to look into grants for constructing a dog park at the small ball fields or by the water tower, converting the Head End parklet, moving the equipment. Mrs. Galia suggested Council first poll the neighbors living near the park.

Finance and Economic Development – Jim Rullo

Mr. Rullo: the Borough is in receipt of the 2019 Fire Relief Association State Aid Allocation and the 2019 Pension State Aid.

Mr. Rullo motioned to adopt Resolution 48-2019 establishing 2020 MMO for Non-Uniform Pension \$78,083 and Police Pension \$56,506. Seconded by Mrs. Myers; motion carried unanimously.

Health and Welfare – Kevin Dick

Mr. Dick announced bids for trash, e-waste and household hazardous waste collection will be opened on Thursday, October 3rd at 10:00 am.

Mr. Dick motioned to approve Resolution 49-2019 permitting future acquisitions by the Land Bank in partnership with the National Community Stabilization Trust “NCST”. Seconded by Mrs. Myers; motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Dick asked Chief Farally to make phone calls investigating who uses fire marshals and who they use.

Electric – Lorraine Myers

Mrs. Myers announced the Borough has received a quote for substation transformer field service for \$5,950 which Electrical Engineer Mike Lewis feels is high. Other options are being investigated. Mr. Lewis attended the PMEA Conference on behalf of Pitcairn and will be submitting his findings.

Mrs. Myers motioned to approve traffic signal controller with software for Center and Broadway for \$4,930.50 from Traffic Systems and Services. Seconded by Mr. Dick; motion carried unanimously.

Public Safety – Doug Crothers

Nothing tonight.

Police Chief Report

Pitcairn Police and Monroeville EMS will offer free flu shots. Chief Farally listed the date and times.

Mr. Tobias congratulated Vice President Dona Galia on her retirement after 30 years in the field of education and with Allegheny County Head Start program. There was applause.

Mr. Dick motioned to Adjourn at 7:34 pm. Seconded by Mrs. Farally; motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Annette Dietz