

Meeting called to order at 7:00 PM by Pres. Bodish.

In attendance were Bodish, Dreisbach, Santoroski, Kern, Luckenbach, Sodl, Mayor Burker, PWD Boyle, Hermany, Chief Emerich, and Fire Chief Britt

EMA Grim was absent

Pres. Bodish led pledge of allegiance:

Hearing of person: Mr. Bundra-liaison for IRT. Tree trimmer along IRT, 4 men w/ 2 chippers. Requesting approval for annual \$500 & any additional grant money for trail benches & refurbish caboose. Mihaela Mfarej from Whitehall Coplay press- requests to record meeting and take photos. Annie- appreciates larger print on agenda. Requesting on form to have in parentheses ie: to fix pool.

PWD Boyle- January normal operations. Town square clock replaced glass on design failure at Town Square. IRT tree work \$3,800.00 requesting amount come out of IRT budget. Project list for 2024 presented. Great Western starts (weather permitting) Feb 19 concrete restoration work (patch, pave and overlay) on 2nd Street, then going to Front Street (milling and overlay). Emergency road repair scheduled 2/12 10th Street & Center Circle with Charles Herman. Gas service line on 4th Street. Paul will give Chief Emerich dates of when the road will be closed to move police vehicles.

BCO Helman- Nothing to report

Chief Emerich- reported December: 7 traffic tickets, 8 written warnings, 3 parking tickets. Year 2023 down in calls 2677, last year 2773- possible due to staff shortage 134 hours, 17 shifts covered by state police. Hiring the new cadets was the right move. Immediate future of free training course 2/14 & 2/15 of traffic & inspection. A total of 4 trainings for the year hosted at the Borough, thanked CCD for classroom. Requesting to secure a dog shelter to take strays found. CGIS audit was completed. Suggested daily log sheets, implemented already in February. Participated and judged in regional vo-tech "Skills USA Challenge". Tentative date Consortium 3/23. No vacancy currently. Wants private civil service test available here. Only for ppl who have their 120 or for part time employees.

Fire Chief Britt -reported January: 26 calls, 7 reports fires. Thanked Vito and Rick for community block grants. Awarded \$15,201.21 OFC grant to replace fire hose on truck- 12month wait time. 2 members in training in Bucks Co Fire academy. 1 member is in Haz mat commander school. 75% of members are water rescue certified. Goal to have 100% end of summer. Easter Egg hunt scheduled noon 3/23. Thanked Chief Emerich for CPR training and Paul & PW for repairs. Normal operations.

Charles Sodl- \$37,897.00 grant for interceptor vehicle. \$19,341.00 estimate for lights and radio. Total grant \$59,640. The borough is obligated for \$1000.00.

Benson – Reported received UGI street opening to start in 1 month on Ruch, Poplar and Oak Street for upgrade process. Service electric franchise check \$7184.67 Audit process started today- will take about 1 month. PSAB plaque for 2024 hung as current members.

Discussion of any problems/matters:

Mayor- Thank council Sodl for backing Chief & also supports Chief.

Dreisbach- Nothing to Report

Hermany- reported emailed Mr. Hartman for lifeguards through school. Requesting fundraiser w/ calendar as last year to be done again. Requesting list of past lifeguards to contact. Unable to attend upcoming Field trip.

Kern- Admin – Jan & Feb running smoothly. With snowstorms, Heather worked from home twice and had phones forwarded to her, because of the road conditions. Tiffany braved the roads and came in to have the office open. Finance: going as normal, I'm learning a lot about money & Government financing.

Grants- 8 grants involved in. Waiting to hear back money received or money waiting on. Grant: Pending State LSA Grant Street sweeper \$352,000.00. Local LSA grant for \$30,500. Refurbish Basketball courts on Cherry Street. Have until 6/2025 to spend grant. CDBG grant fully funded. Multi modal grant submitted in January for \$1.3M with \$300,000. match for 5 streets in Borough to be fully refurbished. Meeting with Mr. Gallo, Chief Emerich and myself on Thursday to discuss PCCD grant and PA State police grant for recruitment and retention grant along with a getting a TruNarc machine. DCED grant will cover pool pumps and 8 ADA benches. Next Wednesday looking at Keith Haring Fitness court in Kutztown and to possibly apply for changing tennis courts to pickleball courts.

Luckenbach-nothing reported

Santoroski- reported he sat in on Grant meeting and he differed report to Kern till he learns the ropes.

Sodl – Nothing to report

Bodish – Garbage is under normal operations. Approve the ordinance in #860 change in general purpose tax rate to 8.46 mils from 8.33 mils. Emergency services .63 to .50 total tax rate same at 9.34.

Hearing of Persons Present: Mr. Bundra questioned if town square clock was vandalized. IRT engraved caboose picture sign was ripped down. Clock was defective, no vandalism per Mr. Boyle.

At Regular Meeting:

Approve fee waiver for Coplay Sports to use Social Hall for Fundraiser on March 16th from 10AM to 10PM.

Approve request for Annual \$500.00 donation to the IRT.

Approve to amended Ordinance #860 changing General Purposes tax rate to 8.46 mils from 8.33 mils and Emergency Services from .63 mils to .50 mils, keeping the Total tax rate the same at 9.34 mils.

Approve the dates and waiver of Social Hall rental fee for the 2 Borough craft fairs for Saturday, March 3rd and Saturday July 27th.

Approve advertising for Pool Manager, Lifeguards, and Gatekeepers.

Approve to pay 50% Estimate to Pool Pro in the amount of \$17,381.25 to order parts for the upgrades in compliance with award for DCED Act 13 Greenways, Trails & Recreation Grant.

Approve CDBG Grant purchase of 2023 Fire Interceptor Vehicle through PA CoStars program in the amount of \$37,897.00.

Approve CDBG Grant purchase to upfit Fire Interceptor Vehicle from B. Moyer Radio in the amount of \$19,341.84.

Approve Fire Department to use Saylor field & Social Hall for Easter Egg Hunt on March 23rd at 12:00PM

Approve G.H. Harris Associates to collect outstanding 2023 Borough Per Capita taxes in the amount of \$3,531.00 including penalties.

Any other items for Discussion:

Motion by Mr. Sodl, second by Mr. Kern, to adjourn into Executive Session for Personnel & Real Estate at 8:00PM. Meeting will not reconvene.

Regular Meeting February 13, 2024 at 7PM