

New Stanton Borough Council meeting

April 18, 2013

The April 18, 2013 Council meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Council President Scott Sistek. The meeting was held at the Municipal Building located at 451 North Center Avenue, New Stanton, Pennsylvania. A Prayer was read and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Councilmembers present were Linda Echard, Scott Sistek, Wilbur Bussard, Brandon Clawson, Todd Bartlow arrived at 7:45 p.m., Dean Clark, and Thomas Smith. Also present Mayor Nicholas DeSantis. Junior Councilperson Carolyn Loucks was absent.

Approval of minutes

Wilbur Bussard made a motion second by Linda Echard to approve the minutes from the April 4, 2013 meeting. Motion carried.

Council additions to Agenda

Councilman Smith added pay resolution changes to the agenda.

Public Comment

There was no Public Comment

Reports

Council President stated that we had a request from a resident looking to sell subs on the Borough property. Council did not have a problem with the resident selling subs as long as it was for Hempfield band.

Mayor DeSantis stated that he mentioned at a meeting about cell towers. The gentleman will be in town next week to look at the areas we have.

Mayor DeSantis stated that he received a call from the Real Estate Manager for Supervalu. She is looking into why construction has not started on the one in Youngwood and if that is not going forward she will talk to us.

Agenda

Mayor DeSantis stated that I looked into a lightning detection system. I approached the Budget Committee last year and the cost is \$3,550.00

Brandon Clawson made a motion second by Dean Clark to purchase a Sky Scan Field Pro Lightning Detection System. Motion carried.

Councilman Bussard addressed Council about two grills for the Park. We have two that cannot be fixed. There was some discussion about the grills.

Brandon Clawson made a motion second by Dean Clark to purchase two grills for the Park. Motion carried.

Councilman Bussard stated that we need two new volleyball nets and two tether balls.

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Wilbur Bussard made a motion second by Dean Clark to purchase two volleyball nets and two tether balls. Motion carried

Councilman Bussard stated that we need two toilets at the Park to replace the ones that are cracked.

Wilbur Bussard made a motion second by Linda Echard to purchase two toilets for the Park. Motion carried.

Councilman Smith asked if we were getting the plumbing fixed. There was a brief discussion and Councilman Clark stated that he would have someone look at the plumbing.

Councilman Bussard stated we will be receiving some trees again this year.

Councilman Bussard stated that we need to get some prices on new rails for the split rail fence.

Mr. Evans stated that the County Planning would like to move forward with a ten year plan for the comprehensive plan. There was some discussion about the recommendation from the Planning Commission. Council President Sistek stated that he would request the County Planning to come to another meeting.

Council had a brief discussion on the recommendation from Planning Commission on Speedway plans

Brandon Clawson made a motion second by Thomas Smith to table the recommendation from Planning Commission on Speedway. Motion carried.

Councilman Smith stated that the pay resolutions were not changed when Personnel Committee decided to leave the office open during lunch. There was a brief discussion.

Brandon Clawson made a motion second by Wilbur Bussard to change the pay resolutions to reflect the office will now have split lunch hours keeping the office open during lunch. Motion carried with Todd Bartlow abstaining because of arriving late and Thomas Smith voting no.

Personnel & Human Resources

Brandon Clawson stated that Personnel Committee met on Sunday to discuss a few items. We have asked John to review a new procedures and policies, code of conduct and he has given us back his comments. Our goal is to review it and bring to the meeting in May and in my absence one of you will have to present it. The Second item is we have an individual to open and close the Park temporarily. We have selected Randy Moore to open and close the Park. The last item I have and everyone has copies of is the ordinance that John sent us for the Borough Manager. Personnel Committee recommends that Council authorize John to prepare an Ordinance and advertise that Ordinance. Councilman Smith stated that I think we should have a town meeting on whether or not to hire a Borough Manager. Everyone that I have spoken to said we do not need a Borough Manager. Councilwoman Echard stated I remember when we wanted

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a Police Force and the residents did not want it so it makes me wonder if the residents would want a Borough Manager. Councilman Bartlow stated that I look at a Borough Manager as saving money not spending money as with a police force. Councilman Clawson agreed with Councilman Bartlow. Councilman Smith stated that my concern is that we may lose an employee. We all agreed that we don't need the employees we have. Councilman Clawson stated that I never said that. Councilman Smith stated that we all agreed that we did not need two full time secretaries and if anybody is going to sit here and say no, I will tell you to your face you are a liar. If we keep everyone we have now what is this gentleman going to do? If he does what I read in here we are going to lose an employee and one employee will have to take a \$5.00 pay cut based on what the Borough Managers job description is. Councilman Clawson stated so you don't feel that the employees we have could be made into other areas to help with other situations and other areas of our business and day to day aspects. Councilman Smith stated that if we didn't need two full time secretaries now we have three full time. Councilman Clawson stated that I would hope that individual is not a secretary but in the managerial aspect of things. Councilman Smith stated that I feel we should have a town meeting. Council had a lengthy discussion about the Borough Managers position.

Brandon Clawson made a motion second by Todd Bartlow to authorize John to prepare and advertise an Ordinance for a Borough Manager. Motion carried with Linda Echard and Thomas Smith voting no.

Brandon Clawson made a motion second by Todd Bartlow to advertise the hiring of a Borough Manager. Motion carried with Linda Echard and Thomas Smith voting no.

Councilman Smith stated that he attended the G7 Summit today at 10:00 a.m. and that it was very informative and that Mr. Steele should have attended.

Announcements

1. **G7 Summit – Mennonite Camp Laurelville, PA – Today – April 20, 2013**
2. **WCBA Annual Banquet – Lakeview – April 19, 2013**
3. **PSAB Annual Conference – Hershey, PA – May 5 – 8, 2013**
4. **Community Yard Sale – June 1, 2013**

Public Comment

Dr. Mack addressed the Mayor about breaking a tie vote and that he should not be on a committee per section 1003 of the Borough Code. Commenting on the Borough Manager it is not good economics to have a fulltime higher paid employee and do away with two low paying employees. I did read in the Tribune Review awhile back that in Mt. Pleasant Borough and North Huntingdon that there was something about the Borough Manager and funds and they didn't know where it was.

Mrs. Morgan addressed Council about a Borough Manager and stated that she does not know much about it. I don't know if it is good or bad but I will tell you one thing we have two people one was Brandon who never got elected and Todd missed about nine meetings last year and you are telling us that we need a Borough Manager. Why don't you want

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a town meeting? Councilman Bartlow stated that there is no way that somebody could accurately assess if we need a Borough Manager or not. There was some discussion between Councilman Bartlow, Mrs. Morgan and Councilman Clark.

Councilman Smith stated that he spoke to Mel about the Hunker project and we have a violation here that probably needs to go to the Magistrate.

Todd Bartlow made motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Ann Roll

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Secretary