

TOWN OF McCANDLESS
MEETING OF TOWN COUNCIL
MINUTES

APRIL 27, 2020

TOWN HALL

The virtual Town Council meeting of April 27, 2020 was called to order at 7:30 p.m. by Council President Zachary (Ward1), with participation of the following Councilmembers: Bill Kirk (Ward 2), Charles J. Mazur (Ward 3), Joan D. Powers (Ward 4), Angela M. Woods (Ward 5), Carolyn L. Schweiger (Ward 6) and Patricia A. Cloonan (Ward 7). Other participants include: Town Attorney Gavin A. Robb of Tucker Arensberg, Town Manager Robert T. Grimm, Assistant Town Manager/Finance Director Trisha Greathouse, Planning and Development Administrator RJ Susko, Public Works Superintendent Mark Sabina, Interim Chief of Police Ryan Hawk and Administrative Assistant Marie Haller. Additional participants: Brian Danley (resident) and other members of the public were present, but did not sign-in.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Council President Zachary announced the following:

Authorities, Boards, Commissions and Advisory Committees – Town meetings will resume via video conferencing and details will be posted on the Town’s website.

Seeking Applicants for 2020-21 Junior Councilperson - Applications for the 2020-2021 Junior Councilperson position are currently being accepted, with interviews to held in May.

Senior Recognition – Senior Spotlight

In response to the COVID-19 school closures and the cancelation of graduation ceremonies, the Town is recognizing graduating high school and college seniors by featuring a “Senior Spotlight” section on the Town’s website. Information will be displayed to publicly recognize graduates to acknowledge their accomplishments.

McCandless Cares and Shares Food Drive

Volunteers and contributors were recognized for their hard work and generous contributions for this food drive. More than 400 bags of groceries have been received and packed for distribution on April 29. It was noted staff members will provide assistance with the flow of traffic and the food distribution.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Brian Danley, 350 Richard Road, discussed ongoing concerns and suggestions pertaining to stormwater issues impacting his property.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion was made by Councilmember Powers and seconded by Councilmember Kirk to approve the April 13, 2020 regular meeting minutes of Town Council, with changes as discussed.

The motion carried unanimously.

LIAISON REPORTS

The following updates were provided:

- a. Activities Committee – Patricia A. Cloonan; Carolyn L. Schweiger (alternate) – There was no meeting held.
- b. Community Day Committee – Angela M. Woods; Patricia A. Cloonan (alternate) - The last meeting occurred March 10th. Plans are moving along; the parade, car cruise and several acts have been scheduled.
- c. Environmental Advisory Committee – Angela M. Woods; Carolyn L. Schweiger (alternate) – There was no meeting held.
- d. Finance Development & Promotional Committee for the Heritage Center – Joan D. Powers; Chuck J. Mazur (alternate) – There was no meeting held.
- e. Joint Recreation Board – Chuck J. Mazur; Patricia A. Cloonan (alternate) – Councilmember Cloonan reported that this year’s Gerard J. Aufman, Jr. Joint Recreation Program has been canceled. She also reported the board plans to meet in September or October to begin planning for the 2021 program.
- f. Junior Councilmember – Michael Taffe – A report from Mr. Taffe was distributed to councilmembers in advance of the meeting. It was noted Mr. Taffe was unavailable to participate in this meeting.
- g. McCandless-Franklin Park Ambulance Authority (MFPAA) – Bill Kirk; Joan D. Powers (alternate) – Councilmember Kirk reported the MFPAA has met weekly for the past several weeks to discuss proactively addressing serious concerns regarding the financial impact of the Covid-19 pandemic. A presentation will soon be sent to all municipalities.
- h. McCandless Industrial Development Authority – Chuck J. Mazur; Bill Kirk (alternate) – A meeting was held April 22 and drafted minutes were distributed to councilmembers in advance of the meeting.
- i. McCandless Township Sanitary Authority – Bill Kirk; Chuck J. Mazur (alternate) – Meeting minutes were distributed to councilmembers in advance of the meeting. Councilmember Kirk discussed a modified work schedule that is in place to continue operations.
- j. North Hills Council of Governments – Angela M. Woods; Chuck J. Mazur (alternate) – There was no meeting held.
- k. Northland Public Library Authority – Joan D. Powers; Angela M. Woods (alternate) – Minutes were distributed to councilmembers in advance of the meeting. Councilmember Powers reported efforts are being made by library staff to reach out to the community as much as possible to provide virtual services and extend lending deadlines.
- l. North Pittsburgh Community Development Authority – Chuck J. Mazur; Bill Kirk (alternate) – There was no meeting held.
- m. Personnel Board – Carolyn L. Schweiger; Kim Zachary (alternate) – There was no meeting held.

- n. Planning Commission – Kim Zachary; Patricia Cloonan (alternate) – There was no meeting held.
- o. Technology Committee – Bill Kirk; Angela M. Woods (alternate) – There was no meeting held.
- p. Volunteer Firefighters Steering Committee – Carolyn L. Schweiger; Joan D. Powers – There was no meeting held.
- q. Zoning Hearing Board – Patricia A. Cloonan; Kim Zachary (alternate) - There was no meeting held.

PRESIDENT OF COUNCIL'S REPORT and CORRESPONDENCE

No additional items reported and at this time.

TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT

Town Manager Grimm highlighted the following items included with his monthly report:

Multi-Modal Grant Projects

Work is progressing on two Multi-Modal grant funded pedestrian mobility projects, which includes work being done to connect an area of Route 19 and the Oakridge Plan of Lots and for the completion of sidewalks being constructed to connect Grubbs Road to Ingomar Road.

LED Conversion at Town Hall

Public Works crews have completed the conversion to LED lighting at Town Hall and it is anticipated that savings on electricity will begin.

Pine Creek Flooding

The Town is reviewing a multi-pronged approach to consider various methods to address flooding in the Pine Creek Watershed area. The Town is working with the North Hills Council of Governments along with the EPA and PADEP to update the Watershed Implementation Plan, with the Army Corp of Engineers on other initiatives to address hazard mitigation, and with upstream neighbors to address control of stormwater flow.

TOWN ATTORNEY'S REPORT

Town Attorney Robb's monthly report was submitted to Town Council in advance of this meeting and questions pertaining to this report, particularly those of a confidential nature, may be discussed in an Executive Session if deemed necessary.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Ordinance No. 1497 – Zoning Amendment (8500 Thompson Run Rd)

Motion was made by Councilmember Kirk and seconded by Councilmember Powers to adopt Ordinance No. 1497, an ordinance amending the zoning district of certain property located at 8500 Thompson Run Road, also identified as Block and Lot No. 717-J-216, from C-7 (Office Building District) to R-3 (Townhouse and Garden Apartment District) and amend the Town's zoning map accordingly. A public hearing was held on March 9, 2020 and was reviewed on April 13, 2020.

Councilmembers thanked staff members for providing additional information to clarify this rezoning request which included a summary of setbacks and lot coverage, an overlay map and historical points to show the impact to adjoining property owners.

Several Councilmembers voiced support of this amendment. Council President voiced her concern with the planned buffer zone for the residential units. Councilmember Powers shared concern about the number of units being proposed, both of which will be reviewed and considered following the submission of a site plan.

The motion carried unanimously.

Ordinance No. 1498 – ROW and Channel Easement (Rochester Road Project)

Motion was made by Councilmember Kirk and seconded by Councilmember Schweiger to adopt Ordinance No.1498, an ordinance to authorize the conveyance of a right-a-way and channel easement to the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania for drainage work to be performed along Rochester Road.

Council President Zachary provided a brief summary of work to be done.

The motion carried unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS

Motion was made by Councilmember Cloonan and seconded by Councilmember Woods to adopt Ordinance No. 1499, an ordinance of the Town of McCandless, County of Allegheny, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, authorizing an extension of time for the filing of returns and the payment of business privilege tax, for license year 2020 only, from May 15, 2020, until July 15, 2020.

Councilmembers expressed support of this ordinance.

The motion carried unanimously.

OTHER NEW BUSINESS

Councilmember Kirk announced that he will be submitting his formal resignation as a member of Town Council, representing Ward 2.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion was made by Councilmember Powers, seconded by Councilmember Mazur and carried unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 8:18 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Robert T. Grimm
Town Manager

/mah