

December 6, 2018
COUNCIL MEETING

Following the Pledge of Allegiance and a brief invocation, the Apollo Borough council meeting was called to order by Council President John Kautz at 7:00 PM in the Apollo Borough Municipal building council chambers.

Present: Council members John Kautz, Diane Bradshaw, Ashley Stiffy, Dennis Gabrielli, Dylan Foster, John Steele, and Nancy Walker were present. Solicitor Tim Miller was present. Mayor Virostek was present. Borough Manager was present.

Public Comments:

Mike Mollick – Acknowledged that John Kautz and Diane Bradshaw attended the hazard mitigation meeting in Armstrong County yesterday. He appreciated their attendance on the borough's behalf.

Numerous residents attended the meeting to express their opinions on the tax increase, hiring another full time police officer, and dissolving the position of the borough manager.

Mayor Virostek agrees with the public comments regarding another full time officer. She states that the statistics, as well as the budget, prove we do not need a second full time officer.

A motion was made by John Steele, and seconded by Ashley Stiffy to go into executive session to discuss litigation and personnel. Motion passed unanimously.

At 8:25 PM a motion was made by Dylan Foster, and seconded by Denny Gabrielli to return to regular meeting session.

A motion was made by Diane Bradshaw, and seconded by Dylan Foster, to rescind the vote made on November 26, 2018 to terminate the Borough Manager position in the borough and to establish a similar part time position. Roll call vote: Diane Bradshaw – yes; Dylan Foster – yes; Nancy Walker- no; Denny Gabrielli – yes; John Steele – no; John Kautz – yes; Ashley Stiffy – no. Motion passed by majority.

Engineering Report: A motion was made by Denny Gabrielli, and seconded by Nancy Walker, to approve payment of Olsen invoices #16160 - \$433.50, #16161 - \$153.00 (sewer fund), and #16159 - \$463.00. Motion passed unanimously.

Solicitor's Report: A motion was made by Nancy Walker, and seconded by Ashley Stiffy, to accept the resignation of Timothy Miller, Solicitor effective 12-31-2018. Motion passed unanimously.

A motion was made by Dylan Foster, and seconded by Ashley Stiffy, to accept the resignation of Ron Bash, Meter Enforcement officer, effective November 26, 2018. Motion passed unanimously.

A motion was made by Dylan Foster, and seconded by Denny Gabrielli, to accept the resignation of Joe Estermyer, Estermyer Accounting, as auditor effective December 31, 2018. Motion passed unanimously.

A motion was made by Dylan Foster, and seconded by Diane Bradshaw, to advertise in legal journals for a new solicitor. Motion passed unanimously.

A motion was made by Dylan Foster, and seconded by Denny Gabrielli, to advertise for a new auditor. Motion passed unanimously.

A motion was made by John Steele, and seconded by Diane Bradshaw, to advertise for a new meter enforcement employee in the Leader Times, and on the Apollo Borough website.

A motion was made by Denny Gabrielli, and seconded by Diane Bradshaw, to approve payment of the solicitor's bills in the total amount of \$1045.00. Motion passed unanimously.

Approval of Minutes: A motion was made by Ashley Stiffy, and seconded by Nancy Walker, to approve the meeting minutes from November 15, 2018. Motion passed unanimously.

A motion was made by Dylan Foster, and seconded by Ashley Stiffy, to approve the minutes from November 26, 2018. Motion passed unanimously.

Mayor's Report:

Borough Manager Report: A motion was made by Nancy Walker, and seconded by Dylan Foster, to approve the required signatures to the loan modification agreement with First Commonwealth Bank. Motion passed unanimously.

A motion was made by Ashley Stiffy, and seconded by Nancy Walker, to approve the 2019 fee schedule as presented. Motion passed unanimously.

A motion was made by Denny Gabrielli, and seconded by Nancy Walker, to approve the appointment list as presented for 2019. Motion passed unanimously.

Planning Committee Report

Ashley Stiffy – Chairman

Public Works & Streets Committee Report

Nancy Walker – Chairman

Public Safety & Public Service Committee Report

Diane Bradshaw – Chairman

Jake Smith would like to provide a 9' decorated tree for the borough.

The Rock Church would like to have an event in the plaza. No generator will be allowed. Power may be provided from one of the businesses.

Property Committee Report

Dennis Gabrielli – Chairman

Finance Committee Report

John Kautz – Chairman

The proposed 2019 budget was discussed. Diane Bradshaw presented a modified budget for consideration that eliminated another full time police officer from the public safety budget, and reduced the hours and pay for the Borough Manager position, and lowered the property tax increase to 3 mils. She proposed 1.5 mils into the general expenses and another 1.5 mils into a road tax fund to be used only for permanent road improvements. This budget totaled \$511,901. A motion was made by Diane Bradshaw, and seconded by John Steele, to advertise this proposed budget for review by the public. Motion passed unanimously.

A motion was made by Diane Bradshaw to rescind the motion made on October 25, 2018 to hire a full time officer in 2019 due to budgetary reasons, seconded by Dylan Foster. Roll call vote – John Kautz – yes; Diane Bradshaw – yes; Nancy Walker – yes; Denny Gabrielli – yes; John Steele – yes; Dylan Foster – yes; Ashley Stiffy – Abstained. Motion passed by majority.

A motion was made by Nancy Walker, and seconded by Ashley Stiffy, to advertise the 2019 tax ordinance at a total of 14.65 mils (after the proposed budget is adopted). Motion passed unanimously.

A motion was made by John Steele, and seconded by Nancy Walker, to increase property taxes by 1.5 mil for the general fund, and 1.5 mil for a road tax fund. Roll call vote: John Kautz – yes; Diane Bradshaw – yes; Denny Gabrielli – yes; Nancy Walker – yes; Ashley Stiffy – yes; John Steele – yes; Dylan Foster – Yes. Motion passed unanimously.


A motion was made by Denny Gabrielli, and seconded by Diane Bradshaw, to cancel the meeting scheduled for December 13, 2018, and reschedule a meeting for December 17, 2018 at 7:00 PM. Motion passed unanimously.

At 9:20 PM a motion was made by Nancy Walker, and seconded by Diane Bradshaw to enter into executive session to discuss personnel. Motion passed unanimously.

At 9:30 PM a motion was made by Nancy Walker, and seconded by Diane Bradshaw, to return to regular session. Motion passed unanimously.

The Mayor notified council she will be performing marriages at the last public meeting. She asked council to use the meeting room/Mayor's office to perform a wedding on December 31, 2018. A motion was made by Dylan Foster, and seconded by Ashley Stiffy to approve. Motion passed unanimously.

A motion was made by Denny Gabrielli, and seconded by Ashley Stiffy, to adjourn the meeting. Motion passed unanimously.


John Kautz
Council President


Cynthia McDermott
Borough Manager