

The Council of the Borough of Plum held their regular monthly meeting on Monday, December 10, 2013 at 7:00 p.m. at the Plum Borough Municipal Building, 4575 New Texas Road, Plum, PA 15239.

ROLL CALL: Present were council members: John Anderson, Mike Dell, Mike Doyle, Don Knopfel, Keith Nowalk, Len Szarmach, Steve Taylor and Mayor Richard Hrivnak.

Motion was made by Mr. Nowalk, seconded by Mr. Taylor, to approve the Treasurer's Report for the month of November. Unanimously approved.

Motion was made by Mr. Nowalk, seconded by Mr. Taylor, to approve the expenses for the month of November:

Monthly Recurring Payables	\$ 42,527.22
Payables Requiring Council Approval	271,496.48
Street Improvement Fund	72,220.38
Fire Fund	31,731.01
Debt Payment	6,811.10
Public Works Facility	77,792.75
Purchasing Card Direct Vendor Payments:	
Allied Republic	133,627.76
Cintas	3,039.01

Unanimously approved.

Motion was made by Mr. Nowalk, seconded by Mr. Anderson, to approve the minutes of the November 13, 2013 council meeting. Unanimously approved.

President's Comments – Mr. Doyle presented council member Keith Nowalk with a plaque in recognition of his four years as a council member.

Mr. Doyle spoke of the former Mayor, Al Franci who recently passed away. Mr. Doyle said that Mayor Franci was one of the founders of Plum EMS and suggested that the new EMS/Renton fire department be named in his honor.

Motion was made by Mr. Nowalk, seconded by Mr. Szarmach, to add to the agenda, naming of the new Emergency Services Building/Renton Fire Department after the former Mayor Al Franci. Unanimously approved.

Tom Izydore, Director of Emergency Services and Bob Morran stated that Al Franci was implemental in the founding of EMS. Mr. Morran said that while the former mayor was campaigning he was promoting EMS. The establishment of the EMS was the first thing Mayor Franci did after being elected. Mr. Morran noted that they have had over 35,000 calls in 24 years.

Lori Franci, daughter of the late mayor, announced the family was establishing an Angel Fund to assist individuals financially when there is a need with EMS costs. Ms. Franci announced that donations can be made by accessing the website: www.justgive.org\AlfredFranci.

Motion was made by Mr. Nowalk, seconded by Mr. Taylor, to name the new EMS/Renton fire department building in honor of Mayor Al Franci. Unanimously approved.

RECOGNITION OF ACHIEVEMENTS IN THE COMMUNITY - None

Manager's Report – Mr. Thomas had nothing to report.

Citizens Comments – Agenda Items – None

Citizens Comments – Non Agenda Items – Ms. Diane Emge of Alcan Drive spoke of the cars speeding on her road and the hazards they present. Ms. Emge presented Council with a petition signed by residents of Alcan Drive. Mr. Doyle said that they would look into how the problem can be resolved.

COUNCIL ACTIONS

Motion was made by Mr. Nowalk, seconded by Mr. Szarmach, to approve the Smith Subdivision, a two lot subdivision at 349 Route 909, located in a "B-2" general commercial zoning district. Unanimously approved.

Motion was made by Mr. Nowalk, seconded by Mr. Taylor, to approve the Polacek Consolidation Plan, a lot consolidation plan at 7100 Leechburg Road located in a "R-1" suburban residential zoning district. Unanimously approved.

CIVIC ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Nina Segelson of Plum Community Senior Center announced upcoming programs to be held at the center.

COUNCIL ACTIONS

Motion was made by Mr. Knopfel, seconded by Mr. Dell, to approve Ordinance No. 873-13, re-enacting and fixing the Real Estate tax rate at 3.78 mills for 2014. Unanimously approved.

Motion was made by Mr. Taylor, seconded by Mr. Knopfel, to approve Ordinance No. 874-13, re-enacting the Earned Income Tax rate at 1% for 2014. Unanimously approved.

Motion was made by Mr. Nowalk, seconded by Mr. Dell, to approve Ordinance No. 875-13, re-enacting the Local Services Tax at \$52 for 2014. Unanimously approved.

Motion was made by Mr. Nowalk, seconded by Mr. Anderson, to change the name of the Debt Service Fund to the Capital Project Fund. Unanimously approved.

Motion was made by Mr. Knopfel, seconded by Mr. Nowalk, to approve a \$70,000 fund transfer from the General Fund to the Fire Fund from the 2013 surplus. Unanimously approved.

Motion was made by Mr. Szarmach, seconded by Mr. Anderson, to approve a \$335,000 fund transfer from the General Fund to the Capital Project Fund from the 2013 surplus. Unanimously approved.

Motion was made by Mr. Szarmach, seconded by Mr. Nowalk, to adopt the 2014 annual budget as presented final dated December 10, 2013.

Mr. Szarmach noted that contractual and merit raises are in the budget and that merit raises should be discussed by the personnel committee and brought to Council. Mr. Dell noted that there is an Employee Recognition Program. Mr. Dell suggested having guidelines in writing for January on how to administer this program.

Mr. Nowalk said there was no plan to address the senior center that is running at a \$35,000 deficit this year. Mr. Dell noted the Borough is providing their janitorial service and maintenance to the building.

Mr. Knopfel stated that we should have a disaster fund in the event of an emergency. Mr. Thomas explained that a fund balance policy was adopted last year whereby \$350,000 has been put aside for unforeseen emergencies.

Mr. Taylor and Mr. Knopfel noted there were items in the budget that they did not agree with, therefore, they would not vote to support this budget.

On a roll call vote: Messrs. Anderson, Dell, Nowalk, Szarmach and Doyle vote yes. Messrs. Knopfel and Taylor voted no. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Mr. Nowalk, seconded by Mr. Szarmach, to approve Resolution No. 776-13 authorizing the tax and revenue anticipation note (TAN) for 2014 at a rate of 1.15%. Unanimously approved.

Motion was made by Mr. Szarmach, seconded by Mr. Dell, to appoint Keystone Collection Services as the delinquent EIT collector for the 2011 tax year. Mr. Dell said to make it 2011 and prior. Mr. Thomas stated everything will be turned over.

On a roll call vote: Messrs. Nowalk, Taylor, Doyle and Knopfel vote no. Messrs. Szarmach, Anderson and Dell vote yes. Motion denied.

Motion was made by Mr. Nowalk, to continue to employ the employee that was employed for the past twenty-five years for this job for one more year.

On a roll call vote: Messrs. Szarmach, Anderson and Dell vote no. Messrs. Taylor, Doyle, Knopfel and Nowalk vote yes. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Mr. Nowalk, seconded by Mr. Taylor, to appoint Keystone Collection Services as the delinquent EIT collector for the 2012 tax year.

On a roll call vote: Messrs. Taylor, Anderson, Dell, Doyle, Knopfel and Nowalk vote yes. Mr. Szarmach voted no. Motion carried

Motion was made by Mr. Nowalk, seconded by Mr. Dell, to appoint Keystone Collection Services as the Local Services Tax collector for the 2014 tax year. Unanimously approved.

Motion was made by Mr. Szarmach, seconded by Mr. Knopfel, to enter into a maintenance agreement with Kelly Generator Service for the generators at the Municipal Center at a annual cost of \$1,740. Unanimously approved.

Motion was made by Mr. Nowalk, seconded by Mr. Dell, to approve a modification to the garbage contract with Republic Services for an additional dumpster at the public works building at a cost of \$97 per month. Unanimously approved.

Motion was made by Mr. Nowalk, seconded by Mr. Dell, to amend the Borough's Purchasing Policy to increase the requirement for a purchase order from \$50 to \$250. Unanimously approved.

Motion was made by Mr. Knopfel, seconded by Mr. Taylor, to approve Ordinance No. 876-13 accepting Old Mine Road from the cul-de-sac to Renton Road. Unanimously approved.

MAYOR'S REPORT – Mayor Hrivnak reported there were 732 calls for the month of November; the department purchased nine additional stop stick units and two additional Bushmaster patrol rifles; three officers attended a Standardized Field Sobriety Testing program; and two Westmoreland County men were arrested for burglary. Mayor Hrivnak alerted residents to PA being the 5th highest state ratio of car-deer collisions and for residents to be cautious of online fraud schemes.

Mayor Hrivnak announced that Sugar Plum Days would be held this coming weekend.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Intergovernmental Cooperative Committee with Plum School District – Mr. Nowalk reported the committee would be meeting on December 11th; topics of discussion will be construction updates, the new elementary school, 313 Holiday Park Drive, delinquent Earned Income Tax, fog lines in school zones and a Borough/School District radio system.

Finance Committee – Mr. Dell suggested the manager and solicitor provide a description of the council committees and what their role is.

Personnel and Management – Mr. Nowalk did not have a report

Roads, Equipment and Grounds – Mr. Szarmach reported that the leaf collection is complete; there were 8 call outs in November; the department worked on inlet repairs, cleaning and maintenance of inlets, pot hole patching, curb and berm repair; general maintenance was performed at the Senior Center; installation, repair and replacement of traffic control and street signs.

Public Safety – Mr. Knopfel reminded residents to contribute to the fire companies and EMS.

Planning and Economic Development – Mr. Taylor announced there were three new businesses in Plum; 88 permits were issued in November; 107 inspections were conducted and 18 violations were issued.

Parks and Recreation – Mr. Anderson reported the committee continues to work with the consultant on the comprehensive parks and recreation plan. A copy of this plan should be available next month. Mr. Anderson said they hope to have the new play structure in place for Community Days next year.

Mr. Doyle announced the Planning Commission would meet on Monday December 16 at 6:30 p.m.

Motion was made by Mr. Knopfel, seconded by Mr. Nowalk, to adjourn the meeting at 7:50 p.m. Unanimously approved.

Maria Gingery
Assistant Borough Secretary