

COUNCIL MEETING – AUGUST 12, 2019

25-19

The Council of the Borough of Plum held their regular monthly meeting on Monday, August 12, 2019 at the Plum Borough Municipal Building, 4575 New Texas Road, Plum, PA 15239.

ROLL CALL: Present were council members: John Anderson, Paul Dern, Mike Doyle, Dave Majernik, Mike Pastor, Dave Odom and Dave Seitz. Mayor Schlegel was present.

Motion was made by Mr. Majernik, seconded by Mr. Dern, to approve the Treasurer's Report for the month of July. Unanimously approved.

Motion was made by Mr. Odom, seconded by Mr. Anderson, to approve the expenses for the month of July (see attached). Unanimously approved.

Motion was made by Mr. Dern, seconded by Mr. Seitz, to approve the minutes of the July 8, 2019 council meeting minutes. Unanimously approved.

RECOGNITION OF ACHIEVEMENTS IN THE COMMUNITY

Mayor Schlegel recognized Borough Staff and Vince and Judy Lagrotteria for their success with the Summer Movies in the Park Program.

CIVIC ANNOUNCEMENTS – Karen Hochberg announced the Plum Community Center has Farmers Market Vouchers available to seniors in the community; there will be a Big Event on Friday, August 16th to thank the volunteers and workers who assisted in the recent flooding.

Steve Bullick, Director of Plum Community Library announced the summer reading program for children and adults is ending; fall programs are coming and solicitation letters are going out to residents at the beginning of September.

Dave Seitz announced the Plum High School Music Boosters will hold a car cruise with food trucks on Sunday, August 25th.

PRESIDENT'S COMMENTS – Mr. Doyle thanked the staff for their efforts during the flood; the Borough made every effort to get dumpsters out to areas hardest hit and the Borough is working on ways to better communicate information to residents.

MANAGER'S REPORT – No report.

CITIZENS COMMENTS AGENDA ITEMS – None

Tamim Choudhury, Public Affairs Specialist with the U.S. Small Business Administration announced that residents and businesses affected by the flood can obtain a low interest loan with the SBA. The loans are designed to help people recover after a disaster. Mr. Choudhury said that the SBA will be available at the Renton Volunteer Fire Station through August 20th.

COUNCIL ACTIONS:

26-19

Motion was made by Mr. Odom, seconded by Majernik to accept the St. John Consolidation Plan (FSC-11-19) as complete. Unanimously approved.

Motion was made by Mr. Odom, seconded by Mr. Pastor, to accept the Dominion Energy/Ferguson Lot Line Revision (FSC-10-19) as complete. Unanimously approved.

Motion was made by Mr. Odom, seconded by Mr. Dern, to approve the Greco lot line revision (FSC-09-19) contingent upon the applicant receiving a minimum lot size variance. Unanimously approved.

Motion was made by Mr. Odom, seconded by Mr. Anderson, to accept the Restano Subdivision Plan (FSC-07-19) as complete contingent upon final approval of the Borough Engineer. Unanimously approved.

Motion was made by Mr. Odom, seconded by Mr. Seitz, to approve the DiLucente Plan of lots (FSC-06-19) as complete. Unanimously approved.

Motion was made by Mr. Seitz, seconded by Mr. Majernik, to approve a memorandum of understanding with the Plum Borough School District for the School Resource Officer. Unanimously approved.

Motion was made by Mr. Seitz, seconded by Mr. Dern, to approve the Borough IT Department working with Microsoft and All Lines Technology for the migration from Office 365 Business to Office 365 Government as part of the Criminal Justice Information Systems (CJIS) compliance requirements. Unanimously approved.

Motion was made by Mr. Seitz, seconded by Mr. Pastor, to appoint Shawn Davis to the Planning Commission to fill the unexpired term of Mark Salvas, ending on December 31, 2021. Unanimously approved.

Motion was made by Mr. Majernik, seconded by Mr. Odom, to approve the Borough check processing policy as recommended by the Finance Committee. Unanimously approved.

Motion was made by Mr. Majernik, seconded by Mr. Dern, to approve a COLA for a retired police officer as recommended by the Borough Actuary. Unanimously approved.

MAYOR'S REPORT – Mayor Schlegel reported on the ATS speed trailer which was deployed to various locations throughout the Borough; on average drivers were at or below posted speed limits. Mayor Schlegel announced there were 1,251 calls for service in July.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

INTERGOVERNMENTAL COOPERATIVE COMMITTEE WITH PLUM SCHOOL DISTRICT – Mr. Doyle said the Committee has not met.

FINANCE – Mr. Majernik reported on the General Fund’s revenues and expenses for the month of July; there are no current budget concerns and the Borough recently took their 3rd draw on the Tax Anticipation Note.

ROADS, EQUIPMENT AND GROUNDS – Mr. Pastor reported the East Oakmont stormwater project has been awarded; the stormwater project along Rt 286 and Holiday Park FD has been advertised; a Ford F-550 that was ordered in January has arrived; stormwater work has begun in Boyce Park Village and the department has spent the last two weeks cleaning and repairing damaged infrastructure due to flooding.

PUBLIC SAFETY – Mr. Dern reported Plum EMS responded to 298 calls for the month with a total of 162 patients being transported. Plum EMS assisted with several water emergencies during the recent flood.

PARKS AND RECREATION – Mr. Anderson reported the front four fields at Plum Creek Park were destroyed by the flooding; the crews are preparing for the Kickoff Soccer Event at Larry Mills Park and the Dumbo movie was a success with 334 people attending.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT/PLANNING – Mr. Odom reported that 67 permits were issued resulting in \$21,166 in revenues during July and new building permits are on hold at the Autumn Ridge Development as recommended by the Allegheny County Conservation District until the stormwater violations are addressed.

Mr. Doyle announced the Planning Commission will meet on August 19, 2019.

CITIZEN’S COMMENTS – NON-AGENDA ITEMS – Meghan Monaco of 750 Pine Valley Drive reported she had sewage back up into her home and will address this at the Municipal Authority Meeting. Ms. Monaco inquired about a GoFundMe page on Facebook. Ms. Monaco suggested that the volunteers who assisted with the flood clean-up be recognized by Council.

Linda Garlitz of 508 Anderson Avenue thanked Council member Dave Odom for coming to her home to survey the damage. Ms. Garlitz reported she saw heavy equipment working in a stream by Steele’s Garage. Mayor Schlegel said he saw it also and it is the State working there. Ms. Garlitz expressed concerns for the debris in Plum Creek and asked Council if the Borough would clean it up. Mr. Odom said he would look at that area.

Dave Vento of 717 Unity Center Road announced his property has been hit by six floods over the years. Mr. Vento said a previous insurance carrier would not provide coverages however he now has coverage at an approximate cost of \$535. Mr. Vento said the Borough needs to do more to prepare for these storms. Mr. Vento asked that Leroy Street be checked out.

David Staines of 802 Keywest Drive said he lost three vehicles along with the contents of his basement and game room. Mr. Staines asked what the Borough could do to stop the flooding problem. Mr. Staines inquired about the detention ponds in the new Parkside Estates. Mr. Mitall said he knew of at least two proposed and would investigate any further plans.

Michele Kontos of 806 Keywest was also flooded. Ms. Kontos has a culvert in her back yard and didn't think a larger one could be installed.

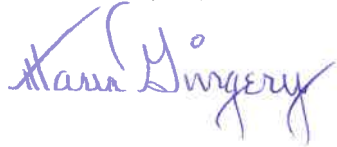
Mr. Mitall said the problem is the trees and debris that are carried down hill by the force of the water. Mr. Mitall said that according to the DEP, a property owner can stand on the bank and pull items out of a stream.

Debra Bell expressed concerns for her father's property at 518 Vale Drive. Ms. Bell said there was sewage in the home and the lines need to be camered. Ms. Bell said this has been an ongoing problem since 1968.

James Reynolds of 1721 O'Block Road said there is no insurance coverage unless it is a catastrophic event.

Mr. Vento said that if it involves more than one home, it is catastrophic.

Motion was made by Mr. Majernik, seconded by Mr. Odom, to adjourn the meeting at 8:20 p.m. Unanimously approved.



Maria Gingery
Assistant Borough Secretary