

Regular Meeting of Patton Borough Council
Tuesday, September 10, 2013
Minutes

President Crowell the Call Meeting to Order at 7pm - Recite the Pledge of Allegiance and take attendance. **Mayor Bakajza arrives at 7:01pm.**

Dan Albright and Pauline Felix – Palmer Avenue - Alley Concerns (Heather Street off of Brown Avenue) Mr. Albright addressed the Council following up with his concerns over vehicles parking on Brown Avenue blocking the intersection. He stated that while he appreciated Council Member Resko bringing this matter to the Council's attention at the August meeting on his behalf but that it has not stopped. He said that he has lived in the Borough for about five years and enjoys living here and does not like to complain. Mr. Albright presented pictures to the Council showing a vehicle parked away from the edge of the road and parked close to the entrance of Heather Street... Mr. Albright explained that this made it almost impossible for him to get his vehicle down the road... A discussion took place on having the Police Department do extra patrols in the area and ticket vehicles violating any parking regulations. It was further discussed concerning that no vehicles should be parking closer than 15 feet from an intersection... After the discussion Secretary Dunegan was instructed to inform the Street Commissioner (who was not present at this meeting) to measure 15 feet from the intersection and install "No Parking Here to Corner" signs on the both sides of the entrance to Heather Street off of Brown Avenue.

John E. Duclos DDS- Council Member Noel made a motion and seconded by Council Member Della Valle to grant Dr. John E. Duclos DDS- request to relinquish his water and sewer taps for his property at 904 Fourth Avenue. Motion Carried. (The home that was there was already demolished in preparation for a driveway off of 4th Avenue as access to his offices and the lines were severed and sealed and inspected by the Borough crew at that time.)

Minutes – A motion to approve Minutes of August 2013 regular meeting as written and to post to website was made by Council Member Della Valle and seconded by Council Member Kirk. Motion Carried.

Flood Control – Levee Conduit Project: The Council was informed that Stiffler and McGraw engineering is continuing with design work.... and will keep us updated as it progresses.

Streets –

The Council was informed that Penn DOT had sent information on new Bridge weight as well as the Secretary of Transportation – ...Although it appears that only one bridge in Cambria County (which does not affect Patton Borough) may receive a new weight class... However, the State also informed the Borough that the new Penn DOT bridge weight posting program contains many variables; therefore, the program details and how it will affect municipalities is still somewhat unclear. They will closely monitor the situation and will pass along all new information as it becomes available.

The Street Commissioner among late summer maintenance has been working on clean up from the Labor Day storm events.

Preserving Beech Avenue Brick Road

Mayor Bakajza brought up concerns with the 400 block of Beech Avenue (which was dedicated as a historical brick street) (where sink holes were forming and where cement was used in the past to fill in a utility cut and now has formed a hump in the road) Council discussed the condition of the road... The Council and Mayor added that they apologize for this being labor intensive for the Borough Crew, however they are committed to preserving the street in its brick as part of the Patton brick-producing heritage.

Beech Avenue Continued.

A motion was made by Council Member Resko and seconded by Council Member Shilling to have the Street Commissioner investigate the sinking area in front of 415 Beech Avenue, to see how the issue can be resolved before wintertime and then to replace the street back to brick as well and to repair back to brick the area across the street that has a concrete patch; also including in their motion to recommit to keeping this section of Beech Avenue brick and to maintain as such since it is one of the few remaining brick street in the Borough. Motion Carried.

Police Department – Please see the Chief in his office if you have any questions on any police call activities.

Resignation – A resignation letter was received from M. Thomas Durkay – per diem police officer. After a short discussion on the same a motion was made by Council Member Noel and seconded by Council Member Kirk to accept the resignation of M. Thomas Durkay – per diem police officer. Motion Carried.

Water and Sewer System – Sewer Plant - The new inflow protectors that have been installed have helped the Sewer system reduce water intake as was noted from the Labor Day storm event.

Go Paperless! – Water and Sewer Bills can now be emailed to our customers. A motion was made by Council Member Noel and seconded by Council Member Shilling to grant water and sewer customers a one time discount of \$5.00 (per each account) for signing up to have their bills emailed instead of mailed (customers will be credited their next billing cycle but must continue to have their bill emailed for 24 months to retain the credit). Motion Carried.

Secretary Dunegan-

Employee Health Insurance – Borough's Health Care Insurance – High Mark is making available for the Borough to have early renewal. This is in order to be grandfathered for one more year and avoid participation for the time in the Health Care Reform Act. The rates would be slightly lowered and some co-pays will go up. Some of the coverage's cannot be grandfathered such as emergency dental work (such as a would occur from a household or other similar injury.) This would take place for December and change our employees November pays. It would also change our renewal date from June to December. After this point there will be what are to be called the metal level plans – bronze, silver, gold etc. They do not have all the details of these plans yet but even the best plan we are told is not as good as our current plan. If Council is in agreement a motion needs to be made to approve taking an early renewal of our plan to grandfather it in until December 2014. After a discussion on the matter, a motion was made Council Member Kirk and second by Council Member Della Valle to take the early renewal for the Borough employees health care plan through High Mark (which will take place in December) thus changing the plans future renewal dates but temporarily grand-fathering the Plan. Motion Carried.

Patton Municipal Authority – The Patton Municipal Authority has filled its two vacancies with Ed Link and Bruce Miller. No other vacancies remain at this time.

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Other Correspondence FYI – Ronald J. Springer, Executive Director Cambria County Department of Emergency Services sent on September 5, 2013 to sent all Cambria County Municipalities Municipal Road Maintenance Departments (stressing after the Labor Day flooding in Northern Cambria) that communities need to do preventive Maintenance to Mitigate Flash Flooding Issues.

Real Estate Taxes – County of Cambria Board of Assessment Appeals-
Tuesday, October 01-EXEMPT Appeals: 10:45 a.m. FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF PATTON: 044-024795

PSAB Unemployment base pay base rate will increase to \$8750.00 per employee for 2014.
The Unemployment Rate will stay the same for 2014 as 2013.

EXECUTIVE SESSION – Legal Matter/ Real Estate Matter – 7:23pm Council Member Kirk leaves the room due to a conflict of interest and the session begins at 7:45pm the session ended and Council Member Kirk returns.

No decisions were made during the session.

Council then discussed miscellaneous street condition matters before adjourning (Palmer Avenue - A utility cut in front of 704 Palmer Avenue filled in and on Fifth Avenue - Tree limbs trimmed that are hanging over the roadway between Cunningham's and the Funeral Home parking lot on 5th Avenue.

A motion was then made to adjourn by Council Member Kirk and seconded by Council Member Shilling.
Motion Carried.

President Crowell called the meeting adjourned at 8:20 pm.

Respectively Submitted,

Donna M. Dunegan
Borough Secretary