

MUNICIPALITY OF KINGSTON TOWN COUNCIL

MONTHLY COUNCIL MEETING

August 3, 2020

MINUTES

A regular meeting of the Town Council of the Municipality of Kingston was held in Council Chambers, 500 Wyoming Avenue, Kingston, Pennsylvania, on Monday, August 3, 2020, at 7:00 p.m.

The following members of Council were present.

Mr. Robert Thompson, Jr. – President

Mr. Rob Jacobs – Excused

Mr. Jack Schumacher – Excused

Mrs. Roberta Rowlands

Mr. Anthony Dicton – Vice-President

Mrs. Nancy Cooper

Mrs. Margaret Neville

Others present: Paul J. Roberts, Jr., Mayor; Paul Keating, Administrator; Harry Mattern, Esq., Solicitor; Julie Norton, Secretary

Mr. Keating said that council discussed Ordinance 2020-5 at length at the Work Session. Attorney Koscelansky, the bond attorney, is available should there be any questions. This Bond will provide \$1,000,000.00 in new money over a twenty-year term. The Bond documents will be forwarded to DCED. This cycle is every five years which is most affordable. Does council have any questions? There were no questions.

CITIZENS REQUEST TO ADDRESS COUNCIL:

R. Clark Stewart, 12 Meyers Court, said that he would like to change the minutes regarding recycling bins and the area of his home. Mr. Keating told Mr. Stewart that there has not been a recent distribution of recycling bins. Those bins were distributed several years ago. Mr. Stewart was confident that this was recently done and said he will take a photograph next time.

Mr. Stewart said that he visited Taylor Lane and it is different than Meyers Ct. The area at Meyers Court is too small for the amount of people that walk around.

ADMINISTRATORS VERBAL UPDATE:

An email has gone out to all department heads concerning the capital budget and operating timeline. If council has any questions, please call.

Mr. Keating was very pleased to report that as of July 31, 2020 our revenues exceed expenses by \$580,986.45. Kingston's cash at hand at the end of July 2020 is \$1,515,011.00. We are on target at 58.2% at the end of July. Our earned income tax is 63.4% as of this date, or an increase of \$243,000.00 from 2019. Kingston's overall spending is at 55.79% which is 3% lower than the projected 58.49%. Spending cuts have been attributed to the lower percentage. He is not sure what the second quarter will bring. With respect to our real estate deed transfer tax, everything is right where it should be at this point. Since our recent refinance with Fidelity Bank, we will save \$64,000.00 on MMO's.

Kingston has received a grant in the amount of \$203,000.00 from Luzerne County. The money has to be spent on something related to this COVID virus. New fire equipment seems appropriate. If anyone has more suggestions, please let me know.

There is \$70,000.00 left from the West Union Street project. Kingston would like to pave Main Street and Page Avenue between Main Street and Market Street. Hopefully that can be done.

90% of Church Street park is done. It looks terrific!! DPW did a great job.

The lighting for Third Avenue for the Multi-Modal is out for bid. The easement which we are trying to obtain on Third Avenue is taking a long time.

DPW is planning on paving E. Hoyt Street and North Landon Avenue as well as paving Wright Avenue. We would also like to mill Pringle Street, but that depends on finances.

AGENDA ITEM:

It was moved by Mrs. Cooper and seconded by Mrs. Rowlands that **Ordinance 2020-5**; Relating to the Issuance of its General Obligation Bonds, Series of 2020

Motion carried and so ordered.

The vote of Council was recorded as follows:

Mr. Diction – Yes Mrs. Rowlands – Yes Mrs. Cooper – Yes

Mrs. Neville – Yes Mr. Thompson – Yes

Motion passes.

REPORTS:

The Fire Department responded to 418 calls.

The Police Department responded to 798 calls and 39 were in Pringle.

There are 459 memberships at the Rec Center.

DPW collected 286 tons of garbage and 119.2 tons of single stream recycling and collected 83 tons of clutter

Code Enforcement issued 7 violation letters, 15 non-traffic citations and performed 24 pre-sale inspections.

Finance reports are attached for your perusal.

NEW BUSINESS:

Mr. Keating had no comment.

Mayor Roberts said that Kingston is very fortunate with Mr. Keating's experience and intelligence being the Administrator.

Attorney Mattern had no comment

Mrs. Rowlands had no comment.

Mr. Diction had no comment.

Mrs. Cooper commended the DPW department on the clutter clean-up. They did a good job.

Mrs. Neville had no comment.

Mr. Thompson also commended DPW on the clutter clean-up.

There being no further business, it was moved by Mrs. Cooper to adjourn the meeting at 7:28 p.m.

FOR THE TOWN COUNCIL:

Robert Thompson, Jr. - President

ATTEST:

Julie Norton, Secretary
August 3, 2020