

**Port Carbon Borough Council
Work Session Meeting
February 1, 2022**

COUNCIL MEMBERS

Scott Krater, President, p
Ron Zimmerman, Vice-President, p
James McBreen, p
Jespersion, Treasurer, a
Tiffany Sullivan, p
Megan Borowski, p
William Devers, p
Jorge Sullivan, p

ANCILLARY MEMBERS

Harold Herndon, Mayor, p
William Burke, Solicitor, p
Sharon
Loretta Skoufalos, Secretary, p

The meeting was called to order by Vice-President Ron Zimmerman with the pledge of Allegiance

Announcement of Executive Session- There was no Executive Session held since last Meeting. There was an Executive Session held February 1, 2022 from 7:01 pm to 7:15 pm pertaining to personnel and legal issues.

Citizens Portion-N/A

Committee Reports

Finance- We got a grant for a new police car from USDA, they pay for 1/3 we can get a low interest loan for the balance. There is also a grant for horse race tracks in Pa from Revenue, we are looking into that avenue also to see if we qualify.

Public Works- We had to replace the electric panel on the side of the engine in the spreader. We also received a load of salt from Costars.

Property- No Report

Safety-Discussion of Insurance Claim

Discussion on Grant- In Finance previously

Discussion and vote on Probation Agreement- S Krater entertained a vote on the Probation Agreement, the motion agreement has been fulfilled and it will be withdrawn and marked as settled.

J McBreen motioned/M Borowski second the motion.

Recreation- M Borowski with the Light Committee said PPL Electric will do a walk through of the poles for the Christmas Lights.

The Cornhole Tournament tentatively scheduled for June will need a special occasion permit.

Zoning/Code Enforcement

Nick Hazlett- 5 notice of violations were written Coal St., no water, this is in violation of the plumbing code. Mayor H Herndon suggested if pursuing resident about issues, please take an officer along with. 708 Park Avenue, needs attention, 22 Pike St with issues, 21 Cherry St. with no active sewage. Nick Hazlett also said there is a House Bill to be re-introduced in March, it specifically focuses on code enforcement given to him by the House of Urban Committee.

Discussion and vote on Quality-of-Life purchase- Eric Seigfred was depleted of door hangers, J McBreen thanked Eric for going out and doing this important task. There was a vote on purchasing 500 door hangers for \$135.00.

J McBreen motioned/ R Zimmerman second the vote for purchase.

Personnel- no report

Sanitation

Discussion and Vote on Exonerations-J McBreen wanted to discuss and vote on exonerations, last year we were Approximately \$8,000 short on sanitation. J McBreen said there are three things he is looking at 1. Delinquency, 2. Exonerations, and 3. A more accurate count.

Motion to get rid of Exonerations.

J McBreen motioned/ R Zimmerman second the vote.

Special- GPASA discussion and possible vote-

R Zimmerman attended the GPASA meeting along with 2 people from the Palo Alto Council. The GPASA is looking to separate their storm water from the sewer in the future, this may be coming to Port Carbon, Palo Alto. So, for those who don't know, Port Carbon Pottsville, and Palo Alto created The Sewer Authority which makes us a Charter Member, so we have an actual vote. The GPASA are well off with able to make loans at a low interest rate to Pottsville. It seems they want to take care of Pottsville. They didn't tell anyone about this and we are not for it. The executive Director of the sewer Authority spoke to the lawyer along with the board and told them its illegal and can't do it, however they said its your opinion and you don't make the rules the board makes the rules. Port Carbon has Don Kerns as our Representative. There are 9 on council, we have one member representative so its 7-1-1, so they are saying they can just go and do this, what I was told, and several other people is that we need to act on this and fight them on the situation because what they are doing is illegal. In the Charter there is a Veto, and were expressing our Veto and so is Palo Alto, but Attorney Brennan saying we can't do that. They also wanted to break the Charter up. There were 4 things presented at the meeting, I inquired for a copy and so did P. Tres from Palo Alto and I haven't received anything yet. The only thing I received was an opinion from the solicitor which our solicitor B Burke will take a look at. Another subject at the meeting was money being added to bills (approx... \$9.25-\$9.75) and its going to be thrown in under Pottsville's sanitation which the Executive Director said was incorrect, because its for storm water. The director said you need a separate line item stating Storm water, and Attorney Brennan said NO they don't. In an earlier meeting last summer, they wanted us (Port Carbon) to get on board because if it comes down our pipe, then if we were paying, they would have the money and they would pay for it, but if not then we were not on board.

Mayor's Report- H Herndon introduced a Part Time officer for hire, Mitchell Muir for part time/ weekends

. S Krater entertained a motion to hire as a part-time officer. J McBreen motioned/T Sullivan second the motion.

The police car # 137 which is the Palo Alto car is at Womer's Garage and they will be working on it tomorrow.

New Business- Appointment of Right-To-Know (RTK) official- Megan Borowski was appointed the new RTK official. J McBreen motioned to appoint M Borowski (RTK) Official/ J Sullivan second the motion.

Citizens Portion-

Kelly Davis, Port Carbon Library director, there are cake pop for sale \$1.00 each with proceeds split 50/50 with Jamie and the library, Jamie is an 11-year-old girl who makes the pops Also taking orders for Chocolates by Mary. Visit the Port Carbon Public Library or the website: Port Carbon Public Library.

Adjournment- S Krater made a motion for Adjournment motion to adjourn
R Zimmerman/ T Sullivan second the motion.

Meeting Adjourned.

Loretta Skoufalos,
Borough Secretary