
Minutes of the Borough Council Zelienople, PA

12/13/2021

7:30 PM Council-Regular

MasterID:

711

The December 13, 2021, Council Meeting of the Zelienople Borough Council was called to order at 7:30 PM by Council Vice President Andrew Mathew III in the Council Chambers located at 111 W New Castle St., Zelienople PA 16063. This meeting was held in an in-person environment as well as remotely through the WebEx technology due to the coronavirus pandemic situation and to comply with the safety of all concerned. It still complied with all rules of advertisement and the public had access to the meeting and was able to participate. In-person attendance were Council Members Andrew Mathew III, Mary Hess, Marietta Reeb and Mayor Thomas Oliverio. Council Members Doug Foyle and Ralph Geis attended remotely. Council President Allen Bayer and Councilman Gregg Semel were not present.

Also, in attendance were Borough Manager Donald Pepe, Borough Solicitor Bonnie Brimmeier, Police Chief James Miller, and Borough Engineer Tom Thompson. Public Works Director Chad Garland attended remotely.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Jim Miller led the Pledge of Allegiance.

VISITORS

In Person: Carol Sosak, Mike Sosak, and Lesa Gallagher

Remotely: None

PUBLIC COMMENT:

None

CONSENT AGENDA:

A motion was made by Mrs. Reeb, seconded by Mr. Geis, to approve:

- Minutes of the August 9, 2021, Public Hearing
- Minutes of the October 4, 2021, Public Hearing

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- Minutes of the November 29, 2021, Council Meeting
- Transfer of Funds, \$150,000.00 from the Electric Fund to the General Fund, if needed

Motion carried 5-0.

OLD BUSINESS:

CONSIDER ADOPTION OF PROPOSED 2022 OPERATING BUDGET AND CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS PLAN

A motion was made by Mr. Geis, seconded by Mrs. Hess to adopt the proposed 2022 operating budget, totaling \$11,794,949, and corresponding Capital Improvements Plan.

The proposed 2022 Operating Budget and proposed Capital Improvements Plan has been prepared by staff and reviewed with the Finance Committee. A summary of the proposed budget, by Fund, is as follows:

| | |
|------------------|-------------------|
| General Fund | \$ 4,000,343 |
| Fire Fund | \$ 88,495 |
| Library Fund | \$ 29,620 |
| Water Fund | \$ 2,025,154 |
| Electric Fund | \$ 5,326,337 |
| Highway Aid Fund | <u>\$ 325,000</u> |
| Total | \$ 11,794,949 |

The proposed budget shows a modest increase of approximately 3.61% from the 2021 Budget.

A tax increase of one (1) mill is proposed in the Fire Tax category.

The proposed budget was tentatively approved by Council on November 29, 2021 and duly advertised and open to public inspection according to law. Council must formally adopt the budget prior to December 31, 2021.

Motion carried 5-0

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CONSIDER FORMAL ADOPTION OF PROPOSED ORDINANCE
NO. #879-21, AN ORDINANCE SETTING THE LOCAL REAL ESTATE TAX RATE FOR 2022

A motion was made by Mr. Geis, seconded by Mrs. Reeb to authorize the adoption of proposed Ordinance #879-21 setting the 2022 Real Estate Tax Millage Rates.

To affect a real estate tax rate for 2022, it is necessary to prepare, advertise and adopt an ordinance setting the real estate tax rate for the new fiscal year, since there is a modest proposed change in the tax millage . The Fire Tax millage rate does reflect a tax change of a one (1) mill increase for 2022 to assist the Fire District in building a new and much needed facility. Proposed Ordinance # 879-21 has been prepared for that purpose and reflects the proposed real estate tax rates for the Borough of Zelienople for the calendar year of 2022. All other tax rates remain level. The proposed complete rates are as follows:

| | |
|---------------------------------------|-------------------|
| Tax rate for General purposes | 1.81 mills |
| Tax rate for Recreation purposes | 1.00 mills |
| Tax rate for Fire Department purposes | 3.00 mills |
| Tax rate for Library purposes | <u>1.00 mills</u> |
| Total | 6.81 mills |

The Proposed 2022 Budget was prepared based upon this proposed Tax Ordinance.

Proposed Ordinance #879-21 follows Borough Code requirements as it was duly advertised after tentative approval at the November 29, 2021 council meeting.

Motion carried 5-0

NEW BUSINESS:

CONSIDER ACCEPTANCE OF THE BILLS TO BE PAID FOR THE MONTH OF DECEMBER IN
THE AMOUNT OF \$609,341.11

A motion was made by Mr. Geis, seconded by Mrs. Hess to accept, and approve the "Bills to Be Paid" report for December in the amount of \$609,341.11.

Motion carried 5-0

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CONSIDER REQUEST FROM THE LIONS CLUB FOR ASSISTANCE IN CHRISTMAS TREE PICKUP

A motion was made by Mrs. Reeb, seconded by Mrs. Hess to approve the request from the Lions Club for the use of a borough dump truck and a driver for an estimated three (3) hours January 8, 2022 to begin at 9:00 am for help in their Christmas Tree Collection.

Motion carried 5-0

CONSIDER THE CANCELLATION OF THE DECEMBER 27, 2021 (CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY WEEKEND) COUNCIL MEETING

A motion was made by Mrs. Reeb, seconded by Mr. Hess to cancel the December 27, 2021 council meeting since it falls after the Christmas holiday weekend. If something needs to be addressed, either a special meeting will be called or the December 27, 2021, will be put in place again with proper advertising.

Motion carried 5-0

OTHER BUSINESS:

None

Being no further business, President Bayer closed the meeting at 7:42 PM.

ATTEST:


Borough Manager


Council Vice/President

Approved by me this 10th day of January 2022.


Mayor