

MONTROSE BOROUGH COUNCIL
Regular Meeting
And
Hearing on Subdivision
And
Adoption of Tax Ordinance 2022 and Fiscal Budget 2022
December 6, 2021
7:00 PM

President Sean Granahan called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance was recited by all.

Mayor Thomas LaMont said a prayer for guidance.

Adoption of Agenda: President Granahan questioned if anyone wanted to make any changes or additions to the agenda. Motion to adopt agenda as presented by Councilman Todd Chamberlain; Councilman Ed Herd 2nd the motion. All in favor, motion carried.

Approval of Minutes: President Granahan inquired if there were any changes or corrections to the November 8, 2021 minutes. Motion was made to accept minutes as presented by Councilman Herd; Councilman Randy Schuster 2nd the motion. Councilman Chamberlain abstained; motion carried.

Present for Roll Call: Sean Granahan, Ed Herd, Randy Schuster, Judy Kelly, Todd Chamberlain

Absent: Tom Follert, Craig Reimel

Other Officials Present: Thomas J. LaMont, Mayor, Lillian T. Senko, Secretary

Misc. Correspondence:

Beirne Wealth Consulting
RE: October 2021 Investment Report

Montrose Borough Zoning Hearing Board
RE: July 20, 2021 Minutes

Coterra
RE: Proposed Gas Wells

Rail-Trail News
RE: Newsletter

President Granahan inquired if there were any questions or comments associated with the miscellaneous correspondence. No questions or comments.

Recognition of Attendees: Dan Zaleski, Chief Dale Smith, David Darrow

Approval of A/P: President Granahan inquired if there were any questions or comments on submitted Accounts Payable. Councilwoman Judy Kelly motioned to approve payment of outstanding bills; Councilman Schuster 2nd the motion. All in favor, motion carried.

Approval of Payroll: President Granahan inquired if there were any questions or comments on submitted Payroll report. Councilwoman Judy motioned to accept the Payroll Report; Councilman Herd 2nd the motion. All in favor, motion carried.

Accounts Receivable/Deposits: President Granahan inquired if there were any questions or comments associated with the submitted Accounts Receivable/Deposit Report. No questions or comments.

Reports:

Treasurer's Report: President Granahan asked if anyone had any questions or comments on the submitted Treasurer's Report. Motion was made to accept the Treasurer's Report by Councilwoman Kelly; Councilman Schuster 2nd the motion. All in favor, motion carried.

Budget Report: President Granahan inquired if anyone had any questions or comments on the presented material. No questions or comments.

Street Department: President Granahan asked if anyone had any questions on the Street Department Report. No questions or comments.

Zoning Report: President Granahan asked if anyone had any questions on the Zoning Report. No questions or comments.

Code Enforcement Report: President Granahan asked if anyone had any questions on the Code Enforcement Report.

Council instructed Borough Secretary to report the property owned by the Bridgewater Church on the corner of Church Street and Spruce Street multiple violations. Request the Code Enforcement Officer to check out the property.

President Granahan stated one of the Aiken buildings, 82 Public Avenue, tenants put out garbage in an open box and the wind blew diapers, trash and other debris all over Public Avenue. Borough Secretary will report it to the Code Enforcement officer.

Police Department: President Granahan asked if there were any questions or comments on the Police Report.

Chief Dale Smith reported the perpetrator of the planter incident over the Thanksgiving Holiday has been identified and charged with numerous violations.

Municipal Authority: President Granahan asked if there were any questions or comments on the Municipal Authority Report.

Dave Darrow gave an update on projected projects they need to accomplish and why they are asking for some money from the Borough received from Covid funds.

Council informed Mr. Darrow they are considering the funds and would be willing to purchase a piece of land needed for one of the projects at an offer of thirty-five thousand dollars. Mr. Darrow stated he would go back to the property owner with the offer.

Mayor's Report: Mayor LaMont stated there are no cops applying for positions and the Police hours are limited.

Event Ahead signs were brought up again from a previous discussion. Borough Secretary stated she will speak with the Street Department Supervisor to get an update on whether or not the signs were ordered over a year ago.

Councilman Herd made a motion to purchase the signs; Councilman Schuster 2nd the motion. All in favor, motion carried.

Action Items:

- 1. Approve Subdivision Aiken / A2Z Properties:** Councilwoman Kelly motioned to approve the subdivision between Robert and Patricia Aiken and A2Z Properties; Councilman Herd 2nd the motion. All in favor, motion carried.

OPEN MEETING CALLED TO ORDER BY PRESIDENT GRANAHAN AT 7:52 FOR THE ADOPTION OF THE 2022 FISCAL YEAR BUDGET.

OPEN MEETING CLOSED AT 7:55 BY PRESIDENT GRANAHAN.

- 2. Adopt 2022 Budget:** Councilman Schuster motioned to adopt the 2022 Budget as presented; Councilwoman Kelly 2nd the motion. All in favor, motion carried.

OPEN MEETING CALLED TO ORDER BY PRESIDENT GRANAHAN AT 7:56 TO DISCUSS TAX ORDINANCE 2021-05

OPEN MEETING CLOSED AT 7:57

- 3. Adopt 2022 Tax Ordinance:** Councilman Schuster motioned to adopt the tax levied for 2022 at 14 mills same as last year no tax increase; Councilwoman Kelly 2nd the motion. All in favor, motion carried.

- 4. Pay Council and Mayor:** Councilman Schuster motioned to pay Council and Mayor; Councilman Herd 2nd the motion. All in favor, motion carried.
- 5. Approve Newspaper Ad for 2022 Reorganization & Council Meetings:** Councilman Chamberlain motioned to approve the newspaper ad for the 2022 reorganization and council meetings; Councilwoman Kelly 2nd the motion. All in favor, motion carried.
- 6. Accept 2022 JHA Pricing for Sewage & Engineer:** Councilman Schuster motioned to accept the 2022 JHA pricing for sewage and engineer; Councilman Chamberlain 2nd the motion. All in favor, motion carried.
- 7. Review Zoning Code Official Proposal:** Personnel will meet with Roy Williams to discuss Code Enforcement Officer to also handle the Borough's Zoning Ordinance.
- 8. Approve Legal Ad for Civil Service:** Councilman Herd motioned to advertise the next Civil Service meeting to be held in January; Councilman Schuster 2nd the motion. All in favor, motion carried.
- 9. Approve Additional Vest for Police Officer:** Councilman Herd informed Council the Kiwanis will be donating a ballistic vest with plate protection and Debbie Crisman is also donating a vest with her own funds. He is asking Council for approval of the same type of vest to be provided for Garrett Smith.

Motion was made by Councilman Schuster to purchase a vest for Garrett Smith; Councilman Chamberlain 2nd the motion. All in favor, motion carried.

- 10. Thank You Letters to Kiwanis and Debbie Crisman:** Councilman Schuster motioned to send Thank You letters to the Kiwanis and Debbie Crisman for their generous donation to the Police Force of the Montrose Borough; Councilman Chamberlain 2nd the motion. All in favor, motion carried.

Discussion Items

- 1. Autism Play Area in Park:** Councilman Herd informed Council Melissa Smith requested a sensory section to be placed in the park for children with autism. Council spoke for a few moments and decided to wait until the January meeting for Councilman Reimel to be present.
- 2. Council Reorganization for January 2022:** President Granahan felt it was best to discuss before the January meeting who would be holding positions. President Granahan will be abdicating his position to Councilwoman Kelly who is willing to serve as President for 2022; Finance Committee will remain the same as well as the Personnel, Street & Building and Borough Ordinance. We will add Events to Park & Recreation and add Tom Follert to that committee and eliminate Sewer Committee since no one ever attended a meeting.

Executive Session:

President Granahan closed the meeting at 8:15 p.m.

President Granahan opened the meeting at 8:40 p.m.

Councilman Schuster motioned to adjourn the meeting; Councilwoman Kelly 2nd the motion. All in favor, motion carried.

Meeting Adjourned 8:41 PM

Respectfully Submitted,

Lillian T. Senko

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Borough Secretary abdicating