

COUNCIL OF TRAPPE
TRAPPE TOWN HALL
AUGUST 3, 2016

Council of Trappe Meeting:

Vice-President Potter called the meeting of the Council of Trappe to order at 7:00 pm. Council members Tonya Pritchett, RD Diefenderfer and Don English were present. President Fegel was absent. Other attendees: Rev. Pierce, Maurice Evans, Charles Adams, Bobby Quidas, Mike Sullivan, Chris – Star Democrat, Attorney Booth, Chief Ball and Clerk Braband.

Amendments to the Agenda:

Commissioner Pritchett stated that she would like to discuss a possible grant for the Community Outreach Team. The agenda was approved as submitted with Commissioner Pritchett's addition.

Presentation of Minutes:

Commissioner English made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. Commissioner Pritchett seconded the motion. All approved.

Clerk's Report:

Clerk Braband presented the Clerk's report that is filed in the records. Clerk Braband also presented the current budgets for both the general and the enterprise funds.

Clerk Braband stated that she had contacted Thomas' Salvage regarding their expiring contract for trash removal services for the Town and they sent in a new contract which has a price increase of \$.40 per house per week. The expiring contract's price is \$1.60 per house per week and the new contract price is \$2.00 per house per week which is an increase of \$7,800 per year. Clerk Braband requested approval from the Council to send out a request for proposal (RFP) to receive bids from other interested trash companies before entering into a new contract with Thomas Salvage due to the price increase. Commissioner Pritchett made a motion to send out a request for proposal for trash removal bids. Commissioner English seconded the motion.

VOTE:

Potter – Y Pritchett – Y Diefenderfer – Y English – Y

All approved, motion carried.

COMMITTEE AND DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Public Safety – Chief Ball read his report that is filed in the records.

Public Works – Commissioner English read Superintendent Callahan's monthly report that is filed in the records.

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Planning & Zoning – Clerk Braband read Planner Shull’s report that is filed in the records.

Parks & Recreation – As Commissioner of Parks, Commissioner Potter stated she had previously reported that the Town had received approval from Department of Natural Resources for Nace’s Park but it was contingent upon receiving approval from the Board of Public Works. Commissioner Potter stated that just a few days ago the Town received notice that the Board of Public Works granted approval for this project and the Town can proceed with the plans.

Economic Development – Commissioner Pritchett stated that she didn’t have anything to report.

Communications – Commissioner Potter read a thank you letter from the Rural Life Museum for the Town’s yearly donation.

Attorney Updates – Attorney Booth stated that she did not have anything to report.

Executive Session – Commissioner Potter stated that an executive session was held on July 6, 2016 for legal advice on a real estate matter.

ORDER OF BUSINESS BEFORE THE COUNCIL

Maurice Evans – Best Fest

Mr. Evans gave an update on Best Fest which is an event for kids by kids that will be held in Trappe on September 24th from 12-9 pm. Mr. Evans stated that he is currently seeking corporate sponsors and the event has been well received by everyone he has talked to. Mr. Evans stated that the Community Mid-Shore Foundation has approached him and is interested in getting 501c3 certification for this event for next year. Chief Ball asked if there is an estimate on attendance and Mr. Evans stated he is estimating 200-300 people. Chief Ball stated that Mr. Evans had said in an email that there is going to be a very loud music party at the end of the event and he is concerned that he will receive lots of noise complaints. Mr. Evans stated that he is aware of the Town’s decibel limits are and he will not exceed those. Mr. Evans stated that the dance party will start at 8 pm and the music will be lowered at 9 pm and then completely done by 10 pm. Mr. Evans stated that there is no rain date for this event.

Rev. Nathaniel Pierce – Water abatement request

Rev. Pierce stated that he had sent a letter to the Council on June 14th requesting that the Council consider revising their water/sewer abatement policy and he received a response on July 8th. Rev. Pierce stated that he had a water leak that was underground and he was not aware of it until he received a large water bill in April. Rev. Pierce called Doty’s Plumbing to get the leak repaired and they repaired it as quickly as they could but it wasn’t done until May. Rev. Pierce then received his May water bill and it showed an even higher usage so he inquired about receiving an abatement for the sewer portion of his bill because the water from the leak was not processed by the sewer

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plant. Rev. Pierce said he received an abatement in the amount of \$110.00 for his May bill, which was the larger of the 2, but was told that he wouldn't receive an abatement for the April bill as the Town's policy is to only give 1 abatement per leak. Rev. Pierce stated that he called the Town of Easton and they said they would adjust both of his bills if it had happened in Easton. Rev. Pierce stated that he called President Fegel asking for an explanation as to why the policy was set to only allow 1 abatement per leak and was told that it was done about 15-20 years ago and he was not sure why it was done that way. Rev. Pierce stated that he is not asking for the second abatement but would suggest that the Council consider revisiting that policy. Attorney Booth stated that most towns try to make the policy uniform so everyone is treated the same but if the Council chooses to revise the policy then it would require a Code change. Commissioner Potter stated that because there is not a full Council at tonight's meeting they would take it under advisement and discuss at a later date if needed.

Announcements – Commissioner Potter read the announcements.

Executive Session – None requested

Commissioner Pritchett stated that she has found a grant for tobacco cessation and would like permission from the Council to approach the Community Outreach team to see if they would be interested in applying. Commissioner Pritchett stated that she is willing to write the grant and do all the reporting but the team would handle the planning and execution of the event. The Council gave their blessing for Commissioner Pritchett to approach the Community Outreach Team.

There being no further business to discuss, Commissioner English made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Pritchett seconded the motion and the meeting was adjourned at 7:43 pm.

Erin Braband, Town Clerk

Rose Potter, Vice-President