

Borough of Waterford Council

Minutes, December 8, 2015 Special Meeting for the 2015 Budget and Road Improvements

Council Members Present:

Judy Cline, Marian Burge, Karen Molitor, Barry Pugh, Steve Laskowski

Mayor Justin Blose

Solicitor Ed Betza

Borough Engineer Matt Jonas, Urban Engineers

Also from Urban Engineers, Charity Stover

PENNDOT Representatives: Mark Nicholson, Brian Yedinak, Tom McClelland

Public attendees:

Doris Becker, Stephanie Cox, Ken Thomas, Tom Piotroski

Meeting opened with Pledge of Allegiance, Invocation at 3:00 p.m. followed by Roll Call.

Approval of December 1, 2015 special meeting minutes, Motion to approve by all with no changes.

Public Comment:

Tom Piotroski asked that PENNDOT go with the roundabout as originally planned as it is safer and would require no traffic signal.

Ken Thomas asked that PENNDOT go with the roundabout as he is a fireman and believes that since new roundabout south of Waterford was installed, there have only been two accidents that they were called to and that the roundabout is safer, less accidents as it slows everyone down and hopes that special interests and politicians aren't trading safety for their own expense.

Doris Becker asked if there will be some type of plan from PENNDOT for the 19/97 intersection no matter what. Brian Yedinak of PENNDOT responded he can't guarantee anything at this point.

Budget review – 2016 Budget has been updated with more additions and adjustments, Karen Molitor stated that we are waiting for final numbers from insurance agency and we only need to transfer approximately \$24K from the general fund yet and then we should be able to bring to the Dec 14th meeting to vote to advertise. Molitor also stated that with the 2016 preliminary budget almost finalized, there will be no tax increase next year.

At 3:10 p.m. Cline asked to call an executive session which includes the 3 PENNDOT representatives and 2 Urban Engineer representatives and solicitor Ed Betza and council for negotiations regarding the 19/97 proposed intersection changes and the request by PENNDOT for the borough to sign a lighting agreement which has been voted twice by council and unanimously voted against signing the agreement.

Executive Session closed and meeting opened back up at 4:40 p.m. No decision will be made by council in regards to signing the signal agreement that PENNDOT is asking for their proposed plan at the 19 and 97 intersection until the December 14, 2015 meeting. Molitor asked if PENNDOT can

send a representative to the meeting. Brian Yedinak mentioned that all 3 representatives should be there at the meeting.

Matt Jonas discussed the Hazel Street Bridge project at length again and the various options council has with this project due to the possible \$74K additional money over the grant monies that the project now entails and the various deadlines for the contractor bid, grant extensions, deadlines, etc. Matt has discussed with Amy Murdock at Erie County Planning who will be attending the December 14 meeting as well as the DCED and the contractor for the bridge. We have a couple options that Matt will e-mail in detail later.

One option is to cancel the bid and take the project out as a demolition project. We could have as much work done as possible up to the grant limit or part of it and get as much work done at the site to at least improve the site and get rid of the bridge and get the banks stabilized. The one downside to this is our permit is a 5 year permit and if we don't do it before bridge permit expires cannot put bridge back in the same place, but can put it in a different place, but then must start all over again with engineer drawings, specs and go through the DEP which is a process and it could cost thousands of dollars. Then after this we could seek possible new monies in the following years before permit expires from the county to cover most of the costs.

Another option is again to do as much work can be done, stabilize the embankments, demo the bridge and purchase the new bridge, but do not install and seek more grant monies to cover most of the cost to install the bridge before the permit expires in 5 years.

We could do the above and install the bridge and pay for up front with borough money and then try and seek grant monies from the county or state. This is risky as well because if the county or state can't come through after the bridge is installed, then the borough will not be reimbursed for the out of pocket expenditures.

Matt mentioned it does sound good that the County may come through with additional monies, especially since the borough has agreed to pay an addition \$20K over the grant amount towards overages. It is a sizeable amount and the county can see that borough is serious and willing to put a good amount of money towards the project in the hopes that the County or State can fund the balance.

We will discuss again at the Dec. 14th meeting. Matt Jonas then announced that he has accepted a position with Summit Township and Charity Stover and Andrew who is very familiar with this project will be working with the borough for their needs. Council members thanked him for his service and good luck at his new position in January.

Barry Pugh discussed the leaf machine. We have a quote for approximately \$3417.47 to make quite extensive repairs on the leaf machine. Molitor motioned, Laskowski second, All in favor.

Meeting adjourned at 5:05 p.m.

