

**Evans City Borough Council Meeting  
Monday, October 7, 2019**

Members in attendance were as follows:

Councilman Dyer	Present
Councilwoman Armstrong	Present
Councilwoman Parenti	Present
Councilman Otto	Present
Councilwoman Zoelle	Present

Also Present:
Mayor Zinkhann
Neva Stotler, Solicitor

Council President Dyer called meeting to order at 6:00 PM with pledge of allegiance.

Public Comment:

Council President Dyer opened the meeting with awarding the key of the city to Mr. Frank Viola and his family at Viola's Supermarket for over 55 years of service to Evans City Borough. Mr. Viola was also awarded with a Paul Harris Society Fellowship Award from the Rotary Club of Evans City. Both council and residents clapped in agreement that Mr. Viola has been an exemplary and outstanding member of Evans City Borough.

Jennifer Gilliard-Vanasdale, who resides at 202 Woodlawn Road in Cranberry Township, talked about running as a write in for Judge for the Court of Common Pleas for Butler County.

Brad Rubinosky, who resides at 709 Jefferson Street, asked about the approximately \$31,000 deficit that was still owed by EDCO Park Pool for the renovations as he and his wife helped raise funds to go to EDCO Park and now those funds will be diverted to help pay that debt off. Council President Dyer stated that he will get back to him with that information.

Rick Reifenstein, who resides at 346 W. Main Street, mentioned his letter he sent to Mr. Kelly about the traffic situation in town, he contacted local State Representative Marshall, who travels through Evans City often and is aware of the situation, he said he did talk with PennDot said that they are to get in touch with Mr. Reifenstein, he has not heard from PennDot, so he is currently waiting for either Representative Marshall or PennDot to get back to him.

Joanne Ramsden, who resides at 149 W. Main Street, discussed that Vogel has been putting the containers back, but were missing the garbage left behind. She also asked about the Evans City Police meetings being split with Seven Fields, to which Council President Dyer confirmed, and she asked about the status of the council meeting time, to which Council President Dyer stated that Councilwoman Zoelle will be doing an exit poll at the next election with the question about the timing of the council meeting being part of the voting process, and that the results from that

poll will be presented to the winning candidates, and it will be up to them to determine the timing of the council meetings. The meeting times for the 2020 year will be posted in the Butler Eagle in December. She also asked about the status of hiring a street department employee to which President Dyer stated that the position was offered to someone, but he got called to active duty in the military, but we're very close on getting the next person hired.

Rita Reifenstein, who resides at 346 W. Main Street, was following up with changing the time of the council meetings, she stated she is glad to hear that something is being done as she believes it is important to the citizens of the Borough. She also mentioned the inappropriate street sign on 528 up the hill past Porter Alley that says one-way street sign pointing the way down where there is no street, she asked that that sign be removed.

Chris Thomas, who resides at 415 E. Main Street, thanked both Councilman Otto and Council President Dyer for the issue with the alleyway where he lives and the run off of water, and looking into the pot hole he mentioned at previous meetings, Councilman Otto reported that they will be filled in, and also confirmed that he will personally make sure the new council coming in next year will be informed of the situation.

Cindy Caldwell, who resides at 410 W. Jackson Street, she stated that she had a community service worker that can do the grass mowing and also tree trimming by Porter Alley, as well as 328 Wahl Avenue where the grass was overgrown, the service worker that was supposed to do those areas for Oktoberfest was not able to do that work, she asked if she can have the service worker now do those areas, Councilman Otto was asked to look into it and call her back. She said the pile of rocks that she had the Boy Scouts help move, she had it dumped at two different alleys to fill in ruts.

Jim Marburger, who resides at 113 Crestview Drive, commented later in the meeting that the intersection of Mars-Evans City Road (South Washington) and Third Street is very dangerous, the grass has not been mowed, Council President verified that it was recently mowed, Mr. Marburger commented that it was mowed Friday before the council meeting, but that prior to that, it had not been done since July. He also mentioned debris across the road that people are not cleaning up, he is concerned that someone is going to get hurt at that intersection. He asked about the overgrowth of weeds all along Mars-Evans City Road (South Washington) out past Jon's Bar, he also asked about the equipment that has been in the front of 1000 South Washington, to which Council President Dyer commented that that was taken care of recently. Mr. Marburger stated that he will continue to comment until that area is cleaned up properly.

#### Discussion Items:

The brick process on Main Street will have to be postponed, but it has been included in the budget for next year, and council will vote on it next year.

Trick or Treat hours are from 6-8 PM, on October 31, with the Halloween parade being the night before, line up at 6:30 PM, with step off at 7 PM, to start at Jefferson Street near the Library.

Tar and chipping and paving has been done this year, looking into getting a few more alleys done, but not sure if there is enough funding for those. E. Elizabeth, all of upper Van Buren, and all of Waldron Avenue have been completed.

Councilwoman Zoelle is looking into having PSAB (Pennsylvania State Association of Boroughs) re-doing the Borough website, she mentioned that that service is one that is covered in our yearly membership fee, but that up to \$200 may need to be approved for additional costs.

Councilwoman Zoelle is working on hiring someone to come in as needed to help get the filing system for the Borough organized and easier to use. She mentioned that Jill Stedina from Zelienople Borough has offered to help as well.

Councilwoman Zoelle is working on getting proposals from Armstrong and David Davis Communications to update the phone system for the Borough so that we can get it separated from the Police Department to be easier on them as well as the Borough, and also try to have a system that will make it possible for people to reach members of council.

Informational packets were supplied to the public regarding the MS4 storm water management and clean water usage, and how it is everyone's responsibility. Council President Dyer advised everyone to read up and make sure to get informed on the proper disposal of things such as grass clippings and garbage removal so that those things do not end up in our streams of clean water.

Councilwoman Armstrong discussed the 2020 EMA budget details. There was an Emergency Management meeting on September 26, 2019, where the budget information was discussed, she also mentioned that the Water & Sewer Authority currently has a generator that the EMA can have, they suggested that each Borough allocate \$1,500.00 to put in a power switch so that the generator can be used in the event of an emergency.

Council President Dyer mentioned that he and Councilwoman Zoelle met with PennDot to discuss the potential paving of Route 68 from Main Street in Zelienople to the Butler City line to be done in two phases, Evans City east and Evans City west. This will probably be 2 years from now, and PennDot will be in touch when they plan on doing the project.

The Mayor discussed the monuments, he read a petition from the veterans that stated that they would like to see the 2 monuments moved to the center of town on Main Street in the Borough. Permission will be granted by Nextier Bank to legally use their property. This included 15 veterans and 38 auxiliary and social members. When asked by council who is paying for this, Mayor Zinkhann stated that he is, and that he has someone that will move them. Mayor Zinkhann said that he will bring an update to the next council meeting. As far as the police meeting, Mayor Zinkhann stated that he was not at the meeting, therefore did not have any reports to give on that matter. Councilwoman Armstrong mentioned that Chief McCombs had mentioned that Evans City had half the calls of Seven Fields and that it was addressed. Mayor Zinkhann thanked the Lyons Club for putting the mums out to make the town look better, and that he is working on the Christmas lights for the town.

Solicitor Neva Stotler discussed the Planning Module Exemption letter that was submitted by HRG, they provided their opinion on the capacity, which is required, it has to do with the sewage plant, and because that is the responsibility of the municipality, a signature from the Borough is required. She mentioned that regarding the pool funding, it was always contemplated in the contract that there is a 50% match, that that is not new, and that the issue arises when all of the change orders were processed, the full amount of overages are not known until the process is completed, so that is where the overage that Mr. Rubinosky was referring to when he addressed the council. She asked about the purging of files in the Borough office, that it is done in accordance with the laws regarding purging of Borough files, to which Councilwoman Zoelle confirmed that we are following the proper procedure in that regard. She mentioned that she will be executing a notice of violation, she mentioned that the way the process works is that Kevin Harancher will sign the notice, in this incidence, she is having the property posted, the posting is going to cost \$80, she will be giving to the Borough secretary. The draft of the ordinance to eliminate parking on Harrison Street between South Washington and Jackson was given to council to review, an ad regarding it will be placed in the Butler Eagle, and it will be voted on in the November council meeting. Solicitor Stotler assisted with the motion to execute the attestation of the Sewage Planning Module Mailer from Sheffler & Company, Inc., who are the engineers on the Havenwood Village housing development that will have 53 single family residential units being built in Jackson and Forward Townships.

Mr. John Rogers from EDCO Park thanked Frank Viola for what he has done for the community, in particular, providing fruit baskets to the residents in President Square. He mentioned the Purses and Pistols event on October 9, 2019 that will benefit both the Lyons Club and EDCO Park, and he also mentioned that there will be more fundraising events, one in late January, early February of 2020. He has asked the members of both the EDCO Park Authority and the EDCO Park Foundation to come up with more ideas for fundraisers. He said that he believes that the Borough can be helped out with those funds, that it was no one's fault, they have raised a lot of funds in the past and their goal is to take care of it as quickly as possible.

Council President Dyer reported that when Viola's Supermarket closed, they donated all of the food that was left after the closing to the Food Cupboard, which was a substantial amount.

Aaron Walker gave the report for the Fire Department, he said they had 22 calls in September, they are up to 260 for the year, the donations from Oktoberfest and the Pancake breakfast were much appreciated, as well as all the other donations that came in for the Fire Department. He mentioned the Boot Drive coming up on Friday, October 11, 2019 and mentioned that the majority of their funds come from events like that. He was asked the cost to outfit a new fire fighter, to which he said a total of \$15,000 total, with thermal imaging around \$7,500, with an average of close to \$5,000 of training. He said they save all safe gear is kept from former fighters, which helps out quite a bit with those costs. Councilman Otto mentioned the federal grant that Evans City did receive about 5 years ago which helped provide air packs, and Evans City also received a State grant totaling around \$15,000 each year and they try to stretch those funds as much as possible. One truck with 4 guys in it, \$700,000-\$800,000 worth of equipment in that truck, so it is not cheap to operate a fire truck. Any volunteer help is much appreciated.

Council President Dyer mentioned that he and Councilwoman Parenti are currently working on a budget for 2020, their plan is to present it at the November meeting, have it open for public review, then to vote on it in December. Part of that plan is to include about a half mil tax deduction for street lighting, Penn Power changed over to all LED lights to save the Borough.

**This part of discussion was after council came out of executive session as recorded by**

**Council Vice President Armstrong:** Cindy Caldwell asked about paying back the extra money from the pool construction. (\$31,000.00). Cindy stated she thinks the community should be the ones to pay back the extra amount. Cindy also stated what if the foundation would not agree to pay back any of the extra money that was owed by the pool construction (\$31,000.00). Mr. Dyer reminded Mrs. Caldwell that from their meeting, the Borough will make 3 payments to the parks and recreational to pay the \$31,000.00 back. However, the park authority will be responsible for paying the borough back the total amount and this could be worked out over time. Suggestions from the meeting were that until the monies were paid the park authority would forgo their annual \$5,000,00 and put that money towards the money owed. The park authority would hope to fundraise the rest of the money. Mr. Rodgers stated that he hopes to have the money paid back within 2 years. The solicitor will be writing a formal letter that will outline the arrangements between the borough and the park authority.

Official Actions:

Motion to accept the minutes of September 9<sup>th</sup> meeting by Councilwoman Zoelle. Second by Councilwoman Armstrong. Motion carried.

Motion to pay the bills Councilwoman Armstrong. Second by Councilwoman Parenti. Motion carried.

Motion to accept the bid from Williams & Willman Line Painting in the amount of \$4,695.00 for line painting on streets for police department by Councilwoman Zoelle, no second so motion fails.

Motion to accept the bid from Seven Fields street department in the amount of \$701.05 for line painting on streets for police department by Councilwoman Armstrong. Second by Councilwoman Zoelle. Motion passed 3 - 2.

Motion to approve quote from Snyder's Repair Service for repairs on 2008 GMC Truck for the street department, in the amount of \$2,500.00, with knowledge that if other repairs are needed, the amount can increase, by Councilwoman Armstrong. Second by Councilman Otto. Motion carried. Council President Dyer suggested that the next council vote on replacing this vehicle.

Motion to approve Evans City's part of the cost share in the amount of \$643.79 for the Admin/Operations and \$2,260.40 for the capital share for the Connoquenessing Valley Regional EMA budget by Councilwoman Armstrong. Second by Councilman Otto. Motion carried.

Motion for Council President Dyer and the Borough Secretary to execute the attestation of the Sewage Planning Module Mailer by Councilwoman Armstrong. Second by Councilman Otto. Motion carried.

Motion to go into executive session at 6:55 PM by Councilwoman Armstrong. Second by Councilwoman Zoelle. Motion carried.

Motion by to adjourn meeting at 7:14 PM by Councilwoman Parenti. Second by Councilwoman Zoelle. Motion carried.

*-Minutes taken by Denise Powell, Borough Secretary/Treasurer.*

*-Minutes taken after executive session by Council Vice President Armstrong.*