

Avis Borough Council held their regular monthly meeting on Monday, October 7, 2019. Stover presiding with Mayor Harter and with members Raab, Brooks, Gordon, Herman, Aungst and Christian.

Motion by D. Aungst to accept the minutes of the September 3, 2019 meeting, seconded by J. Raab and so carried with all Council voting in favor.

Motion by D. Aungst to pay the bills as so presented, seconded by J. Raab and so carried with all Council voting in favor.

Borough resident, Justin Utter, was at the meeting to discuss what can be done regarding the property that is next door to his 221 E. Central Avenue property. He stated that it is infested with rats and cockroaches and that the rats are burrowing in his foundation basically ruining his property and costing him a lot of money to try and combat this problem. K. Barger, Zoning/Codes Officer explained to Mr. Utter that this property is owned by a bank. K. Barger has been in constant contact with the realtor that has this property listed. The problem was that an exterminator would not exterminate until all of the "stuff" was out of there and they could not get someone to clear it out until it was exterminated. K. Barger did say that the realtor did find an exterminator that would go in and start but that one treatment would not be enough so there is a plan in place for every so many days to treat it. He also understands that they have started the process of removing stuff out of there. K. Barger was going to contact the realtor and the borough solicitor to see what else can be done and then he will contact Mr. Utter.

E. Harter, Mayor, went over the police reports for the months of August and September (attached). He stated that the speaker he had lined up for the Borough Association Dinner on October 8th could no longer do it. The Mayor is going to speak with Chief Winkleman to see if he would be interested in speaking.

K. Barger, Zoning and Codes Officer stated that the property at 19 W. Central Avenue has been cleaned up by Charlie Cooper. Solicitor, Paul Welch sent a letter to the owner of the property (bank) and to the realtor that has the property listed to recoup the fees for the cleanup. A lien will be placed on the property. There was discussion regarding winter and snow coming and who would be responsible for getting the sidewalks shoveled at this property. A. Brooks made a motion to find someone that would be responsible for shoveling the sidewalks with a second by J. Raab and so carried with all Council voting in favor. There was discussion as to how to pay this person.

K. Barger also stated that a variance hearing was held on September 25, 2019 regarding the property on Ross Street and putting an apartment in the basement. The variance was granted. He also said that he felt that the fees for asking for a variance need to be higher. There are rules as to what fees the Borough can recoup regarding a variance hearing. The Borough is still using fees set back in 1992.

E. Hughes, supervisor, stated that the Prospect Street project should get finished the week of October 14th and that the Lincoln Street project has been started. The spreader boxes are in and will be getting installed on the vehicles. The Shaw Street project where the water company is putting a new water line in will be starting back up again the week of Oct. 14th. He received quotes from both Charles Construction and Pine Creek Township for the scratch coating of Prospect Street. J. Raab made a motion to have Pine Creek Township do the scratch coat with a second by D. Aungst and so carried with all Council voting in favor.

Chief Winkleman asked when trick or treat hours are. Trick or treat will be October 31st from 6:00-8:00 P.M. Chief Winkleman also stated that there will be a spaghetti dinner at the fire hall on October 26, 2019 to help benefit Operation Christmas.

J. Raab stated that the Borough will be receiving \$58,882.46 liquid fuels money in 2020. He also stated that he had a bid for the 1986 John Deere Wheel Loader. This is another piece of equipment that the Borough does not need. The bid was opened and it was in the amount of \$5,200.00. This is a fair price so T. Gordon made a motion to accept this bid with a second by D. Aungst and so carried with all Council voting in favor.

B. Stover, President, then went over an Emergency Repair Resolution for the repairing of Prospect Street from Ross Street to Bond Street. J. Raab made a motion to adopt this emergency repair Resolution with a second by D. Aungst and so carried with all Council voting in favor. This is Resolution #212.

A. Brooks stated that she almost had the bulletin board completed to be put on the website for community information and events.

E. Christian received a notice from DCNR regarding the Stevenson Dam. He will post the notice.

A Brooks stated that recreation will once again have the Christmas decorating contest within the Borough.

B. Stover read a letter to Council that a Borough resident received regarding the handicap parking at the ballfield. This resident was told that she could not park there. She does have a handicap parking and is able to use that handicap spot.

There will be a budget meeting on October 21st @ 6:30 P.M. at the Borough Building. Secretary will advertise.

Motion for adjournment by J. Raab with a second by D. Aungst.

A public hearing was held on Monday, October 7, 2019 at the Avis Borough Building. The reason for this public hearing was for the purpose of the issuance of a tax-exempt volunteer fire company note. The fire company is in the process of obtaining a loan in the principal amount of \$350,000.00 to purchase a Rosenbauer Tanker Truck.

This loan does not constitute a debt or obligation of the Borough and the Borough does not assume any obligation whatsoever of any payment of said loan.

After discussion, a motion was made to adopt Resolution (#211) by J. Raab with a second by D. Aungst and so carried with all Council voting in favor.