

## **WORKSHOP MEETING – November 4, 2009**

The Town Council of the Borough of Conway met in Workshop Session on Wednesday, November 4, 2009 at 7:00 P.M., in the Fire Department Banquet Hall, South Gross Street, for the purpose of transacting General Business. President Ritorto presided and opened the meeting with the pledge to the flag.

**ROLL CALL: PRESENT** – S. Levenson, R. Pribulsky, G. Ritorto, K. Roman, D. Rose, R. Senock, A. Sobolosky, Mayor Trombetta, Engineer-Ray Antonelli, Jr.  
**ABSENT** - Maint. Dept-Brian Giles, Fire Chief Charlovich, EMA Coordinator-Bob Skocich

Two representatives from Valley Waste Service, Inc. were present to discuss the Garbage, Rubbish & Recycling Services with Council. Council asked a few questions and relayed to the representatives what type of service they would like. Council was pleased with the outcome and thanked them for coming to the meeting.

**ENGINEER'S REPORT:** *Ray Antonelli, Jr.-NIRA Engineers, Inc.*

The Engineer submitted a letter to the Borough for the Contractor's Final Payment Application for the 2009 Road Program.

A motion was made by Sobolosky seconded by Roman and carried to pay Russell Standard Corporation \$8,465.03 for completion of all the punch list items.

*Discussion:* Ms. Senock asked if the contractor replaced the shrubs yet. The Engineer explained that this was not the contractor, the missing shrubs were from the water project contractor and they have been replaced.

The Engineer stated that the Secretary had asked him to check the paving work on the Fifth Avenue Apartment Building on his way to the meeting. He said that the work was not yet completed.

Ms. Rose asked if the retaining wall in the parking lot was fixed or replaced. The Secretary and Engineer stated that there were a few railroad ties that were missing and that the Public Works Department would replace them.

Mr. Pribulsky asked if Mr. & Mrs. Brutout's shrubs were replaced yet. The Engineer said that they were.

Ms. Roman said that she had recently spoken with Mrs. Bennett on the corner of 13<sup>th</sup> Street and Dupont about her claim with Mortimer's. She said that they own the house where the wires were ripped off. She said that Mrs. Bennett had called Mortimer's Insurance Company and they had told her that they did not have a claim for this damage. They said that Mr. Mortimer stated that his company did not do this damage and he was not reporting it to them. The Secretary thought that they had told the Bennett's to submit this to their home owners insurance and have them go after Mortimer's Insurance Company for reimbursement. Ms. Roman asked the Secretary to call Mrs. Bennett and see what was done and to resolve this issue.

Ms. Rose stated that she was not at the last meeting where the rest of Council had decided to put the Engineering & Solicitor services out for bid. She said that she did however receive a letter at home from NIRA asking for a meeting to discuss this decision. The Engineer confirmed that the firm just wanted to see if there was something that Council was dissatisfied with or if it was merely from an economic aspect that this was done. Mr. Levenson stated that this was the reason and that no other Council member stated that they were opposed to putting out an ad requesting proposals. Ms. Roman said that they all need to take into consideration the knowledge and length of service of the current firm. Mr. Levenson said that this would be considered when making a final decision. Ms. Rose said that she more than anyone else wants to keep people honest but that she just wanted to give NIRA the consideration and grant them a meeting. President Ritorto agreed. The Engineer withdrew the request for a meeting since the reasoning was solely based on the financial aspect. President Ritorto confirmed that it was solely a financial decision and had nothing to do with dissatisfaction of the firms work.

A complete copy of the Engineer's report will appear at the end of the minutes.

**MAINTENANCE DEPARTMENT:** *Brian Giles, Supervisor*

Mr. Giles was absent from the meeting. Mr. Sobolosky had no report to give but did comment that he did not have any issues with the NIRA Consulting Engineers, the current firm for the Borough. The Engineer stated again that there was no harm in looking for a new firm. Mr. Sobolosky reassured him again that it had nothing to do with being dissatisfied with the service. Council merely does not have anything to compare their rates to.

Mr. Sobolosky stated that the Public Works employees had recently purchased new sweatshirts and shirts. They wanted him to ask Council if they would be willing to pay \$50.00 per person towards the bill or \$200.00. The Secretary asked if they had paid the bill or if it was still outstanding. Mr. Sobolosky thought that they had paid the bill but was not certain.

A motion was made by Sobolosky seconded by Rose and carried to pay \$200.00 towards the Public Works clothing bill unless it was already paid, then each employee will be paid \$50.00 from the Water & Sewer Fund.

Mr. Sobolosky informed Council that he would have the donated money from the business owners at the next meeting. Ms. Rose thanked Mr. Sobolosky for speaking with the businesses and acquiring this money.

Mr. Dennis Levenson thanked the Public Works Department for doing a great job on picking up leaves.

**FIRE CHIEF'S REPORT:** *Robert Charlovich, Chief*

Fire Chief Charlovich was absent from the meeting.

**EMA COORDINATOR'S REPORT:** *Robert Skocich*

Mr. Skocich was absent from the meeting.

**AGENDA ITEMS:**

-Ms. Rose reviewed the bills. She said that they were okay and could be placed on the Regular Meetings agenda for approval

-The 2010 price rates were received for the Borough Health & Dental Insurances. Mr. Levenson stated that they would discuss this at the upcoming Budget Meeting and asked the Secretary to place this on the Regular Meetings Agenda. Ms. Rose asked the Secretary to get her the amount of deductible that each employee has used by the Budget Meeting.

Ms. Roman informed Council that the Borough will now have to pay for each police officers MOPEC training. She explained that this was paid for by the state but with all the budget cuts made this was one of the areas affected. She suggested that the Borough should split this cost with other municipalities if the part-time officer works in two places. She also stated that they would have to pay the full amount for the full-time officers. She wanted to make sure that this was included in the budget.

-A letter was received from Mike & Lynn Katekovich regarding the water charges that they will have when they complete construction of their new home. Mr. Sobolosky explained that according to the Ordinance they will have a base charge of \$112.48 for the first 1,000 gallons of water since their meter size is 1 ½ inches. The base rate on other residential buildings is \$28.12 for 5/8 inch meters. Mr. Levenson thought that this item was decided on at the last meeting. The Secretary thought that Council wanted to discuss this further so she placed it on this evening's agenda. The Engineer stated that it was necessary for them to put in this larger line and meter since the house was so far from the road. Mr. Levenson stated that if they make an exception for them then they would have to do it for everyone. Council agreed.

-The Secretary asked Council to clarify the Rental Unit Ordinance. She stated that they are getting ready to send out the letter for the annual license renewal and did not know how they interpreted when the inspections are due. After a brief discussion, Council decided that these should be done every two years. President Ritorto asked if these inspection reports were signed by the landlord or tenant. The Secretary said that she thought they were. Council asked that they be signed by either the landlord or tenant upon completion of the inspection.

-The Secretary also needed clarification on the Zoning Hearing Fees. She said that there were many different types of applications which needed to go in front of the Zoning Hearing Board. Ms. Rose asked if the Zoning Hearing Board Solicitor was present at all of these hearings. Mr. Levenson stated that she was. Mr. Levenson suggested sending a letter to the Zoning Hearing Board suggesting that they look into getting proposals from different Solicitors. May get a better fee schedule but need to make sure of the qualifications.

A motion was made by Levenson seconded by Rose and carried to amend Resolution #102109-1 to read: raise all fees in sections VI, VII and IV of the Zoning Fee Schedule to \$600.00.

-Mr. Levenson stated that they are still working on the specs for the Fire Department Roof Grant.

-A discussion was held on the Digital In-Car Video System for the police cruisers. Mr. Levenson stated that he had not seen it yet. He said that the Chief told him that it turns on when the car turns on and stays on while the car is running. Mr. Sobolosky said that this is not true. He said that the officer has 100% control of when the system is turned on and off. Ms. Roman stated that the Chief will be at the next meeting and he can be asked to explain how it works. Mr. Levenson asked her to have the Chief bring the car that has the system in it up to the next meeting.

-Ms. Rose said that she has not called the third computer company for a quote yet. She will get the number to the Secretary and have her set up an appointment with them to visit the Municipal Building.

Mr. Levenson asked the Secretary to send a letter to NIRA Consulting Engineers responding to their letter. He asked her to explain that the decision to obtain requests from other engineering firms was based solely on a financial aspect.

Mr. Pribulsky asked why Rich's Auto Body was charging for towing of the police car. He said that Chris' Automotive has never charged the Borough. Mr. Then was present and confirmed this. Council asked if Rich's had charged for this before. The Secretary said that she would have to look back at his previous bills. A discussion took place in which it was stated that the police car was picked up at Sheetz in Baden around 3:00 am but was not delivered to Cercone's until 9:00 am. Council questioned where the car was during this time. Ms. Roman said that she would talk with Rich and find out where the car was during this time. She said that she will also discuss the charge with him.

President Ritorto read the notes at the bottom of the Agenda.

A motion was made by Senock seconded by Roman and carried to adjourn at 8:25 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Diane McKay  
Borough Secretary

**DATE** \_\_\_\_\_

**PRESIDENT** \_\_\_\_\_