

August 3, 2020

The New Oxford Borough Council met at 7 PM on Monday, August 3, 2020, in borough council chambers located at 124 North Peters Street, New Oxford, for their scheduled and advertised council meeting.

The meeting was called to order and pledge of allegiance led by Council President Robinson.

Roll call of those present: John Griffie, Matthew Johnston, Linda Kane, Dorothy Robinson and Amanda Sipe. Also present were Solicitor Harold Eastman, Engineer Jeremy Smith and Secretary/Treasurer Tania Kepner. Absent was Mayor James Eisenhart.

Solicitor Eastman stated an executive session of the Borough Council of the Borough of New Oxford conducted on Monday, July 20, 2020, commencing at 5 PM consistent with section 708(a)(4) of the Sunshine Act in order to consult with the Borough's solicitor and its litigation attorney regarding information and strategy in connection with litigation filed in the United States District Court for the Middle District of Pennsylvania to Docket No. 1:19-CV-01829-CCC captioned Brian Platt, Plaintiff v. James Graham, New Oxford Borough, et al, Defendants.

Solicitor Eastman stated an executive session of the Borough Council was conducted immediately prior to the commencement of this evening's general business meeting of the Borough Council beginning at 6:30 pm consistent with section 708(a)(4) of the Sunshine Act in order to consult with the Borough's solicitor regarding information in connection with litigation filed in the United State District Court for the Middle District of Pennsylvania to Docket No. 1:19-CV-01829-CCC captioned Brian Platt, Plaintiff v. James Graham, New Oxford Borough, et al, Defendants and in connection with issues on which identifiable complaints have been made to the Borough.

Audience acknowledgment / opportunity for public comment:

1. John Duttera spoke about the following:

a. Mr. Duttera was previously given permission to run conduit underground on center square for the electric for the sound system/speakers. He now has time to do this project and wanted to get permission from this council to do the work. Council granted permission and informed Mr. Duttera to contact the maintenance man when the work is going to be done.

b. Mr. Duttera asked if the council could do something with regards to issues he is having with NOMA billing him for services. He has left several messages and has gone to the NOMA office and is not receiving calls back to answer his questions regarding this issue. Council information him that NOMA is a separate entity and the only authority the Borough Council has is appointments to the NOMA Board.

2. Lanny Mummert spoke about the following:

a. Mr. Mummert asked for the June 9, 2020 council meeting minutes to be changed regarding statements he made about sidewalks and questioned why his address is listed within the minutes.

b. Mr. Mummert stated that he is not attacking the council regarding the baseball field, he is trying to get help. Stated that Robinson and Johnston has been very helpful. He stated that the ballfield is a problem for the residents and he is concerned regarding COVID-19 because of the increase in positive case numbers and no one is social distancing. Mr. Mummert will continue to attend borough council meetings until something is done with the ballfield. He does not want to attend these meetings but was instructed to do so, so there is a record. He will be sending a letter to the President of the baseball league regarding these issues and if something is not done this will be taken to the next level. Mr. Mummert stated that all of this is very simple to resolve.

3. Chief Staab, Eastern Adams Regional Police Department. Chief Staab informed the council of the incidents that occurred in the borough during July 2020.

Griffie made the motion to accept the minutes from July 6, 2020 council meeting as presented. Johnston seconded. Motion carried.

Sipe made the motion to accept the Code Enforcement Officer's Report as presented. Johnston seconded. Motion carried.

Finance, Budget & Treasurer's Report by Johnston:

1. Johnston made the motion to pay the bills as per the Vendor Balance Detail Report. Griffie seconded. Motion carried.
2. Johnston made the motion to accept the financial reports as presented. Griffie seconded. Motion carried.

Building & Grounds Report by Robinson & Johnston:

1. Griffie made the motion directing Solicitor Eastman to prepare a proposed ordinance for review at the September 8, 2020 council meeting regarding parking at the borough building. Sipe seconded. Motion carried.
2. Borough Building – drainage and parking lot repairs/addition. Engineer Smith gave an update regarding the project.
 - a. Griffie made the motion to authorize Conewago Contractors to upgrade the sidewalk from the new parking area to the handicap ramp to a thicker concrete due to the use by New Hope Ministries for unloading trucks @\$550.00. Johnston seconded. Motion carried.
3. Robinson and Johnston will be talking with New Oxford Jr. Baseball League regarding the changes to the baseball field.

Parks & Recreation by Robinson & Kane:

1. Robinson informed the council that Steve Roth donated two blue spruce trees and both were planted on center square today.

Eastern Adams Regional Police Department Commission Report by Robinson & Griffie:

1. Robinson informed council that a new full time officer has started and they are looking to hire another full time officer.

Griffie had nothing to report for Streets & Sidewalks.

Nothing to report for Health & Safety due to Mayor Eisenhart's absence.

Nothing to report for the Mayor's Report due to Mayor Eisenhart's absence.

Sipe made the motion to adopt Resolution No. 10-2020 extending the Declaration of Disaster Emergency. Kane seconded. Motion carried.

Transient Retail License Ordinance review. Council discussed various changes to the ordinance and fees and directed Solicitor Eastman to prepare a proposed ordinance for review at the September 8, 2020 council meeting.

President's Report by Robinson:

1. Robinson stated that the maintenance man needs a storage area for dirt, stone and cold patch. Council agreed.

Griffie made the motion for adjournment at 8:23 PM. Sipe seconded. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted by,

Tania K. Kepner
Secretary/Treasurer