

November 2, 2020

The New Oxford Borough Council met at 7 pm on Monday, November 2, 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 a brief executive session of the Borough Council was conducted immediately following the October 5, 2020 general business meeting of the Borough Council consistent with section 708(a)(4) of the Sunshine Act in order to receive and discuss information in connection with issues on which identifiable complaints have been made to the Borough.

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 pm consistent with section 708(a)(4) of the Sunshine Act in order to consult with its litigation attorney and 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 acknowledgement / opportunity for public comment. There were none.

Sipe made the motion to accept the minutes from October 5, 2020 council meeting and October 13, 2020 budget workshop as presented. Griffie seconded. Motion carried.

Code Enforcement Officer's Report. No report was submitted.

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. Tabled the topic of the exterior door replacement to the Boy Scout area.
2. Griffie made the motion that there will be no access to the use of the ballfield until something is done. Sipe seconded. Motion carried.

Parks & Recreation Report by Robinson & Kane:

1. Robinson stated that the fountain needs resurfaced. Robinson will have a cost for review at the December 7, 2020 council meeting.

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

1. Chief Staab informed the council of the incidents that occurred in the borough during October 2020.
2. Chief Staab informed the council that the Police Commission approved the budget with a 2% increase.

Streets & Sidewalks Report by Griffie:

1. Crack Sealing. Griffie made the motion to approve the additional cost of \$1,198.50 to be paid to Seal Master for materials with regards to the crack sealing project. Kane seconded. Motion carried.

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.

Griffie made the motion to advertise the Transient Retail License Ordinance for enactment at the December 7, 2020 council meeting. Johnston seconded. Motion carried.

Sipe made the motion to enact Ordinance No. 471 New Oxford Borough Municipal Office Building parking regulations. Kane seconded. Motion carried.

Griffie made the motion to grant the request from the New Oxford Area Chamber of Commerce to use center square for decorating the weekend of November 21, 2020. Johnston seconded. Motion carried. Robinson stated that there will not be a tree lighting ceremony this year due to COVID.

Andrew & Jamie Roth, 107 South Water Street – driveway request. Engineer Smith informed the council that he looked at the property and there are no issues with the request. Johnston made the motion granting approval for the driveway request. Griffie seconded. Motion carried.

Sidewalk repair Ordinance review. Kane made the motion to table. Johnston seconded. Motion carried.

Zoning Hearing Fees increase review. Council decided to keep the fees the same.

New Hope Ministries rent increase review. Johnston made the motion to increase the monthly rent fee from \$450 per month to \$500 per month/\$6,000 per year. Griffie seconded. Motion carried.

Sipe made the motion to adopt Resolution No. 13-2020 appointing Smith Elliott Kearns & Co. as independent auditor for the Borough of New Oxford for the fiscal year 2021. Kane seconded. Motion carried.

Johnston made the motion to adopt the 2021 proposed budget. Griffie seconded. Motion carried.

Johnston made the motion to advertise that the 2021 proposed budget will be available for public inspection during normal office business hours from November 3, 2020 – December 7, 2020. Sipe seconded. Motion carried.

Griffie made the motion directing Solicitor Eastman to prepare a Resolution setting the 2021 Tax Rate of 2.70 mills. Sipe seconded. Motion carried.

Robinson had nothing to report for the President's Report.

Griffie made the motion for adjournment at 8:03 pm. Sipe seconded. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted by,

Tania K. Kepner
Secretary/Treasurer