EXETER BOROUGH

REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING MINUTES APRIL 4, 2023

7pm- Exeter Borough Building and Zoom Meeting

Call to Order was made by Chairman Pizano at 7:03pm; the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Roll Call: Present: Chairman Pizano; Vice Chairman Morgan; Lori DeAngelo, Joseph Esposito, Carmen Marranca, Richard Murawski. Absent/Excused: Dave Balent.

Person of the Month: None for April 2023.

Vice Chairman Morgan made the motion to approve the March 7, 2023 Exeter Borough Council regular meeting minutes; seconded by Councilman Marranca; passed unanimously.

Treasurer's Report: Report on file, read by Borough Manager Amy Huntington. Motion to approve made by Councilman Morgan; seconded by Councilwoman DeAngelo; passed unanimously.

Correspondence: All correspondence was read by Borough Manager Amy Huntington.

Citizens' Input (agenda items only):

Resident Angela Hunsinger of 423 Wilson Street and Joanne Glova of 201 Anthracite Street shared comments regarding Angela's 4/3/2023 correspondence about Wilson/DeRoberto Park, noting the dangers of the metal slide and broken gate, and made a request for updated playground equipment. Chairman Pizano recommended reaching out to the Kiwanis and WA Key Club for cleanup and Councilwoman Lori Deangelo noted recent cleanup and mulching, recommended residents email Amy and work with her to seek grants or and possible community funding for further upgrading assistance.

Refuse & Recycling Report: Report on file, read by Borough Secretary Sharon Sorokin. Motion to approve made by Councilman Morgan; seconded by Councilwoman DeAngelo; passed unanimously.

Report of Committees:

Police: WARP is handling police calls, reports provided on Commission meeting date, second Thursday of the month, 4/13/2023.

Finance & Insurance: Nothing to report.

Fire Department: The Exeter Borough firetruck is back in service and future fundraisers are being planned and will be announced at a later date.

Street/Recycling: Vice Chairman Morgan noted the recycling truck is in-service and the required truck lettering is scheduled. Council gave a thank you to the Streets Department for installing yellow posts in front of the new shed to prevent collisions.

Parks & Recreation: Councilwoman DeAngelo reported a very successful Easter Bunny event at Musto Park on Sunday 4/23/2023 and thanked the Streets Department and Boy Scouts for their assistance. She noted that Veterans Banners will be hung once the bucket truck can be scheduled with the Council of Governments. She also noted that the Exeter Events committee awarded 11 scholarships to the Wyoming Area Class of 2023, totaling \$1,900.00.

WVSA Report: Vice Chairman Morgan reported flushing of 63 sewer lines, 4 camera lines and 1 pump station vacuumed, and acknowledged John Hood of WVSA for the report details. He also reported the collapse of an Exeter Borough sewer main on Exeter Avenue, and reported that Ed Krasavage was called and made the immediate repairs to the line to restore service. Council thanked Mr. Krasavage for the quick response and repair.

Zoning: Zoning report on file, was prepared by Zoning Officer Ron Mruk and was read by Councilwoman DeAngelo. Motion to approve the report was made by Vice Chairman John Morgan; seconded by Carmen Marranca; passed unanimously.

Hicks Creek: Councilman Murawski reported the inspection of Hicks Creek with the Department of Environmental Protection is scheduled for April 17, 2023. Vince Ninassi and the Streets Department will coordinate the inspection.

Building & Grounds: Councilman Murawski thanked the Streets Department for the installation of the safety poles around the new shed.

Mayor's Remarks: No remarks at this time.

Solicitor's Report: Solicitor Ray Hassey noted Exeter Borough has been named in two lawsuits: first, along with the other 4 municipalities comprising the Wyoming Area Regional Police Department, a charge of unfair labor practices filed by the Fraternal Order of Police, FOP Lodge #36, which being coordinated by the Wyoming Area Regional Police; and second, a civil rights lawsuit filed against on a former employee in 2021, the claim has been turned in to our insurance carrier.

New Business:

- Vice Chairman Morgan made a motion to amend the agenda, to name an Exeter Borough representative to the Northeast Land Bank Board of Directors; seconded by Councilwoman DeAngelo; passed unanimously.
- Vice Chairman Morgan made a motion to name Councilman Dave Balent, and alternate Councilman Richard Murawski, as our Borough Representatives to the Northeast Land Bank Board of Directors; seconded by Councilman Esposito; passed unanimously. The first Land Bank meeting will be held on Wednesday April 12, 2023 at 6pm at Pittston City Hall.

- Councilman Joseph Esposito made a motion to approve the proposed Additional Expanded Wyoming Avenue No Parking Ordinance; seconded by Vice Chairman Morgan; passed unanimously.
- Councilman Murawski made a motion to advertise the Additional Expanded Wyoming Avenue No Parking Ordinance; seconded by Vice Chairman Morgan; passed unanimously.
- Vice Chairman Morgan made a motion to amend the Zoning fees, as necessary, to be on track with neighboring community pricing, as advised by BHW Construction Consultants; seconded by Councilwoman DeAngelo; passed unanimously.

Open to the Public

Matt Berger of the Greater Wyoming Area Football Association requested permission to plan and host a fun run benefit on Saturday June 24, 2023 at 9:00 am, using non-Route 11 (Wyoming Avenue) streets. He anticipates 150-200 maximum participants and will include adult and youth volunteers, and is working with Joyce Insurance to ensure proper insurance coverage. Councilwoman DeAngelo recommended having map drawn up, advertising with the Wyoming Valley Striders and Second Wind organizationa, and also asking Mara Valenti for sign-up system details. Vice Chairman Morgan made a motion to approve the run, pending possible date changes based on organizational planning details; Councilman Marranca seconded the motion; approved unanimously.

Vince and Lucinda Mikus of 155 Penn Ave spoke via Zoom regarding three concerns: 1) unrimmed tires stacked at the property of the old Star Garment warehouse located at 158 Penn Ave, possibly becoming an environmental hazard; 2) unsightly graffiti on the tracks side of the warehouse; and 3) noise issues including idling trucks and backup horns in their residential area between 11:30pm and 12:30am coming from the warehouse, to which no response was made to their 911 calls about the issues. Vice Chairman Morgan responded that he will ask our new Zoning Officer Ron Mruk to do an intake interview with the Mikus' and consult with Gene Molino, Exeter Borough Zoning Solicitor, to determine what solutions are possible to address the concerns.

Harold Ash, Exeter Borough Engineer, spoke via Zoom requesting a review the 2023 paving projects, to prepare for the August 2023 submission to the PA Liquid Fuels program, and to review the 2021 CDBG grants and plan for the FY 2024 CDBG grants. Chairman Pizano noted he will conduct a Zoom meeting next week to discuss.

Councilman Murawski made a motion to adjourn at 8:00pm, seconded by Councilman Esposito; passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted by Amy Sorokin Huntington, 5/1/2023.