

The Borough of Speers Council met on April 7<sup>th</sup>, 2021 at 7:30 p.m. In attendance were Mr. Rice, Mr. Herd, Mrs. Spina, Mr. Stewart, Mr. McCorkle and Mr. Hepple. Absent were Mrs. Barcelona and Mr. Daylong.

The minutes of previous meeting were approved as read; a motion to accept was made by Mr. Mr. McCorkle and seconded by Mr. Stewart; all in favor.

Secretary read the correspondence: request for library donation and information on a golf outing in honor of Mayor Lee.

**POLICE:** Reported 52 calls for the month of March; report available. Fire Dept: 7 calls, EMS: 12 calls.

### **COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**Streets:** Mr. Stewart – Nothing at this time.

**Finance:** Mr. McCorkle – March budget complete: income of \$30,996.58; expenses of \$43,810.28; -12,813.70 for the month. Mr. McCorkle will run a budget analysis for next month.

**Borough Improvement:** Mr. Daylong – Absent.

**Streetlights:** Mr. Hepple working with Jim Cannon at WPP.

**Parks:** Mrs. Barcelona – Absent; Mrs. Spina – nothing at this time.

**Transit Authority:** Mr. Hepple – Transit received \$700,000 in COVID relief. Transit Authority is meeting with Washington Rides to discuss joining or expanding routes.

**Grants:** Mrs. Spina – the electronic sign at Kodiak is not the Borough sign; our signs are still in storage at Mon Valley Signs until a decision is made where to permanently install them. Mrs. Spina reached out to Mr. Bassi and is still waiting for a response on an agreement for using their property. One sign will be installed at the bottom of Mapleview along RT 88. Secretary did reach out to Ben Brown at MVA and Jason Theakston at the Courthouse to see who owns the property at the Honor Roll; waiting for a response.

Mrs. Spina stated there is grant money available but a “wish list” is needed for the application; time is running out to apply for money for this year. Mon Valley Initiative has a \$500 grant available that she will look into. Council discussed updating the office and equipment, then the back room and security cameras.

Mayor Herd: spoke on the Borough website – Speersborough.org. What exactly do we want on the website: ordinances, calendar, minutes, shout-outs for people/kids, pictures? Can we paint dots on the road to mark the distance/miles when people are walking in the borough? Mayor Herd is appreciative of the Council members and the job they are doing to represent the community.

Dennis Carson's Report: filled potholes in alleys, cold-patch, installed new flags at the building and Honor Roll, cleaned streets and storm drains, cleaned bridge and filled potholes, flushed sewer lines at Lewis and State St, built and painted new wooden work horses, removed salt spreader and washed, changed batteries in smoke detectors, took 2019 truck to Davies Ford to fix tailgate, got supplies at Coulson's, cut grass, week whack, 7 One Calls and 5 downspout inspections. Dennis received a bid for replacing the pavilion floors. Mr. Daylong was to get him a name and number for the company that re-coats concrete floors. We will need to advertise for bids. Dennis reported that Columbia Gas is coming next week to finish replacing the sidewalks and filling in the gaps.

**ENGINEER/CODE ENFORCEMENT**: Absent; Mr. Kauffman is coordinating the bridge repairs; will update when available.

**SOLICITOR**: Mr. Lint – Nothing at this time.

**CITIZENS**: commented on the plastic being left on the handicap ramps. They will need to contact the contractors for the gas company. Dennis will remove if allowed.

**TAX COLLECTOR'S REPORT**: Deposit of \$6,422.00

**OLD/UNFINISHED BUSINESS**: Nothing at this time. Signs, bridges, and sidewalks were addressed earlier in the meeting.

**NEW BUSINESS**: Mr. McCorkle – questioned that since the Civic Club is not meeting at this time, can Council host the community yard sale? Council can temporarily take over activities/events until Civic Club opens back up. Mr. McCorkle and Mr. Hepple suggested hosting a “drive-in” movie night at the park, selling food and drinks from the concession stand. Mr. Rice questioned the reality of opening the concession stand during the summer months to sell drinks, snacks, and/or popsicles? Dennis stated it has not been open in over 17 years and would need cleaned and new equipment. Who would work the concession stand over the summer? Volunteers or pay a student? Mayor Herd suggested a vegetable exchange can be held at the park. We can use the website and the digital sign to advertise events. A motion to grant Council permission to temporarily host events until Civic Club re-opens was made by Mr. Stewart and seconded by Mr. Hepple; all in favor.

Mr. Lint stated that when meeting with contractors to get estimates for repairs/remodeling the office, to make it clear that it is just an estimate to include when submitting an application for grants. Then once we get grant funds, then it will be open for bids.

A motion to pay the bills was made by Mr. McCorkle and seconded by Mr. Stewart.

Council went into Executive Session 8:13 p.m. to 8:18 p.m. for a personnel matter.

A motion to adjourn the meeting at 8: 19 p.m. was made by Mr. Stewart and seconded by Mr. McCorkle.