

The Borough of Speers Council met on Monday, January 3rd, 2022 at 7:30 p.m. for a reorganization meeting. In attendance were Mr. Rice, Mayor Herd, Mr. McCorkle, Mr. Todora, Mrs. Barcelona, Mrs. Spina, and Mr. Daylong. Mr. Sauer arrived late for the meeting.

Mayor Herd wished a Happy New Year to all and congratulated the members who were elected to Council. Mayor Herd started the meeting with the swearing in of the re-elected and new Council members.

Mayor Herd continued the meeting with the re-organization of Council with accepting nominations for President of Council. Mr. Rice was nominated for President by Mrs. Spina and seconded by Mrs. Barcelona. No other nominations, all in favor. Mr. McCorkle was nominated for Vice President by Mrs. Barcelona and seconded by Mr. Rice. No other nominations, all in favor.

Mr. Rice continued the meeting with re-organization of the committee chairs:

Police: Mr. Rice

Streets & Sewers: Mr. Todora and Mr. Rice

Finance: Mr. McCorkle

Borough Improvement: Mr. Daylong

Streetlights: All Council members

Borough Building: Mrs. Barcelona

Parks: Mr. Sauer and Mrs. Barcelona

Transit Authority: Mayor Herd

Grants: Mrs. Spina

Secretary read the correspondence: Tri-County Borough meeting - January 20. Dennis and Jody thanked Mr. Rice, Mr. McCorkle and Mrs. Barcelona for the generous Christmas gifts.

Mayor Herd: spoke regarding Social Media; you represent Speers Borough now; be respectful and careful on how and what you say. Mayor Herd reiterated the importance of reporting on your assigned chair – whether it is re-capping old business or reporting new information. He also looks forward to working together.

Dennis Carson's report: pick up leaves, clean park – leaves and branches, clean off storm drains, clean steps down to RT 88, cleaned up the Lower Speers Park, replaced 4 stop signs, installed handicap sign at 274 Grandview Way, called Police to tag cars on Crest and Phillips St, tarred potholes and cracks at IDC Park and bridge, stored 2 loads of salt, worked on sewer lines in Maplevue, winterized all summer equipment, 9 One Calls, and 2 downspout inspection.

Dennis submitted a report on specs for the remodeling of the Borough offices. Specs are available for review. Council will advertise for bids.

Mayor Herd reported that Mayor Lee received the Congressional Record from Mr. Guy Reschenthaler. He suggests having it framed and displayed at the Borough Building.

Solicitor – Mr. Lint presented the millage (2.4) resolution for signature and seal. A nomination to re-appoint Mr. Lint as the Borough Solicitor was made by Mr. McCorkle and seconded by Mr. Daylong; all in favor.

A nomination to re-appoint HMT & Associates as the Borough Engineer was made by Mr. Daylong and seconded by Mrs. Barcelona; all in favor. Code Enforcement: HMT & Associates and Mr. Hepple submitted letters of interest. Mr. McCorkle questioned if we need to create a regionalized Code Enforcement due to Mr. Hepple being the Code Enforcement for Charleroi? Mr. Lint – No, Mr. Hepple is a separate employee and can be paid separately. Mr. Rice read Mr. Hepple's letter of interest aloud. Mrs. Spina asked Mr. Hepple if he was still interested in having a seat on Council? If this would be a conflict, he would have to pick one. He could not hold both positions. Which would Mr. Hepple prefer? Since the new Council member did not show yet to get sworn in, what are the options? Council had Mr. Gump and Mr. Hepple step out of the meeting to discuss. Mr. McCorkle made a motion to appoint Mr. Hepple for Code Enforcement (residential) for 2022 and seconded by Mrs. Spina; all in favor. Mr. Rice thanked Troy for all his work for the Borough. Mr. Gump questioned the planning and zoning, permits, BCO, UCC –who is responsible for those services since those were covered under Code Enforcement as well? A motion to re-appoint HMT & Associates for zoning and planning, BCO, and UCC (residential and commercial) was made by Mr. Rice and seconded by Mrs. Barcelona.

A motion to re-appoint Makel & Associates as the Solicitor for the Zoning Hearing Board was made by Mr. McCorkle and seconded by Mrs. Barcelona; all in favor.

A motion to re-appoint Patsy Vince as animal control (\$250/month) was made by Mr. McCorkle and seconded by Mrs. Barcelona; all in favor.

Mr. Sauer arrived at the meeting (8:06 p.m.) and Mayor Herd swore him in.

Finance report: Mr. McCorkle completed the budget for December – income = \$20,960.45; expenses = \$41,704.58; YTD: (+) \$44,322.35.

Citizens: No comment.

Tax Collector's Report: No report, will add with February's report.

Old/Unfinished Business: Mayor Herd questioned Troy about the LSA and RA money? He will ask Mr. Krider for an update.

Mrs. Spina reported on the digital sign – electricity needs hooked up, was delayed due to the water company working on the lines; will contact West Penn Power to expedite. The Maplevue sign had a

virus in the software, running an update on the software. The property across from Exxon is now under the water company, not Bassi's. We need a new agreement drafted. Mr. Lint will contact the ABC solicitor and discuss terms. The Borough will continue maintenance and grass cutting on the parcel.

Mr. McCorkle spoke on what is needed for both parks. What equipment and landscaping needs updated? Make a list and add to the agenda for February. Mrs. Spina – grants are available but we need formal bids before we can apply.

New Business: Mayor Herd will add the information for animal control to the website. Mr. Rost asked if we will post specs for bids on the website when we have a project to advertise? After Council approves, we can do that. Mr. Rost suggests the Borough meetings, agendas and minutes be added to the website. All that information is already on the website. Mayor Herd welcomes all suggestions. Mrs. Spina spoke on the composting information that Mel submitted regarding grants and the DEP. She suggests looking into how labor intensive it is and possibly hiring someone to do this. Dennis is too busy with his actual job to handle this. What are the long term costs? Is it even beneficial to the Borough to do this? Dennis stated that he cannot justify the time involved or the expenses related to it. Mrs. Spina is enrolled to attend a grant seminar on January 21. Mr. Todora introduced himself to Council and citizens. Mr. Sauer introduced himself as well. Mr. McCorkle is asking for Council to bring a list of roads and alleyways that need paved. We will discuss at the next meeting. Dennis stated that many of the Borough roads were paved by the gas company when they replaced the lines. He suggests looking at the roads in the IDC Park. Mayor Herd questioned if the Borough is responsible for those roads or the Mon Valley Alliance? It is the Borough's responsibility. Once we get a list, we will have HMT do a road analysis on the options.

A motion to pay the bills was made by Mr. Daylong and seconded by Mrs. Barcelona.

A motion to frame Mayor Lee's Congressional Record, not exceeding the amount of \$100, was made by Mr. McCorkle and seconded by Mrs. Spina; all in favor.

A motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:33 p.m. was made by Mr. McCorkle and seconded by Mrs. Barcelona.