LITITZ BOROUGH COUNCIL SPECIAL MEETING CALLED DUE TO THE CORONAVIRUS PANDEMIC

Minutes of Meeting Held March 19, 2020 7 S. Broad Street, Lititz, PA

A Special Meeting of the Lititz Borough Council was called to order by President Weaver at 5:00 P.M., on March 19, 2020, to ratify the existence of a disaster emergency in the Borough of Lititz attributed to the Coronavirus Pandemic and to extend the disaster emergency indefinitely or, otherwise declared over, and to take care of any other business that may come before Council. Due to the Borough of Lititz closing public access to all Borough buildings for the safety of employees and residents, members of the public were invited to live stream the meeting on the Lititz Borough Police Facebook page. Council members in attendance were Brubaker, Greiner, Lee, and Mobley. Sensenich was excused and out of the country. Others in attendance were Mayor Snyder, Sue Ann Barry, Chief Kerry Nye, Elijah Yearick, Andy Garner, and Detective Jevon Miller.

RESOLUTION NO. 914: Disaster Emergency Resolution

A coronavirus (now known as COVID-19) emerged in Wuhan, China, and began infecting people in December, 2019. It has since spread to 89 countries, including the United States. The World Health Organization and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) have declared COVID-19 a "Pandemic," and the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) Secretary has declared that COVID-19 creates a public health emergency. Lititz Borough has been working in collaboration with Lancaster County EMA, PEMA, DOH, and local health agencies to monitor and plan for the containment and subsequent mitigation of COVID-19. On March 17, 2020, Mayor Snyder signed a Proclamation for the existence of a disaster emergency as a result of the pandemic. According to the Borough Code, such a disaster proclamation cannot exceed a period of seven (7) days unless rescinded, modified, ratified or extended by resolution of Borough Council.

To help avoid exposure, Chief Nye reported on the precautions that the LBPD is taking due to the recent developments with the COVID-19 Pandemic including: courts are closed; limited access to PD; cease non-criminal fingerprinting; drug take back box is closed; training has been cancelled; parking meter violations have been ceased; sanitizing and social distancing precautions; non-emergency calls to be handled by phone instead of in person; became a member of the County COVID-19 Task Force; temperatures of prisoners taken; daily briefings coming from the local EMC, etc.

Barry reported that the Borough of Lititz is closing public access to all Borough buildings for the safety of employees and residents effective immediately. Residents do not have to come into the building to pay utility bills, purchase trash tags and/or apply for building permits. They are encouraged to use the drop box in the Borough Office door, mail in payments or request permit applications through phone or email. Cash payments are discouraged. During this time, extra trash tags will not need to be purchased to be placed on trash bags that exceed the three bag limit. Weaver later added that the late fees for utility bills will be waived.

Greiner moved, Mobley seconded to approve Resolution No. 914, Disaster Emergency for the COVID-19 Pandemic extending the disaster emergency proclaimed by the Mayor indefinitely or, otherwise declared over by a subsequent resolution of Borough Council, permitting the EMC to coordinate activities for emergency response and for procurement of supplies and materials, etc. without regard to the time-consuming procedures required by law. Motion passed unanimously.

Greiner moved, Lee seconded to cancel the March 31, 2020, regularly scheduled Council meeting due to the disaster emergency. An April 14, 2020, Council meeting can be called by the President if necessary. Most other upcoming public meetings and committee meetings will be cancelled. The April 7, 2020, Planning Commission meeting has been cancelled as the Dunkin Donuts applicant has agreed to grant a 90 day extension in time. Other meetings, e.g. Zoning Hearing Board will be dealt with as the situation unfolds. There is the need for an executive order providing relief for municipalities from statutory requirements for meetings, approvals and use of technology to meet quorum requirements and extension of timelines.

RESOLUTION NO. 915: Pleasant View Retirement Community Financing

Pleasant View Retirement Community is pursuing financing and the local municipality has to pass a resolution in support. It does not obligate the municipality to anything, however. Greiner moved, Mobley seconded to approve Resolution No. 915, for the Pleasant View Retirement Community financing. Motion passed unanimously.

SUB-COMMITTEE ON FINANCES: Financial Statement/Bills

Mobley moved, Greiner seconded to approve the Financial Statement and pay the bills. Motion passed unanimously.

SUB-COMMITTEE ON STREETS AND TRAFFIC: Handicapped Parking Space

Upon presentation, Greiner moved, Lee seconded to approve a request for a handicapped parking space for Nicole Fisher, 215 N. Cedar Street. Motion passed unanimously.

Upcoming Special Events

There are a number of upcoming, approved Special Events in April and May that are being either cancelled or postponed, or being asked to cancel or postpone: Lititz Lions Club Easter Egg Hunt on April 11, 2020; Lititz Shirt Factory "Live', musical event on April 18, 2020; Pretzel Fest on May 2, 2020; and Woodridge Swim Club Beer Fest on May 2, 2020. The next scheduled event is the Memorial Day Parade on May 25, 2020.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 5:20 P.M. on a motion by Greiner with a second by Lee.

Respectfully submitted,

Sue Ann Barry

Secretary/Treasurer