

A regular meeting of the Borough Council of Quakertown was held November 7, 2018, 7:30 p.m.

The following members and officers were present: President Donald Rosenberger, Vice President, James Roberts, Council members Douglas Propst, Michael Johnson, Jon Sell, David Wilsey, Mae Wear, Solicitor Sarah Murray, Manager Scott C. McElree and Asst. Borough Secretary Kris Barndt.

RESOLVED, That, the minutes of October 3, 2018 be approved as written. Motion of Vice President Roberts, seconded by Councilman Propst. A roll call vote was taken and the motion was unanimously carried.

RESOLVED, That, the following check registers be approved for payment:

September 28, 2018	-	\$	12,232.88
October 5, 2018	-		234,907.96
October 12, 2018	-		227,358.76
October 19, 2018	-		829,588.76
October 25, 2018	-		336,029.53
November 1, 2018	-		438,526.23

Motion of Councilman Propst, seconded by Councilman Johnson. A roll call vote was taken and the motion was unanimously carried.

RESOLVED, That, the Financial Statement, Police Department, Zoning Administrator and Building Inspector reports be received and filed. Motion of Councilman Wilsey, seconded by Councilman Propst. A roll call vote was taken and the motion was unanimously carried.

Visitors:

Michele Majoros, 410 S. 10<sup>th</sup> Street, indicated she would like to speak regarding the skate shelter.

Stephen Biddle, 130 S. Main Street, indicated he would like to speak regarding the budget.

Norbert Kremer, 36 S. 14<sup>th</sup> Street, indicated he would like to speak regarding battery operated lights to be placed on road signs.

### **PLANNING & ZONING COMMITTEE**

Councilman Sell stated that there are not any items for action under the Planning & Zoning Committee.

### **REVENUE & FINANCE COMMITTEE**

Vice President Roberts indicated that Mr. Biddle could speak at this time. Mr. Biddle handed a paper with several questions to President Rosenberger which he requested answered regarding the 2019 budget such as, when is the Budget Work Session going to be held, when and where was the meeting advertised and when will a copy of the budget be available for public view. President Rosenberger stated the Budget Work Session will be on November 12, 2018 at 5:30 pm, the Work Session was advertised in the Intelligencer on November 7, 2018, and the budget will be available in the manager's office starting the week of November 19, 2018.

RESOLVED, That, the following Resolution 88-18, setting Council and Work Session meeting dates for 2019, be adopted:

#### RESOLUTION 88-18

RESOLVED, That, the Council of the Borough of Quakertown will conduct regular meetings on the following dates: Wednesdays, January 2, February 6, March 6, April 3, May 1, June 5, July 10, August 7, September 4, October 2, November 6 and December 4, 2019. The meetings will be held in Council Chambers on the second floor of Borough Hall, commencing at 7:30 pm on said dates; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That, the Council of the Borough of Quakertown will hold Work Sessions on the following dates: Monday, January 28, February 25, March 25, April 22, May 20, June 24, July 22, August 26, September 23, October 28 and November 25, 2019. The meetings will be held in Council Chambers on the second floor of Borough Hall commencing at 7:30 p.m. on said dates.

Motion of Vice President Roberts, seconded by Councilman Propst. A roll call vote was taken and the motion was unanimously carried.

#### **HEALTH, SAFETY & WELFARE COMMITTEE**

Councilman Johnson indicated that Mr. Kremer could speak at this time. Mr. Kremer researched red blinking battery operated lights to be placed on speed limit signs on 14<sup>th</sup> Street. Manager McElree stated through the speed timing devices the Borough has used several times, it still does not indicated that there is a speeding issue on 14<sup>th</sup> Street, not to say an occasional vehicle speeds and maybe excessively speeds, but speeding is not an issue. Until the Borough can justify or learn from the analysis that there is an issue, there is really not anything that is speed proof.

RESOLVED, That, the following Resolution 90-18, Quakertown High School's request to hold a bonfire, be adopted:

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#### RESOLUTION 90-18

WHEREAS, a request was received from George Banas, Jr., the Coach of the

Quakertown Senior High School Football Team to conduct their 2018 Bon Fire and Pep Rally at the Borough's skating pond parking lot.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, That, the Council of the Borough of Quakertown grants the request of the Quakertown Senior High School Football Team to conduct their 2018 Thanksgiving Day Bon Fire and Pep Rally on November 20, 2018 from 7:00 pm to 9:00 pm, at the Borough's skating pond parking lot, provided they add the Borough as an additional insured on the insurance.

Motion of Councilman Johnson, seconded by Councilman Propst. A roll call vote was taken and the motion was unanimously carried.

Councilman Johnson mentioned on October 30, 2018 interviews were held with the three candidates for the Junior Council position. Riley Boike is a senior at Quakertown High School, Amanda Banes is a sophomore at Bucks County Community College and Mason Smith is a sophomore at Quakertown High School. Councilman Johnson expressed all candidates are energetic and are interested in local government and the community and he recommended appointing all three candidates to be on the Junior Council.

Vice President Roberts made a motion, seconded by Councilman Johnson to accept three members, Riley Boike, Amanda Banes and Mason Smith into the Borough's Junior Council Program. All members will serve according to the guidelines set forth by the PSAB.

A roll call vote was taken and the motion was unanimously carried.

### **PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMITTEE**

Councilman Wilsey stated that there are not any items for action under the Public Utilities Committee.

### **PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE**

Councilman Wear stated that there are not any items for action under the Public Works Committee.

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### **PARKS & RECREATION COMMITTEE**

Councilman Propst indicated that Ms. Majoros could speak at this time. Ms. Majoros stated the Quakertown ice skating area is a treasure to the downtown and mentioned in many years the ice has not been maintained as years past. Snow is left on the ice and is bumpy. There are

stones coming through the ice and is dangerous for the skaters. The lights are not turned on for the skaters for evening skating. Often the skate shelter is locked. She has heard that people park their vehicles with the lights on for lights at night. Ms. Majoros has many wonderful memories of the fireplace going to warm up in the shelter. Ms. Majoros would like to see the shelter get back into shape for this season. She has a concern also with the Drop In Program sign she saw on the shelter and an article she read about the program saying it is being held at the former icing skating cabin on 4<sup>th</sup> Street.

Councilman Propst replied when he was younger he skated there and there was ice all winter. The problem is there isn't ice around most of the winter. A machine cannot be placed on the ice to clear it if it is not a certain thickness. Councilman Propst stated the agreement with the Drop In Program has a stipulation that their group can use the shelter but when the pond is frozen the use will revert back for skaters.

Councilman Wilsey mentioned the winters have not been as cold as in the past and there has not been enough rain to fill the pond. The cooperation of the weather is needed to have descent ice.

Vice President Roberts replied the article stating the building is the former skate shelter was not an authorized statement. The building is still the skate shelter.

Manager McElree mentioned the Borough does not have any plans to close the skating shelter at all and every year the Borough does annual maintenance on the building. Obviously the weather is an impacting factor with the ice. The Borough's insurance risk department expresses concerns about that type of facility regarding safety factors. The ice has to be three inches or thicker for the Borough to open it under the guidelines of our insurance company. The green flag will be on the pole if the ice is within the safe thickness. When the green flag is on the pole, the lights will be on and the skating shelter is open which is maintained by Borough personnel and there is a fire in the fireplace.

RESOLVED, That, the following Resolution 89-18, Michael Cygan's request to hold Amy's Ride/Walk Against Pancreatic Cancer, be adopted:

#### RESOLUTION 89-18

WHEREAS, a request was received from Michael Cygan of Quakertown, Pennsylvania to hold a bike ride and walk event called Amy's Ride/Walk Against Pancreatic Cancer to benefit pancreatic research and treatment.

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NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, That, the Council of the Borough of Quakertown grants the request of Michael Cygan to hold Amy's Ride/Walk on Saturday, May 18, 2019 rain or shine, starting at 5:00 a.m. in the Park at 4<sup>th</sup> parking lot and ending there at 2:00 p.m. provided he adds the Borough as an additional insured on their insurance.

Motion of Councilman Propst, seconded by Councilman Johnson. A roll call vote was taken and the motion was unanimously carried.

President Rosenberger announced their will be a budget work session on Monday, November 12, 2018 at 5:30 pm.

Vice President Roberts announced The Tree Committee which includes Councilman Sell, Vice President Roberts and Councilman Wilsey met and they will be working on a tree policy for Council's consideration.

President Rosenberger declared the meeting adjourned at 8:07 p.m.

BOROUGH OF QUAKERTOWN

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Donald E. Rosenberger  
President of Council

Attest:

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Scott C. McElree  
Borough Secretary