

A regular meeting of the Borough Council of Quakertown was held April 1, 2020, 7:30 p.m. Due to the Covid-19 epidemic, the public was instructed to wait downstairs in the Borough Hall lobby. An audio feed of the live meeting was placed in the lobby for the public to listen to the entire meeting. Doug Wilhelm, Code Officer managed the lobby area and confirmed the meeting was audible.

The following members and officers were present: President Donald Rosenberger, Councilmembers Douglas Propst, Michael Johnson, Jonathan Sell, David Wilsey, Manager Scott C. McElree. Vice President James Roberts, Mae Wear, Solicitor Peter Nelson, Asst. Borough Secretary Kris Barndt and Junior Councilmembers Amanda Banes and Mason Smith absent. If any visitors wanted to speak, they were able to go upstairs one at a time and kept at doorway with a podium and microphone for comment.

RESOLVED, That, Council minutes of March 4, 2020 and Work Session minutes of February 24, 2020 be approved as written. Motion of Councilman Wilsey, seconded by Councilman Johnson. A roll call vote was taken and the motion was unanimously carried. Vice President Roberts and Councilwoman Wear absent.

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

February 28, 2020	\$	17,807.08
March 6, 2020		174,814.87
March 13, 2020		39,245.87
March 20, 2020		531,099.61
March 26, 2020		238,806.22

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

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. Vice President Roberts and Councilwoman Wear absent.

Visitors:

There were no visitors wanting to speak on any agenda items.

PLANNING & ZONING COMMITTEE

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

REVENUE & FINANCE COMMITTEE

RESOLVED, That, the following Resolution 33-20, GTRP Grant application for the Panther Playground project, be adopted:

RESOLUTION 33-20

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Borough of Quakertown of Bucks County, hereby requests a Greenways, Trails and Recreation Program (GTRP) grant of \$250,000 from the Commonwealth Financing Authority to be used for the revitalization of the Panther Playground in Memorial Park.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Borough of Quakertown does hereby designate Scott McElree, Borough Manager and Donald Rosenberger, Borough Council President as the officials to execute all documents and agreements between the Borough of Quakertown and the Commonwealth Financing Authority to facilitate and assist in obtaining the requested grant.

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

President Rosenberger asked if it was required for the Borough to spend \$500,000. Manager McElree stated currently the design of the playground will be somewhere between \$1,000,000 - \$1,500,000. There will be some public and corporate donations. Councilman Propst added the major cost of the playground is the surfacing on the bottom of the equipment.

HEALTH, SAFETY & WELFARE COMMITTEE

RESOLVED, That, the following Resolution 32-20, disposition of Police Department administration authorization, be adopted:

RESOLUTION 32-20

RESOLVED, by the Council of the Borough of Quakertown, Bucks County, Pennsylvania, that

WHEREAS, the Borough of Quakertown declares its intent to follow the schedules and procedures for the disposition of records as set forth in the Municipal Records Manual approved July 16, 1993, and;

WHEREAS, in accordance with Act 428 of 1968, each individual act of disposition shall be approved by resolution of the governing body of the municipality;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Borough of Quakertown, Bucks County, Pennsylvania, in accordance with the above cited Municipal Records Manual, hereby authorizes the disposition of the following public records:

Police Department

Traffic Citations: Years 2011-2014: B8566601-1, B8566800-4, B94190401-5, B9420000-2, B9420002-4, B9421400-2, C0377401-3, C0318400-1, C1130901-3, C1132000-2, C1132001-3, C1132900-6, C2047001-5, C2047300-3

Accidents: Years 2011-2014

Vacation Logs: Years 2017-2019

Impounds: Years 2014-2017

Curfew Juvenile Violations: Years 2012-2016

Solicitation Permits: Years 2015-2017

Smoking Juvenile Violations: Years 2012-2014

Truck Parking Permits: Years 2015-2017

Visitor/ID Logs: Years 2006-2017

Right to Know: Years 2012-2017

Warnings: Years 2016-2018

Officer Activity Logs: Years 2014

Faulty Equipment Cards: Years 2016-2018

Dumpster Permits: Years 2015-2017

Photographs: Years 2015-2017

UCR Reporting: Years 11/2015-12/2017

Motion of Councilman Johnson, seconded by Councilman Sell. A roll call vote was taken and the motion was unanimously carried. Vice President Roberts and Councilwoman Wear absent.

RESOLVED, That, the following Resolution 35-20, Bucks County Department of Health's request to treat mosquitos on Borough property, be adopted:

RESOLUTION 35-20

WHEREAS, the Council of the Borough of Quakertown is willing to aid in the reduction of the spread of the West Nile Virus.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, That, the Council of the Borough of Quakertown grants permission to the Bucks County Department of Health allowing a mosquito treatment program by dusting impacted water basins and implementing mosquito traps.

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

Manager McElree summarized the Borough's COVID-19 response. As soon as the State and Federal Government applied restrictions on non-essential businesses several Borough staff discussed the need to institute some leniency with several Borough's policies and procedures. For example, anything with electric, water or sewer the Borough would suspend terminating service, as well as, penalties and or interest to late fees would be waived. A temporary policy will be in place for residents calling who are struggling with their utility bills and will be work with on a case by case basis.

A Leaders Committee including Councilman Sell and Councilman Johnson has been established throughout the town including the Quakertown School District, St. Luke's Hospital, the Chamber of Commerce and Quakertown Alive. The Committee meets every other day through Zoom meetings. A website has been created called Quakertown.org/Covid-19 and that site gets updated daily. The Borough's website and Facebook, swift reach phone and the AM radio station gets updated. Mailings also were sent out last week to residents. The Borough has received a lot of positive response to the aggressive nature that the Borough and other towns have taken.

Through the efforts of the Leaders Committee, Danielle Bodnar from the Chamber took the hundreds of pages from the Cares Act and reduced it down to several pages which she highlighted and that will be available to the public.

A power point presentation is being prepared for a webinar April 3, 2020 for businesses which can come into the webinar. The webinar will have about an hour of information. Brian Fitzpatrick's office, the Pennsylvania Small Business Administration, as well as, bankers and an attorney will be present to offer their expertise on the Cares Act. This webinar will be through the GoToMeeting site.

Manager McElree stated the recovery in the next several months will be a challenge to keep businesses going. The future could challenge the Borough's business model if things really turn south and revenue does not come in like previous. The Borough is expecting a 25% -30% reduction in utility income because businesses are shut down so preparing for the future is important. Service to the residence is still needed and it is important for staff to stay healthy including the Police Department.

PUBLIC UTILITES COMMITTEE

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

PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE

RESOLVED, That, the following Resolution 37-20, awarding the bid for the 2020 road resurfacing project, be adopted:

RESOLUTION 37-20

RESOLVED, by the Council of the Borough of Quakertown, That, the bid for the 2020 road Resurfacing project be accepted and awarded to Allan Myers, Inc. of Worcester, Pennsylvania, in the amount of \$471,713.15 in accordance with the bids opened February 18, 2020. The Borough Manager is hereby authorized to execute the said contract on behalf of the Borough of Quakertown.

Motion of Councilman Wilsey, seconded by Councilman Johnson. A roll call vote was taken and the motion was unanimously carried. Vice President Roberts and Councilwoman Wear absent.

PARKS & RECREATION COMMITTEE

Councilman Propst stated that there are not any items under the Parks & Recreation Committee.

Currently Spring Clean Up Day and the Easter Egg Hunt have been canceled. A virtual egg hunt is being held in its place. The Easter bunny will be on top of a fire truck and will drive through the Borough.

President Rosenberger declared the meeting adjourned at 8:17 p.m.

BOROUGH OF QUAKERTOWN

Donald E. Rosenberger
President of Council

Attest:

Scott C. McElree
Borough Secretary