

A regular meeting of the Borough Council of Quakertown was held October 7, 2020, 7:30 p.m.

The following members and officers were present: President Donald Rosenberger, Vice President James Roberts, Councilmembers Douglas Propst, Michael Johnson, Jonathan Sell, David Wilsey, Mae Wear, Manager Scott C. McElree, Solicitor Peter Nelson, Asst. Borough Secretary Kris Barndt and Junior Councilmember Mason Smith.

RESOLVED, That, Council minutes of September 2, 2020 and the Work Session of August 24, 2020 be approved as written. Motion of Vice President Roberts, seconded by Councilman Johnson. A roll call vote was taken and the motion was unanimously carried.

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

September 4, 2020	\$ 91,888.28
September 10, 2020	188,226.33
September 16, 2020	598,398.79
September 24, 2020	103,698.09
October 1, 2020	824,202.63

Motion of Councilman Propst, seconded by Vice President Roberts. 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 are located in the Police Training Room tonight due to Covid-19 restrictions.

Visitors present to speak regarding the Borough's feral cats:

Denise Bash Bingler, 94 Elfman Drive, Doylestown, with Animal Lifeline in Warrington.
Kenneth Miller, 1985 Brinkman Road, Quakertown.
Pastor Larry Vandever, 331 S. Main Street, Nazareth.
Laura McGrath, 130 Rattlesnack Road, Kintnersville, with Laura's Ark Animal Sanctuary.

PLANNING & ZONING COMMITTEE

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

REVENUE & FINANCE COMMITTEE

Vice President Roberts stated there are no items on the agenda but mentioned the bond sale was negotiated and the Borough is waiting for settlement on November 5, 2020.

The 2021 MMO (Municipal Minimum Obligation) was announced at the September 28, 2020 Work Session. For Council Minutes again it is:

Police Pension Plan:	\$676,620
Non-uniform Plan:	\$210,150
Money Purchase Plan (401A):	<u>\$149,760</u>
	\$1,036,530

HEALTH, SAFETY & WELFARE COMMITTEE

Denise Bash stated in August she was in contact with the Borough to offer to provide spay and neuter services to the feral cats. She was told a good samaritan offered to take the cats and got in over her head. Ms. Bash contacted the Bucks County Animal Response Team and the Bucks County SPCA and asked for help with trap and transport. Ms. Bash tried to find an area where they could create a temporary shelter to capture the cats, spay and neuter them and return them to field. Ms. Bash asked where the cats were taken. Ms. Bash mentioned there is a Title 18 PA CSA5561 which states reasonable action may be undertaken with vermin and pest control which this problem would probably fall under. Ms. Bash questioned if all the cats were feral and suggested the Borough not create an Ordinance without outside guidance and animal expertise of animal law and code.

Kenneth Miller suggested in the future the Borough work with feral cat caretakers to trap, neuter, return to help manage the cat colonies so they don't get over populated. With the partnership of the Borough and coalition the colonies could be managed and missing cats can be identified by their caretakers and taken to the SPCA to see if there are lost cat records.

Pastor Vandever mentioned he has helped with feral cats in the past and offered to help the Borough in the future should the need arise.

Laura McGrath stated she is teaming up with Pastor Vandever and is going to open a branch called Coalition for Feral Cats of Upper Bucks.

RESOLVED, That, the following Resolution 67-20, A Women's Place request to hang purple ribbons in town for Domestic Violence Month, be adopted:

RESOLUTION 67-20

WHEREAS, a request was received from A Woman's Place to hang purple ribbons on trees and light posts in the Borough in the month of October to promote awareness for domestic violence.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, That, the Council of the Borough of Quakertown grants the request of A Woman's Place to hang purple ribbons in the Borough during the month of October to increase awareness of domestic violence.

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

RESOLVED, That, the following Resolution 66-20, setting the date, time and guidelines for Trick or Treat night, be adopted:

RESOLUTION 66-20

RESOLVED, That, the Council of the Borough of Quakertown establishes October 31, 2020, 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m., as Trick-or-Treat night in the Borough of Quakertown; and

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Council of the Borough of Quakertown strongly encourages and advises all parents and participants to follow the prevailing guidelines as issued by the CDC regarding social distancing and other precautions due to the COVID10 pandemic.

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

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 68-20, approving the Winter Maintenance Contract for winter seasons 2020/2020-2024/2025, be adopted:

RESOLUTION 68-20

BE IT RESOLVED, by authority of the Borough Council of the Borough of Quakertown, Bucks County, that the Borough Secretary and Manager be authorized and directed to sign the PennDot five year Winter Traffic Services Agreement for winter seasons 2020/2021-2024/2025 on its behalf.

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

PARKS & RECREATION COMMITTEE

RESOLVED, That, the following Resolution 70-20, authorizing the Borough Manager to research the Rail with Trail concept through the Borough, be adopted:

RESOLUTION 70-20

RESOLVED, that the Council of the Borough of Quakertown authorizes the Borough Manager to further research the Rail with Trail Project regarding the Appalachian Mountain Club request for the Borough of Quakertown’s consideration to extend a series of trails through the borough.

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

President Rosenberger declared the meeting adjourned at 7:58 p.m.

BOROUGH OF QUAKERTOWN

Donald E. Rosenberger
President of Council

Attest:

Scott C. McElree
Borough Secretary