

ELIZABETHTOWN BOROUGH COUNCIL
WORK SESSION
February 4, 2016
Minutes

Elizabethtown Borough Council held its monthly work session meeting on Thursday, February 4, 2016, at 7:00 p.m. at the Borough Office. Present were Councilmembers Phil Clark, J. Marc Hershey, Jeff McCloud, Tom Shaud, and J. Neil Ketchum. Jr. Dr. C. Dale Treese was absent. Also present were Borough Manager Roni Ryan, Assistant Borough Manager Cindy Foster, Planning & Zoning Director Rodney Horton, Police Chief Jack Mentzer, and Mayor Chuck Mummert.

Presentation of 2015 Audit

1. **Jill Gilbert and Sean Post with the Borough's auditing firm Trout, Ebersole & Groff** presented the 2015 Annual Audit. Post reviewed the Audit and directed Council to several footnotes of interest related to debt, pensions, and fund balances. He reported that the audit once again resulted in a clean opinion.

Public Comment

1. **Rich Sheidy, 350 Lemon Street**, commended the Borough for its handling of the recent snowstorm. He noted he has heard many compliments about the way the downtown area was cleared so quickly.

Council heard the following informational reports:

1. Administration

- a. Plumbing Bill—500 North Mount Joy Street—Foster reported that the property owner at 500 North Mount Joy Street is seeking relief from a plumbing bill to replace a trap and clear stones from the lateral at his property. She reviewed a timeline of events noting that it was determined that stones were entering the main from a separated lateral at 555 North Mount Joy Street. When the main was cleared, some stone was pushed back into the lateral at 500 North Mount Joy Street. The property owner called a plumber and the decision was made to dig out and replace the existing trap before clearing the line. The general consensus was that the stone in the lateral was created by the Borough's attempts to clear the main and therefore reimbursement was warranted. Hershey noted, however, that if private contractors are considering seeking reimbursement for similar claims going forward, Borough crews must be a part of the decision making process when determining a course of action for remediation.

Action Item

Motion by Clark, second by Shaud, to reimburse the property owner in the amount of \$3,466.31 for a plumbing bill to replace the trap and clear the lateral at 500 North Mount Joy Street. Motion carried unanimously.

- b. 616 South Market Street Update—Horton reported that the property owner has agreed to sell 616 South Market Street to the Redevelopment Authority (RDA) for \$135,000. Outstanding liens and code enforcement items will be satisfied at the time of sale. Legal counsel for the Borough and the RDA are working on an agreement to transfer the property to the Borough, and once there is a clear title we will move ahead.
- c. EAWA Update—McCloud reported that EAWA is in the process of reviewing its capital investments and planning for the future.

2. Police Department

- a. Mentzer reviewed the following:
 - i. Police Department Monthly Report
 - ii. Police Department Annual Report for 2015

3. Council/Mayor Comments

- a. McCloud congratulated Ryan on a successful Livable Communities event at the Moose Building on January 28th noting over 100 people were in attendance.
- b. Shaud congratulated staff for another successful audit and expressed his appreciation for the due diligence demonstrated to achieve these results.
- c. Ketchum echoed McCloud's comments relative to the success of the Livable Communities event noting he has received feedback from many people interested in continuing the conversation. Ketchum also stated he felt the Borough crews did an outstanding job on snow removal and noted that downtown businesses were happy that they could reopen so quickly.
- d. Mummert reported that Elizabethtown did a great job on snow removal compared to other towns and communities he has seen.

After a motion by Clark, second by McCloud, the meeting was unanimously adjourned at 8:07 p.m. upon which time Council entered Executive Session to discuss a discipline issue in the Police Department.