MINUTES OF: DATE OF MEETING: TIME OF MEETING: PAGE NO. WORKSHOP MEETING APRIL 2, 2024 7pm

The Workshop Meeting of the Borough of Butler Mayor and Council was opened by Mayor Martinez who indicated that the meeting was being held in compliance with the Open Public Meetings Act having been duly advertised and posted in Borough Hall and on the Borough Website.

ROLL CALL

PRESENT: Mayor Martinez, Councilman Calvi, Councilman Fox, Councilman Meier, Councilwoman Morley, Councilman Piccirillo and Council President Verdonik

ALSO PRESENT: James Lampmann, Borough Administrator; Christopher Woods, office of the Borough Attorney and Brandi Greco, Borough Clerk.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Match 5, 2024

Moved: Verdonik Second: Morley

All in favor

Discussion – Changes to Towing Ordinance.

Mayor Martinez opened the meeting to the public at this time seeing there were people in attendance wanting to comment on the Towing Ordinance.

Brian from Factory Auto Body approached and requested that the Borough consider changing their Towing Ordinance to (2) two approved towers rather than (3) three. He said a lot of the people coming in and applying are from out of our county and the response time is long. He was also concerned about us choosing via a "lottery system" if we get a lot of applications.

Rick Malanga approached with same concern, requesting a change in Ordinance. He wanted to know if reliable current towers would receive first preference. He said provisions should be in place to avoid lawsuits. Christopher Woods said he will speak with Bob Oostdyk and look into a worthwhile Ordinance change if needed.

Seeing no one else come forward to speak, a motion was made to close the public portion of the meeting.

Moved: Fox

Second: Morley

All in favor

Discussion – Community Garden – Councilwoman Britni Morley wanted to follow up regarding a Community Garden. She asked about the possibility of taking back the property that the animal shelter no longer uses. All agreed the biggest issue is clearing the lot. They would need to take a lot of trees down that provide privacy for neighboring residences. Mayor inquired as to who would maintain it. Mr. Lampmann said we would need some sort of rodent control in place as well. Finally, due to new state requirements, all trees removed will need to be replaced.

Discussion – Additional Police Officer – Councilman Calvi said the police department would like to hire an additional officer. Mr. Lampmann asked if they would go alternate route or if we would put a candidate through the academy? For one year, you need appx. 120k for salary, insurance, workman's comp, pension, etc. Our budget has already undergone State review so we would have to not adopt the budget, re-introduce an amended budget, re-publish and re-send for state approval. This will push budget adoption and capital ordinances and projects out until mid-June. We will also have our tax rate struck without an approved budget. Reminder also made that we need to find funds for a police car in our budget since insurance only covered a portion of the totaled car. Council wanted clarity if this additional officer would be on the road or a floater to alleviate the load of a shift. Councilman Calvi said he would like this request to be highly considered. They are scheduling a meeting with the Chief to further discuss.

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Brandi Greco reminded everyone to check their e-mails and for the Financial Disclosure Statement information.

MOTION TO ADJOURN

Moved: Fox All in favor Second: Calvi

ADJOURNMENT: 7:39 p.m.

Ryan Martinez, Mayor

Brandi L. Smith-Greeo Municipal Clerk Adopted May 7, 2024