

## November 9, 2009

Derry Borough Council met in regular session Monday, November 9, 2009 at 7:00 P.M. in the Derry Station Community Room, 200 West Second Avenue, Derry, PA with the following members present: Allen Skopp presiding, Eric Tepper, Chris Holnaider, Todd Krehlik, Curtis Robbins, Kristine Melville and Barry Smith. Mayor Susan Bortz and Rachel Riedel were present. Marie McCandless, Latrobe Bulletin and Jeff Himler, Dispatch Tribune-Review were reporting.

**MOTION** by Curt Robbins to approve the minutes for regular council meeting of October 12, 2009. Motion **SECONDED** by Barry Smith. All members present voiced “aye” in favor of the motion. Motion passed.

**MOTION** by Barry Smith to approve the treasurer’s report for October 31, 2009. Motion **SECONDED** by Curt Robbins. All members present voiced “aye” in favor of the motion. Motion passed.

### VISITORS

1. Chuck DeNunzio, 701 East Fourth Avenue, Derry – Came to ask about the fence installation. He has concerns about a pedestrian bridge for many reasons such as cost, maintenance, safety, and vandalism. He hopes that residents will utilize the rehabilitated or reconstructed Rt. 217 Bridge when completed. Maintenance on a pedestrian bridge could cost up to two to four mills a year.
2. Rod White – Representative from McDonald Land Services brought some third party information for borough council members to review prior to making a decision regarding testing in Derry Borough for natural gas.
3. Chuck DeRito, 604 West Second Avenue, Derry- presented a letter to council regarding the fence to be donated from the company he represents.

### MAYOR’S REPORT

Mayor’s Report for October 2009 with receipts of \$1,109.05 which included traffic receipts of \$787.66 and non-traffic receipts of \$173.33. There were 114 complaint calls, 35 traffic citations, and 6 non-traffic citations.

- The municipal police officers educational training commission budget has been substantially reduced, which means no funds will be provided for our officer’s training which will need to be added into the 2010 budget.
- A letter was distributed to the Derry Area School District written by Allen and Susan regarding pedestrian safety and prohibiting crossing the railroad tracks.
- Congressman Murtha’s office contacted the mayor requesting her to keep the office updated with progress regarding the train issue.
- Commissioner Anderson recommended sending a testimonial to the Pennsylvania State Transportation Committee regarding pedestrian safety and bridge replacement requesting the project to be moved up.
- The Safe Routes to School program may be something we can work with the school district in the future for funding.

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- Many calls have been received by the Mayor with suggestions of solutions regarding the pedestrian crossing of the train tracks. Two professional engineers contacted her and suggested having the Army Corp of Engineers to perform a study of widening the creek underneath the tracks to elongate the flood plain eliminating the potential of flooding, creating more opportunities of reconnecting Chestnut Street.
- Norfolk Southern has offered railroad ties as a temporary solution to help eliminate pedestrian crossing of tracks.
- A jitney service is still being pursued.
- Mastrococco's offers a delivery service to residents of the Borough for a minimal fee.
- Along with the fence offered by Massaro another group of people offered to donate time, materials, and personnel to install a new 6' fence at the property across the tracks owned by Mike Warner, with whom they have met. They would like to have a dedication plaque erected once a list of workers is submitted.
- An email was received by Congressman Murtha's office that there has been a setback to the progress of Porcelain Park.

### ZONING OFFICER'S REPORT

Bob Sieminkewicz reported \$25.40 in zoning fees were collected for October 2009 including one commercial sign permit. Property on Keeling Avenue is almost completely clean with the exception of some pipe and steel that needs to be removed. There is another adjacent property which needs to be looked at regarding same matter. There are some other properties which he is reviewing with shed issues and some junk violations.

### REPRESENTATIVE'S REPORT

#### Eric Tepper

The Wage Tax Board met on November 3, 2009 the downturn in the economy has produced a reduction in tax collections. The next meeting will be held in February will be held in February 2010.

The cost of the new county tax collections should be minimal for Derry Borough per Joe Koluder. The next TCC meeting will be held tomorrow evening at the Westmoreland County Courthouse.

The Indiana Westmoreland COG's next meeting will be January 5, 2010.

### COMMUNICATIONS

- Thank You received by the Derry Area Business and Professional Association for the Halloween Parade.
- Hoffman's contract for 2010 was forwarded to council needing a motion to approve. There was a minimal increase of \$5 for emergency calls but the monthly service amount remained the same.
- Derry Station is requesting a donation for a new Christmas Tree for the senior Community Center

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### UNFINISHED BUSINESS

1. Porcelain Park - Tabled
2. Recodification – General Code is creating final editorial for council review.
3. Housing Redevelopment - Tabled
4. Code Enforcement Officer/Police Resource Officer (Temporary Positions) – The stimulus monies have not been received by the county at this time.
5. Sewer Plant Back-Up Operator – Interviews are scheduled for Monday, November 16<sup>th</sup>, 2009 starting at 4p.m.
6. Part-time police officer- Two applications have been received.
7. Occupancy Permits - Tabled
8. Stop Signs for intersection of West Third and Utopia – Sol. Riedel is reviewing
9. Planning Commission Vacancy – Re-advertise in December with other vacancies for 2010

### NEW BUSINESS

1. **MOTION** by Curt Robbins to approve West 2<sup>nd</sup> Culvert Replacement Project Request for payment including change order #1 for \$3,070.70 and change order #2 for \$13,250.48 with total project cost to date \$208,847.99. Motion **SECONDED** by Kristine Melville. All members present voiced “aye” in favor of the motion. Motion passed.
2. **MOTION** by Barry Smith to advertise to received bids for Tax Anticipation Loan. Motion **SECONDED** by Curt Robbins. All members present voiced “aye” in favor of the motion. Motion passed.
3. **MOTION** by Chris Holnaider to approve Resolution 496-09 exoneration of the Borough portion of Real Estate taxes from 2005 through to present on property Tax Map #06-01-14-0-020. Motion **SECONDED** by Curt Robbins. All members present voiced “aye” in favor of the motion. Motion passed.
4. **MOTION** by Curt Robbins to approve subdivision of Kuhn’s property in R-SH District Tax Map # 06-01-09-0-179 as recommended by the planning commission. Motion **SECONDED** by Chris Holnaider. All members present voiced “aye” in favor of the motion. Motion passed.
5. McDonald Land Services requesting permission to test for natural gas in Derry Borough was tabled. Mr. Rob White brought more information for council to review prior to making a decision.

**MOTION** by Curt Robbins to make a \$50 donation for a Christmas tree for Mossback Park to Derry Area Business and Professional Association for Christmas in the Park to be held on December 5, 2009. Motion **SECONDED** by Chris Holnaider. All members present voiced “aye” in favor of the motion. Motion passed.

**MOTION** by Curt Robbins to make a \$50 donation to Derry Station for a new Christmas tree. Motion **SECONDED** by Chris Holnaider. All members present voiced “aye” in favor of the motion. Motion passed.

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**MOTION** by Curt Robbins to approve the Hoffman's Kennel Contract. Motion **SECONDED** by Chris Holnaider. All members present voiced "aye" in favor of the motion. Motion passed.

6. **MOTION** by Chris Holnaider to advertise 2010 General Fund Budget. Motion **SECONDED** by Curt Robbins. All members present voiced "aye" in favor of the motion. Motion passed.

7. **MOTION** by Curt Robbins to advertise 2010 Sewer Fund Budget. Motion **SECONDED** by Curt Robbins. All members present voiced "aye" in favor of the motion. Motion passed.

**Council went into executive session at 7:45 pm. Executive session ended at 8:08pm.**

**PAYMENT OF BILLS**

**MOTION** by Curt Robbins to pay the bills. Motion **SECONDED** by Chris Holnaider. All members present voiced "aye" in favor of the motion. Motion passed.

**ADJOURNMENT**

**MOTION** by Eric Tepper to adjourn at 8:15 p.m. Motion **SECONDED** by Kristine Melville. All members present voiced "aye" in favor of the motion. Motion passed.

Respectfully submitted,

Lori L. Latta  
Secretary