

**CRESSONA BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING
MINUTES OF OCTOBER 2, 2023
BI-MONTHLY MEETING**

Call to Order: 7:00 p.m. by Council President, Linda Walinsky.

Roll Call: Those in attendance were council members Linda Walinsky, Mike Pascuzzo, Robert Barr Michelle Blankenhorn, Secretary Regina Sonon, Solicitor Eric Prock, and on behalf of Systems Design Engineering Steve Moyer. Kathy Butz and Sandi Renninger were not in attendance.

Citizens Participation: There was no participation at this time

Minutes of Previous Meeting: A motion was made by Linda and seconded by Mike to accept the September 18 meeting minutes. All Ayes.

Municipal Bills: A motion was made by Mike and seconded by Linda to approve the bills of October 2. All Ayes

Requisitions: No requisitions submitted.

Citizens Participation:

Frank Zurat: Questioned water control and any upcoming road work. Requested the footbridge specs be sent to a welder he knows.

Mr. Oliver: Reported that cars had been broken into on Railroad and Grove Street.

Connie Heisey: Expressed concerns about the school being sold.

Julie Schneck: Asked about the sign in place at the school and if the school will pay taxes?

Dave Ramsey: Asked about the ages of the children attending River Rock Academy?

Carmen Crespo: Has a concern that with the school moving into town, it will impact her property value.

Cathy Phillips: Raised a concern regarding security at the school what is the Borough doing to provide protection. Would also like the Borough to stop the sale of the school.

Joan Furman: She explained to Council and the audience that the kids attending the school are in a 1306 Setting Alternate Program and can potentially be violent. As a result, she inquired at to what type of security will be in place?

Michelle Brennan: Stated the doors will not be locked at the school. Will a decision be made the day of the hearing at the Courthouse? Can she put a petition together and present to the court?

Dennis Snyder: Can a committee be organized to monitor the school?

The Solicitor and Council President: Strongly urged the audience to attend the School Board meeting Thursday, October 19 at the Middle School. Residents can also attend the Hearing October 30 court room number 4 at the Schuylkill County Courthouse.

The Solicitor was not confident that the Judge will allow any audience feedback because he is ruling on whether the purchase price is fair. Eric also explained that the Borough doesn't have any power to stop the sale.

Councilperson Mike Pascuzzo: Recommended that the Borough send a letter to the School Board expressing resident's concerns.

Eric also said that if there is a petition being circulated, the borough is willing to send it along with the letter to the school district.

Council will have a Special Meeting prior to the regularly scheduled October 16 Council meeting. Eric is going to request a member from River Rock Academy and the School Board. The meeting will be held at the Goodwill Fire Company.

Old Business:

1. ARPA Funds – Pool Bathhouses & Grove Bathrooms Specifications – Council asked Mike be the point person on selecting the fixtures.
2. LST Tax Ordinance 1st Reading – A motion was made by Linda and seconded by Mike to enact the Ordinance 10-2023. All Ayes
3. PA Constable – Eric hasn't hadn't heard from the District Attorney at the time of our meeting. He will move forward with writing an Ordinance.

New Business:

1. Cargo Trailer:
 - a. A motion was made by Mike and seconded by Linda to repeal the motion to purchase a trailer from Burkholder. All Ayes
 - b. A motion was made by Mike and seconded by Bob to approve the purchase of a trailer from Tool Shed of America at a cost of \$8699. All Ayes
2. A motion was made by Linda and seconded by Mike to split the cost of a smart board with the Sewer Authority for the conference room. All Ayes
3. Traffic Study: Michelle spoke to Council about some options to reduce speeding on Graeff and Zerbe Street. Council agreed that it is to late in the season to paint parking spaces on Graeff and outer lines on Zerbe. Michelle also recommended placing more stop signs on Graeff Street. Will discuss with Frank when he returns from vacation.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Mayor: The Mayor did not attend the meeting no update was provided.

Solicitor: Requested an Executive Session with no action to follow.

Engineer: Please see the Engineer's Report.

Secretary: Received MMO reimbursement. Newsletters were mailed Saturday.

Finance/Property: It's time to work on the budget please bring any items to Regina.

Highway: Discussed earlier.

Sanitation: Bills were mailed.

Recreation: The playground equipment will be delivered 11/2.

Safety: Nothing at this time discussed earlier.

Personnel: New full-time employee quit after 4 days. Will be posting another ad on Indeed and review previous resumes.

Fire Chief: Managing the burning complaints received from residents. Will wait a few more weeks to burn the pile of brush that residents have been leaving at the pool.

COG: No update was provided.

Executive Session: A motion was made by Mike and seconded by Bob at 8:04 pm to enter Executive Session. All Ayes.

Exit Executive Session: A motion was made by Bob and seconded by Linda at 8:17 pm for personnel matters with no action to follow. All Ayes

There was an executive session for legal matters with no action to follow.

Adjourn: A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Bob and seconded by Mike at 8:19 pm. All Ayes

Respectfully Submitted,
Regina Sonon
Secretary/Treasurer