

Regular Meeting Minutes
Verona Borough Council
Tuesday, December 08, 2020

ZOOM-COVID19

- I. Call to Order**
- II. Pledge of Allegiance**
- III. Roll Call**

President Pat
McCarthy
Dr. Carpenter
Mike Forbeck
Ms. LoAlbo
Mr. Matlin
Ms. Provenza
Mr.
Suchevich
Mayor Ricupero
Mr. Alexander
Mr. Pitsch
Mr. Kenna

Jerry – read his resignation letter to Council and public. He asked President McCarthy to accept his resignation. With regret he accepts his resignation
Motion to accept resignation 1st Pat McCarthy, 2nd Ray Suchevich. Dr. Carpenter suggested that the motion be held for public comment.

- IV. Registered Comments from the Public**
 - 1. Rhoda Worf, 636 3rd St
 - 2. Donald Worf 636 3rd St
 - 3. Rhea Homa, 727 Brunot St

4. Laura Jacko, 437 North Avenue
5. Trish Hredzak Showater-440 North Avenue-P&R 2021 Proposed expenditure
6. Stefani Garibay-budget
7. Jessica Varone-722 Brunot-
8. Joe Warren- Vogels Lane
9. Dan Showarter-440 North Ave
- 10 Jennifer Marasco=North Ave
11. Timothy Long- Penn St
12. Nate Stimul-854 1st Street

V. Council will hear comments on all **agenda items at this time. Please approach the podium and clearly state your name & address and limit your comments to **three (3) minutes**.**

1. Kimberly Roller, 853 1st St, what plans on 1st St as it regards to paving, also concern on speed.
Mr. Kenna sorry you are resigning. We should not combine the resignation and or treasurer Transparency needed – issues on the police car that was purchased a few months back.
2. Rhoda /Don Worf-636 3rd St-feels that questions should always be asked and answered. Transparency -Questions on licenses that were asked, Mayor answered, on budget were answered. President McCarthy the licenses is on the police report every month). Do we get a stipend from state anymore? - snow plowing (agreement with Penn Dot) Stipend from usage of homes in Penn Hills (sewage) (sewer rental revenue) Will you be doing paychecks. Encourage Council to hire an experience manager. Mayor the money from PennDot is \$2400 but do not go all the way down to the shopping center.
3. Laura Jacko-437 North Ave, budget question-money that is paying code officer? Is the money reduced? Can we get help for him?
4. Rea Houma, 742 Brunot, thanked Jerry for his service. Questions on the budget for accounting. Can we put out a bid for the accounting position? Excited about getting a new Borough Manager.
5. Trish Showalter-440 North Avenue, grateful work Jerry did for borough. Hope that a bid goes out for accounting position. Listed questions on budget.
6. Jen Marasco, 455 North Avenue, thank you for your service Jerry. Excited for the future of Verona. Agreed on what others said.
7. Dan Showalter- 440 North Ave-thanked Mr. Kenna for his service. Transparency we need bids for accounting. Question on drug bust money. Comprehensive Plan – question on what was spent and for what we spent? Questions answered by Jerry and President McCarthy. Any money we may get a small percent of it. No local Police Dept gets money directly. If the local police dept is in on the drug bust they can request a part of the money. Town Center, the contract ended 2019 for lack of value.
8. Joe Warren-Vogels Lane-budget process hard to get public information. Tone and demeanor with the meeting. He had major issues with everyone on Council and manager. He was not happy with anything that was purposed during the meeting.
9. Don Worf- 636 3d St-questions on the Newsletter revenue. What happened to the money? How was the collected of money break down. Angela wrote a letter requesting information from Jerry on Newsletter account. Jerry answered questions. The \$6000 is still there in the expenditures. There is a separate line for money coming in. No budget numbers have been changed. Dr. Carpenter, money comes in and money for the bills for the Newsletter is paid by the Borough. Is there more money that comes in than goes out? What happens to that money that is left over? Every year accounts start at zero. If Council wants to have a reserved account for the Newsletter. Monies go to

Capital Reserve. Donald-its not tax money. It should not be used as such. Sylvia-can this money be left in our fund in case we run short? Council can set up a separate fund to bank the money in a separate account. Ray agrees also.

10. Stefani G-448 North Ave-please know I feel for you Jerry thank you for your time, felt there were a lot of volunteers that turned Verona around. Commented on Farmers Market fee raised to \$75.00 per season.
11. Jessica Verone- 722 Brunot St, public coming out for the community. Need to share with public on what is going on. Transparency. Send out for bids on accounting. We need a contract for Borough Manager on hours of work and what work is done. Transparency is needed.
12. Nate Stimmel-854 1st St-thanks Jerry on answers on budget and his service. Happy to see that Council is looking for a full-time manager. He was made to understand that Council is looking at Doug Shields as interim
13. Tim Long, 323 Penn St, he repeated everything everyone else said.
14. Joey Warren, what is the process moving forward. -President McCarthy will put a committee together to look at the applications. Once the applications are down to 3-4 people it will go to Council. Process should be done right.

Rescind the first motion. Motion to accept Jerry Kenna's resignation only 1st President McCarthy, 2nd Ray Suhevich. all Aye motion passed

President McCarthy makes a motion that Jerry stay because Council may not be able to get anyone else in time. Ray question we have Mr. Kenna until January 30th Get a proposal together for treasurer. Dr. Carpenter we need contracts for everyone. How is the pay structure for Jerry for January? We need to meet before the end of the year.

Craig outlined if contracts can be put in place. If a contract is started Feb or March with the new manager, it is ONLY good until the new Council comes on board.

President McCarthy purposes Mr. Kenna writes two separate contracts. Jerry will submit a proposal that he will get the same money for a month and then he will submit a proposal for treasurer.

Dave Matlin-draw up a scope of services consultant i.e. accountant treasurer etc.

Craig, when choosing a consultant Council decides who fits best with Verona.

VI. Reports and Correspondence

a. Borough Manager's Reports: Jerry Kenna

1. Meeting Minutes -Motion to accept 1st Ray Suhevich, 2nd Janet LoAlbo all ayes, motion passed.
2. Bills Payable-Motion to accept, 1st Mike Forbeck, 2nd Ray Suhevich, all ayes, motion passed.
3. Tax Collector & Special Taxes – Motion to accept 1st Ray Suhevich, 2nd Sylvia Provenza, all ayes, motion passed.
4. Treasurer's Report -Motion to accept 1st Ray Suhevich, 2nd President McCarthy- Dr. Carpenter question on report on numbers-Jerry answered, motion on floor all ayes, motion passed
5. Police Chief's Report – Motion to accept 1st Mike Forbeck, 2nd President McCarthy, all ayes, motion passed.
6. Fire Chief Report – Motion to accept 1st President McCarthy, 2nd Janet LoAlbo, all ayes, motion passed.
7. EMS Report – Motion to accept 1st Ray Suhevich, 2nd Janet LoAlbo, all ayes, motion passed.
8. Budget – Dr. Carpenter feels the budget needs tweaked (not pass) Jerry needs to do revisions. Dec. 29th must be passed.

- b. Mayor's Report-
 - 1. Jerry I respect your decision on your resignation.
 - 2. Dec. 19th Santa will be in Verona-driving around at noon-Merry Christmas
 - 3. Thanked everyone who has volunteered to make Verona better.
 - 4. Merry Christmas/Happy New Year.
- c. Council President's Report: Pat McCarthy
 - 1. Merry Christmas/Happy New Year

VII. Council Committee Reports

- a. Engineer: Mr. Matt Pitsch- ENGINEER'S REPORT
 - 1. PA Small Water and Sewer Grant
Bids were opened, Insituform Technologies was low bidder at \$74,961.00. Revised local share of \$11,244.15 and grant of \$63,716.85
Project completed, awaiting post work CCTV and project close out paperwork.
 - 2. First Street Reconstruction Grant
Multimodal Transportation Grant was selected \$68,050/\$390,000 total project \$458,050. Final paperwork approved, bid documents and final drafting being finalized and project to bid.
 - 3. CDBG 2019(Year 45)
Demos on 4th St. of 866 and 870 \$6,000/\$24,000 total \$30,000
County completed asbestos surveys, County just approved demos to be advertised, bid documents provided to the COG.
 - 4. DCED Greenway, Trails and Recreation Program Grant (GTRP)
Cribbs Field Grant was awarded for \$200,000 (\$30,000 match), project awarded to Pampena Landscaping & Construction, we are also getting a quote for him to install a field drain.
Base Bid and all 4 Add Items awarded for total contract of \$201,750
Contracts have been executed and contractor is lining up color samples. Rec Board is working to have suggestions on color choices. Demo work planned to begin week of 11/16
Motion to move forward pick the colors-1st Janet, 2nd Pat
 - 5. CDBG 2020 (Year 46)
Sanitary lining along First Street due to road reconstruction project.
Bids opened, Jet Jack, Inc. was low bidder \$63,265. Project awarded to Jet Jack, Inc. (\$41,122.25 grant/ \$22,142.75 match), awaiting contracts from County.
Frist St. budget moving forward. Bricks will be taken out and the street will be repaved.
 - 6. PA Small Water and Sewer

Applied for a comprehensive CCTV and Condition Rating of the Borough's storm sewer system. High level defects will also be prioritized and repaired as needed.

Project was funded and contracts with the CFA have been executed. Verona received the full amount requested of \$125,638 and will have a \$33,294 match.

7. Center Avenue Storm Sewer Extension

I had a meeting with Oakmont Water and Peoples Gas to locate their pipes on 8/6/20.

Scope of work is finalized, and I have submitted project as CDBG47 project.

8. CDBG 2021 (Year 47)

Pre-applications submitted to AVNCOG on 9/4

Projects applied for include, Wildwood Culvert Repair, Center Avenue Storm Sewer Extension, Alleys Reconstruction (3rd/4th and North/Parker), and Demolitions of 473 Union, 558 Church and 856 2nd.

Final applications submitted 11/13/20

9. Tree Trimming/Pruning

The Borough request quotes for tree trimming/pruning services for several areas in the Borough due to safety concerns and for the decorative trees in the sidewalks.

Beaver Jack Tree Service was the low quoter out of three at \$11,520, I recommend awarding to Beaver Jack Tree Service. Motion to accept 1st Dave Matlin, 2nd Dr. Carpenter, all ayes motion passed.

Merry Christmas/Happy New Year

b. Solicitor: Mr. Craig Alexander

1. Ordinances have been advertised.

2. Tax ordinance is being advertised.

3. Resolution to adopt-all permits and fees Motion to pass 1st Dr. Carpenter, 2nd Ray Suchevidh all ayes

motion passed.

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOROUGH OF VERONA, COUNTY OF ALLEGHENY, COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA PROVIDING A COMPREHENSIVE FEE AND PERMIT SCHEDULE AS IS AUTHORIZED BY VARIOUS ORDINANCES OF THE BOROUGH.

c. Public Works/Refuse/Sewers: Dave Matlin

1. Thank Jerry for your service.

2. Thank Rec Board for helping to pick out colors.

3. DPW we thank them for all they have been doing and are doing.

4. This board has neglected its duties in hearing the public with their comments.

d. Ordinances: Dr. Nancy Carpenter

Can the route be published as to where Santa is going to be?

• Motions to pass the following ordinances, 1st Dr. Carpenter, 2nd Dave Matlin all ayes, motion passed

1- STR ordinance AN ORDINANCE OF THE BOROUGH OF VERONA, COUNTY OF ALLEGHENY, COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA, PROVIDING FOR AND REGULATING THE USE OF SHORT-TERM RENTALS, ESTABLISHING RULES AND STANDARDS PERTAINING TO SUCH USES, PROVIDING DEFINED TERMS IN CONNECTION THEREWITH AND PROVIDING PENALTIES FOR ANY VIOLATIONS.

• Motions to pass the following ordinances, 1st Dr. Carpenter, 2nd Ray Suchevich all ayes, motion passed

2- Animal control ordinance **AN ORDINANCE OF THE BOROUGH OF VERONA COUNTY OF ALLEGHENY, COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA, IDENTIFYING THE RESPONSIBILITIES OF PERSONS OWNING AND/OR KEEPING ANIMALS; PROHIBITING CERTAIN ACTIVITIES CONCERNING ANIMALS; PROHIBITING UNAUTHORIZED FEEDING; PROVIDING FOR ENFORCEMENT AND PENALTIES AND EXPRESSLY REPEALING ORDINANCE 5 OF 2001 AND ORDINANCE 3 OF 2008.**

• Motions to pass the following ordinances, 1st Dr. Carpenter, 2nd Sylvia Provena all ayes, motion passed

3- Stop signs ordinance **AN ORDINANCE OF THE BOROUGH OF VERONA, COUNTY OF ALEGHENY, COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA, AMENDING AND SUPPLEMENTING ORDINANCE NO. 8 of 1987 AS CODIFIED IN THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE BOROUGH OF VERONA AT § 244-10, WHICH PROVIDES FOR THE PLACEMENT OF STOP SIGNS AT INTERSECTIONS IN THE BOROUGH OF VERONA.**

• Motions to pass the following ordinances, 1st Dr. Carpenter, 2nd Ray Suchevich all ayes, motion passed

4- False alarms ordinance to be adopted. **AN ORDINANCE OF THE BOROUGH OF VERONA, RELATING TO ALARM SYSTEMS, PROVIDING FOR THE ISSUANCE OF PERMITS FOR THE INSTALLATION OF SUCH SYSTEMS; FOR THE REVOCATION OF SAID PERMITS; REQUIRING THE REGISTRATION BY OWNERS OF SAID ALARM SYSTEMS WITH VERONA BOROUGH FOR THE INSTALLATION OF SAID ALARM SYSTEMS, AND PROVIDING FOR FINES, AND THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE ORDINANCE.**

• Updated the ordinance meeting. - we will advertise the Borough Manager position. We can look for someone to help Mark as code officer.

Spoke about public comments....

Spoke on hiring on borough manager -I found an interim

Craig-workshop meeting is acceptable as a voting meeting. Verona advertises both meetings as voting meetings.

e. Police/Fire: Mike Forbeck

1. Jerry very appreciative of your efforts.
2. Job descriptions as pretty much done.
3. We need to communicate be more open. Working together better.
4. Moving forward with the Comprehensive Plan
5. Merry Christmas Happy Holidays

f. Finance/Budget/Grants: Ray Suchevich

1. Thank you Jerry.
2. We will be tweaking the budget
3. Safe and Happy Holidays.

g. Parks/Recreation: Janet LoAlbo

1. Thank you Jerry for everything.
2. Parks and Rec, Jeff Peppers gave a presentation on pickle ball court.

Motion to have a gate put in at the pickle ball court paid by money from what was raised. 1st

Janet

LoALbo, 2nd Dr. Carpenter

3. They would like to put benches and a backboard 1st Janet LoAlbo, 2nd Dr. Carpenter

(question

as to where the benches will be placed) rescind the motion.

4. Rec Board suggested Riverbank park remain open weather permitted.

5. Porta john year-round at the pickle ball court. Need to talk to Mr. John if they are

willing to

do this.

- 6. Park Memorials-moving forward with the application-1st Janet LoAlbo, 2nd Ray Suchevich
- 7. Possible movie for Christmas
- 8. Happy Holiday and Christmas

h. Communication- Sylvia Provenza

- 1. Newsletter-is at the printers and will be in your mailbox early, veronanewsroom@gmail.com for articles. 412-828-7726 Sylvia
- 2. No meeting for Chamber of Commerce this month.
- 3. Historical Society no meetings
- 4. Twin-Boro's ministries-instead of dinners it will be a food bank, call for appointment 412-828-

7394

Judy Myers December 12th and 19th.

- 5. Saturday December 19th Santa will be at the Verona News from 1:00-3:00PM. If anyone has new toys to give send to Verona News. Thank you, John at Verona News
- 6. Thank you Jerry for your service.
- 7. Blessed and Very Christmas and Happy New Year.

Allegheny County of Municipality-ALOM-We did not go to the South Hills Country Club function. Council of Governments-COG-Nothing Project we can apply for, PA small business grant

Dr. Carpenter-asked about the Center of Creative Arts (Janet they did not respond)

There are 3 seats that are up on the rec board and waiting for applications to be submitted and

then they

will be voted in. This is for 2021 (It can be done at the workshop)

Dr. Carpenter- Ditto on every positive remark that was said. You brought us out of the hole.

Thank you very much and I express my appreciation for all the work that you do and are doing it has not gone un-noticed.

VIII. Comments from the Public

Council will hear comments on public-related items at this time. Please approach the podium and clearly state your name and address, limit your comments to **three (3) minutes**

- 1. Vince Flota-323 Penn St. commented on pavilion colors-Sherwin Williams will match the roof and medal doors to match.
- 2. Dan Showalter-440 North Ave-talked about hiring a new Borough Manager. Don't pass up Doug Shields as interim.
- 3. Kimberly Roller-853 1st St-thank you all. Holiday fund raisers are going well.
- 4. Rhea Houma-read the comment from Obie and Jeff Morford-3rd Street-regarding a full time Borough Manager and restructuring. She spoke of Doug Shields again being hired.
- 5. Stefani Garabay-comment on light at South/Center and ARB and having police presents on ARB.
- 6. Laura Jacko, 437 North Avenue, personal testimony, on Doug Shields.

Adjourn- Motion to adjourn 1st. Sylvia Provenza, 2nd Ray Suchevich all ayes motion passed

XI. Upcoming Public Meetings

<i>Day and Time</i>	<i>Meeting</i>
1 st Tuesday/month @ 7:00PM	Parks & Rec Board Meeting
2 nd Tuesday/month @ 7:00 P.M.	Verona Council Public Session

Quarterly 2 nd Tuesday/month @ 6:30 (Beginning 1-12-16)	Shade Tree Commission
3 rd Tuesday/month @ 7:00 P.M.	Verona Chamber Meeting
Final Tuesday/month @ 7:00 P.M.	Verona Council Work Session
4 th Wednesday/month @ 4:00-6:00 P.M. Methodist Church, Center Ave.	Community Dinner
3 rd Thursday/month @ 7:00 P.M.	Verona Historical Society Meeting
4 th Wednesday @ 7:00 Harmarville	COG
1 st Wednesday @ 6:30 PM	Lower Valley Athletic Foundation Meeting