

Minutes December 3, 2018

The Minersville Town Council held a regular meeting on Monday December 3, 2018 at 5:00 pm at the Minersville Town Hall.

Council present: Mayor Caleb Evans, Kolby Blackner, Kade Blackner and Barry Marshall. Todd McMullin was excused. Town Marshal Kevin Carter and Town Clerk Cherie Wood.

Visitors: Shannon Terry, Scott Albrecht, Caleb Rees, Richard Wohlleb and daughter.

Barry Marshall gave the prayer

Mayor Caleb Evans called the meeting to order at 5:00 pm

Minutes: Kade Blackner made a motion to approve the minutes from the November 5, 2018 council meeting without additions or corrections. Kolby Blackner seconded the motion; all voted in favor, the motion passed.

Scott Albrecht is not here at the moment so the council will come back to him when he arrives.

After School Program: Mayor Caleb Evans explained to the council that Wendy Yardley contacted him last week and told him that the grant that they were expecting for the after school program did not come through and that the Beaver County Commissioners have tentatively committed to contributing \$30,000 towards keeping the after school programs going. This commitment is contingent upon her being able to get commitments of funding from the rest of the Council of Government entities. Mayor Evans visited the program in Minersville and feels there is a need for this program in our town. Mayor has also talked to Librarian Shannon Terry to see if it would be possible for the Minersville Library to provide something similar to this program if the after school program can not get funded.

Barry Marshall gave his opinion that he agrees that it is a great program but it should not be the town's responsibility to fund a school/state program that has always been funded by grants. Barry feels that the program just outgrew its funding and maybe they should go back to the way it used to be run and only allow the kids in that really need the program and not open it up to everyone.

Kolby Blackner is also concerned that there are a lot of kids in the program and what kids really need it and what ones do not. How many kids will it affect if the program is cut? The Council all agree that the Town does not have money that can be contributed to the program but if the program is ended the town library would be a good solution to help the kids with homework and somewhere to go that they would be supervised.

Capital Improvement List updates: The council agreed that the spring improvement project should be the first priority on the 1 year plan. On the 2-4 year plan the council would like to put a drainage study as priority one, community center as priority 2 and a walking path as 3.

Richard Wohlleb came to report that the Mick Pryor home has passed inspection and the building inspector told him to have the council call him with any questions. The Council thanked Richard for following up with them.

Mayor Evans would like to get the councils thoughts on an emergency plan for the Town. Kevin said that the county did one a few years back and thought there was a copy of it in this office. Cherie will look and see if she can locate it. The council agreed that it is a good idea to at least get emergency contact numbers and lists in place and be thinking of what they would like in the plan.

Caleb Rees the Auditor for Minersville Town handed out the audited financial statements to each council member and went over the reports with them. Caleb explained that there was only one finding, Segregation of Duties, which has been the same finding for years because of the small staff. He encouraged the council to continue to monitor and be an active part in overseeing town business.

Caleb reported that the General Fund is healthy but to watch it closely because the only way to increase funds in the general fund is to increase taxes.

The water fund took a big hit last year with a loss of almost 75,000 because of some major equipment repair costs. The fund is healthy and was able to absorb those costs so it didn't affect the budget to much.

The sewer fund is very healthy Caleb suggested that the council should be thinking of ways to improve the system and use some of the money. The bond will be paid off in 2020 and will free up the restricted money. The council asked the auditor if using the sewer fund money would be possible to fix a road where the sewer line has settled. Caleb answer was yes if it was the sewer lines that caused the problem money from the sewer fund could be used to repair it.

The Council thanked Caleb Rees for answering their questions and Caleb responded that he was glad that he could help them understand the finical position of the town and encouraged them to continue being an active part in the financial workings.

Scott Albrecht apologized for being late he had it in his schedule that the meeting was tomorrow night. Scott would like to explain the resolution that he would like the council to pass. The resolution is in support of an application for enterprise zone designation to the Governor's Office of Economic Development to allow businesses in the zones that the town designates to be allowed to get tax credits for their business.

Scott would like to see Minersville designate the entire town as the enterprise zone to include all businesses so they will be able to receive the tax credit. The council asked Scott if this will have an affect on the Minersville town taxes. Scott answered no this is only a State Tax credit that they would be able to receive on their state income taxes. It would also give an incentive for businesses to develop in our town and in creating jobs and helping to increase wages.

Kolby Blackner made a motion to adopt Resolution 12.3.18 supporting submission of an application for enterprise zone designation. Kade Blackner seconded the motion; all voted in favor, the motion passed.

Scott would also like to bring the council up to date on the Equestrian Facility that the county is perusing. This would be a large inside and outside arena that could bring in a

lot of events to our area. The proposed site locations were at the fairgrounds, the reservoir, or the east side of the county. The area that they are thinking would be the best site is the reservoir where the county has plenty of space.

Other business:

Mayor Evans would like to ask the councils opinion on a property here in town if he was to talk to the owners and ask them to clean up their property if it would be ok with the council if he could offer them an incentive of paying a month or two of their water bills. The council agreed.

Kade Blackner made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Barry Marshall seconded the motion.

Meeting adjourned at 7:30 pm

Cherie C. Wood