

**MOUNT POCONO BOROUGH COUNCIL  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES  
MONDAY, JANUARY 5, 2015  
7:00 P.M.**

President J. Finnerty opened the Regular Meeting at 7:00 P.M. with the following members present: Vice President R. Gross; Councilmembers, F. O'Boyle; D. Casole; K. Davis, C. Williams and W. Jabara. Mayor F. Courtright, Solicitor J. Fareri and Borough Secretary/ Treasurer L. Noonan were also present.

The Pledge of Allegiance was said by all.

President J. Finnerty introduced and welcomed former Councilmember John Scalandre and Mayor F. Courtright's daughter Cecelia Courtright to the meeting this evening. He also welcomed Councilmember K. Davis back as he was sick for several weeks last month and wished him better health.

**PRELIMINARY ANNOUNCEMENTS**

None

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Councilmember F. O'Boyle moved to approve the Public Hearing minutes of December 22, 2014, as presented. Councilmember K. Davis seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Vice President R. Gross moved to approve the Regular Meeting minutes of December 22, 2014, as presented. Councilmember D. Casole seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

**OFFICERS' REPORTS**

**PRESIDENT**

President J. Finnerty explained that Borough's do not re-organize every year, it's only every other year and since we are not re-organizing he stated that if any Councilmember would like a change on the committees that they serve to please let them know.

Councilmember W. Jabara suggested that Councilmember K. Davis be added to the Building Committee.

Councilmember C. Williams stated that she is on the two (2) committees and that she is not really sure why, as she has no purpose to be on them as she has no vote on those Boards.

**MAYOR**

Mayor F. Courtright also introduced his daughter Ceci to tonight's meeting and explained that she is involved in the Swiftwater Intermediate School Student Government and she is here to observe.

Mayor F. Courtright stated that we will discuss the sanitation problems and talk about that a bit more later on tonight.

Mayor F. Courtright noted that a few years ago when he decided to revive the Citizen of the Year Award, he decided to call it a Service Award and wanted to give it to somebody who was always looking to serve and willing to serve. He noted that Mr. Bill Bracey was the recipient of the awards last year. This year after asking for input from residents and elected officials, there was one (1) name that was nominated over and over and that is this year's recipient and he is proud to honor and award John Scalandre with the 2014 Service Award. He noted that John started the Comprehensive Plan and the Storm water Committee and John took initiative in many aspects of the Borough. He also served on numerous committees and continues to serve on the Park & Recreation Committee and the Mt Pocono Association.

Vice President R. Gross noted that when he was Council President that he appointed John Scalandre to the Sanitation Committee and at the time John was upset, however Vice President R. Gross said he knew that John would pick-up the ball and do an excellent job on that committee, and he did just that.

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Mayor F. Courtright presented the award and plaque to John Scalamandre the plaque was inscribed as follows:

***PROCLAMATION***

*On the Awarding of the 2014 Mayor Daniel McDavitt Service Award to John Scalamandre*

*WHEREAS, John Scalamandre has been a Borough resident since 1976; and*

*WHEREAS, John Scalamandre's many years of residency have been defined by a commitment to service for the residents of the Borough of Mount Pocono; and*

*WHEREAS, John Scalamandre's record of service has included appointed and volunteer positions in areas such as park and recreation, open space, the Knights of Columbus, Borough Planning Commission, Library Board, Ecumenical Food Pantry, the Mount Pocono Association, and many other areas; and*

*WHEREAS, In 2014, John Scalamandre demonstrated a bar-setting service record, including President of the Mount Pocono Association and Chair of the Harvest Festival Committee. Under his leadership the Borough enjoyed the largest ever Harvest Festival; and*

*WHEREAS, the entire community has benefited from the long service of John Scalamandre, in ways both tangible and abstract; and*

*WHEREAS, it is a pleasure to extend this expression of the Borough's esteem and gratitude to John Scalamandre;*

*NOW, THEREFORE, I, Mayor Frederick T. Courtright issue a proclamation of congratulation in honor of the Awarding of the 2014 Mayor Daniel McDavitt Service Award, and offer him the well wishes of the entire Borough on this event.*

Many accolades were shared by the Councilmembers with John and the residents in attendance also commented on John's many years of service and dedication to the Borough Council, Borough Committees, and the residents of the Borough.

**TREASURER'S REPORT**

The following cash report was given as follows:

GENERAL FUND CHECKING ACCOUNT	\$ 500,010.12
PENN SECURITY GENERAL FUND ACCOUNT	20,712.71
CAPITAL RESERVE ACCOUNT	48,433.11
BANNER BEAUTIFICATION ACCOUNT	2,107.37
STATE LIQUID FUELS	45,595.48
PARK & RECREATION FUND	10,670.83
PLANNING COMMISSION REIMB. FUND	52,067.68
ROAD FUND – GENERAL FUND	96,932.17
STORMWATER FUND	132,637.58
GENERAL FUND RESERVE PLGIT ACCOUNT	41,382.87
SANITATION FUND	23,097.38
ROUTE 940 CORRIDOR FUND	53,675.00
FIVE POINT INTERSECTION FUND	<u>326,593.48</u>
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	<b><u>\$ 1,353,915.78</u></b>

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Vice President R. Gross moved to pay and approve the bills as outlined in the Treasurer's Report dated Monday, January 5, 2015, as presented. Councilmember C. Williams seconded. Councilmember F. O'Boyle questioned the costs associated with the purchase of the Knob property. It was explained that there was title insurance, also the transfer tax and Borough Council had to reimburse the seller for real estate and school taxes paid for the remainder portion of the year and Borough Council can be reimbursed. Motion carried unanimously.

**BILLS TO BE PAID FROM THE GENERAL FUND CHECKING ACCOUNT:**

ACE Hardware	(shop/ building supplies)	\$ 200.37
Blue Cross of NEPA	(health insurance)	8,491.49
Blue Tarp Financial (Northern Tool)	(LED work lights)	106.12
Blue Ridge Cable	(Boro bldg. phone)	299.64
Boston Mutual	(life/ disability insurance)	308.49
C & S Brothers, Inc.	(engraving)	49.45
First National Bank	(maint & bldg. supplies, small tools)	584.18
Miller's Automotive	(Bucket Truck inspection)	35.52
Monroe County Control center	(fire/ ems)	1,155.47
NAPA Auto parts	(vehicle parts)	127.34
PA American Water Co.	(fire hydrants)	649.30
PPL	(electric)	1,431.03
Payrolls Unlimited	(payroll December)	89.00
Pliociniak Oil	(heating oil both buildings)	1,401.29
<i>Pocono Record</i>	(advertising)	495.60
Quill	(office supplies)	138.38
Schadler Yesco	(outlets)	373.81
Service Tire Truck Center	(tires)	1,334.64
Selective Insurance	(insurances)	2,159.00
Steele's Hardware	(supplies/ gloves)	32.95
Sunoco (COSTARS)	(gas/ diesel)	1,394.07
ThyssenKrupp	(elevator inspection)	164.93
US Bank	(copier lease)	317.06
Verizon	(phone)	\$ 85.98
Verizon Wireless	(cell phones)	<u>124.62</u>

**GRAND TOTAL** **\$ 21,549.73**

**BILLS TO BE PAID FROM THE GENERAL FUND CHECKING ACCOUNT:**

Mt Pocono Payroll	(w/e 12/24/14)	\$5,054.75
Cashier's Check	(purchase of Knob property)	25,833.84
Mt Pocono Payroll	(w/e 12/31/14)	<u>5,142.97</u>

**GRAND TOTAL** **\$ 36,168.61**

**BILLS TO BE PAID FROM THE STATE LIQUID FUELS ACCOUNT:**

Cargill	(de-icing salt)	\$ 9,241.64
PPL	(traffic signals)	<u>253.86</u>

**GRAND TOTAL** **\$ 9,495.50**

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**SOLICITOR**

Solicitor J. Fareri presented Resolution 2015-01-05 noting that this was a Resolution of the Borough Council authorizing a reduction in the interest rate in the loan from East Stroudsburg Savings Association Bank & Trust approving and authorizing the Pocono Mountain Regional Commission to refinance the existing loan between Mount Pocono Borough and PMRPD. As party of the first part and East Stroudsburg Savings Association Bank & Trust party of the second part relating to terms and conditions upon which the Council has borrowed amounts not to exceed twenty-three percent (23%) of the two million dollar (\$2,000,000.00) note or five hundred thousand dollars (\$500,000.00) from East Stroudsburg Savings Association Bank & Trust, authorizing and directing the proper officers of Mount Pocono Borough to execute and deliver any and all documents necessary to effectuate the reduction of the interest of the loan on behalf of the Council; declaring the effectiveness of the balance of this Resolution upon invalidity of any provision, section, sentence clause or part of this Resolution; and repealing inconsistent Resolutions.

Councilmember F. O'Boyle moved adopt Resolution #1 of 2015 as outlined by our Solicitor. Councilmember K. Davis seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Councilmember K. Davis discussed the letter recently received from the Pula Funeral Home regarding their intention to install a new cremation unit at its funeral home located on Sterling Road and pursuant to plan approval; renewal application is being submitted to the Pennsylvania DEP Air Quality Northeast Regional Office in Wilkes-Barre.

It was explained that this was necessary paperwork needed for them to renew that Air Quality Permit.

There was some discussion regarding the air quality permit and whether or not an actual permit was received. Discussion continued in regards to a decision from Judge Mark on the lawsuit, which has not been received.

After a lengthy discussion, Councilmember F. O'Boyle moved to submit a letter to DEP outlining the same comments and concerns that were sent at the time that they applied for their Air Quality Permit, approximately a year and half ago. Councilmember D. Casole seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

**PERSONS TO BE HEARD**

None

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

**Generator Preventative Maintenance Agreement**

Councilmember W. Jabara stated that he called Coolbaugh Township regarding the company that services their generator and their company will not service our generator as we did not purchase it from them.

There was some discussion regarding the current quote from Cooper Power Systems in the amount of \$895.00. It was requested that the address be changed on the quote to our proper address and that the dates for the coverage would be 1/1/2015 to 12/31/2015 and that the service actually take place in March and again in October and to verify that the service tech is insured.

There was discussion regarding the location that the service tech would be coming from and it was noted that for the twice a year preventative maintenance, he will be coming from Blairstown, NJ however if there was an emergency call that is needed the tech may be traveling from Ocean, NJ or Secaucus, NJ or Hauppauge, NY.

Councilmember W. Jabara moved to accept the Preventative Maintenance Contract from Cooper Power Systems in the amount of \$895.00 provided the noted changes of address and contract period be corrected. Vice President R. Gross seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

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**Ordinance #1 of 2015 – Establishing Millage Rate**

Councilmember D. Casole moved to adopt Ordinance #1 of 2015, Establishing the 2015 Real Estate Tax Millage, setting the Real Estate Tax Millage to 27 mills, with a 1 mill dedicated library tax, a 1 mill dedicated fire tax, and a one-half mill dedicated EMS tax, for a total millage rate of 29 and one-half mills. Vice President R. Gross seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**Spring Road Safety and Maintenance Workshop**

It was noted that there will be a Spring Road Safety and Maintenance Workshop being held Tuesday, March 10, 2015, at the Ross Township building and the cost per attendee is \$50.00.

Vice President R. Gross moved to allow Councilmember K. Davis and Road Foreman Jim Trombetta to attend the Spring Road Safety and Maintenance Workshop at Ross Township at a cost of \$50.00 each. Councilmember W. Jabara seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

**Stormwater Management: Best Practices and Lessons Learned Along Our Roadways and Watersheds Workshop**

The Stormwater Management: Best Practices and Lessons Learned Along Our Roadways and Watersheds Workshop being held on Tuesday, January 27, 2015, at the Lackawanna County PennDOT District 4-0 offices in Dunmore, was discussed. It is a free half day seminar.

Councilmember W. Jabara stated that he did not feel that he needed to attend however we may want bring this to the attention of our Borough Engineer about this workshop should she wish to attend on her own.

**The Ethics Act and Open Records Act Seminar**

It was explained that The Ethics Act and Open Records Act Seminar is being held on February 17, 2015, in Lackawanna County at the Hilton Scranton & Conference Center. It was noted that the price is \$75.00 per person and Borough Secretary/ Treasurer L. Noonan requested to attend as the Open Records Officer. Councilmembers K. Davis and C. Williams also wish to attend.

Vice President R. Gross moved to send Councilmembers K. Davis, C. Williams and Borough Secretary/ Treasurer L. Noonan to The Ethics Act and Open Records Act Seminar being held in Scranton at a cost of \$75.00 per person. Councilmember W. Jabara seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

**Zoning Officer Monthly Reports/ Other Concerns**

Councilmember F. O'Boyle stated that he has been on Borough Council for a year now and he has yet to see a monthly report from the Zoning Officer and he thought one was needed. Other members of the Borough Council agreed.

Councilmember F. O'Boyle moved to instruct the Borough Secretary/ Treasurer to send a notice to the Zoning Office that he is required to submit a monthly report effective immediately. Councilmember C. William seconded.

Other items requested to be addressed by the Zoning Officer are: the number of cars once again back at Alexander's Tire and Muffler; and, also whether a permit was received for the garage at a property on Heath Lane.

Motion carried unanimously.

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**Resume Writing Class**

Councilmember C. Williams requested use of the Borough building one (1) evening this month to give a Resume Writing Workshop to any Borough resident who would wish to attend.

Borough Council approved the request.

Borough Secretary/ Treasurer L. Noonan asked Councilmember C. Williams to let her know when the course would be given, so she can put it on the website and the borough calendar.

**STANDING COMMITTEES**

**Water**

Councilmember D. Casole noted that she spoke with Dave Altmiller and he advised her that the hydrant has been received and that they have a tentative installation date scheduled for Friday, January 9, 2015, weather permitting.

**Roads**

Councilmember F. O'Boyle discussed the Road Patch Ordinance and that his opinion was that we should require them to pave the whole side of the road when they are tearing it up.

It was noted that our current Ordinance does require this.

Councilmember W. Jabara stated that he requested that Councilmembers submit to him names of roads to be considered to be paved in 2015. He noted that there will be a repair/ repave on Candlewood Drive also a repair on Knox Street and the drain at the end of Knob Road near SR 611 needs to be taken care of. He also noted that Park Avenue out to SR 940 is in dire need of being repaved. He requested that a subcommittee be appointed consisting of Councilmembers K. Davis, D. Casole and C. Williams for them to drive throughout the Borough and submit roads to be paved. He further noted that the \$58,000.00 rollover from 2014 should be earmarked for micro surfacing Industrial Park Drive in 2016 (5 years) as recommended by our Municipal Services Representative.

Councilmember W. Jabara requested that a letter be sent to Pocono Mountain EDC advising them of a request that a LSA Grant be submitted for the right turn lane on SR 611 southbound from Wendy's to the Five Points Intersection. He discussed asking them to have TPD prepare a cost estimate however before they complete this request that TPD provides us with a quote for preparing said estimate.

Councilmember W. Jabara moved to send a letter to Pocono Mountain EDC regarding a request for a LSA Grant for the turning lane on SR 611 southbound from Wendy's to the Five Points Intersection and that TPD prepare the cost estimate. Vice President R. Gross seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Mayor F. Courtright discussed a need for a northbound right turn lane extension on SR 611 as traffic backs up past the Borough offices.

**Sanitation**

There was discussion regarding Kreitzer Sanitation and the last few weeks of their contract which ended on December 31, 2014, pictures of dumpsters that were yet to be picked up from the condominium associations were reviewed.

Vice President R. Gross moved to instruct our Solicitor to write a letter to Kreitzer Sanitation asking them to remove their dumpsters immediately and threaten whatever legal actions we can take to have them removed. Councilmember K. Davis seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

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**Regional Police**

There was a brief discussion regarding the Pocono Mountain Regional Police Commission and it was noted that their next meeting will be held on Thursday, January 8, 2015, and they will be re-organizing.

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

None

There being no further business or any further public participation coming before the Board, Councilmember F. O'Boyle moved to adjourn at 9:15 P.M. Councilmember K. Davis seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Lori Noonan, Borough Secretary