

**Borough of Modena
Monthly Council Meeting Minutes
September 8, 2020**

1. Call to order

President Jennifer Daywalt called to order the second monthly regular Council meeting, of the Borough of Modena Council at 7pm on Monday, August 17, 2020 at Borough Hall, 5 Woodland Ave.

2. Salute to the flag

3. Roll Call

Secretary Cloud conducted roll call. The following were present during the FB live meeting: Council President Jennifer Daywalt, Council Vice President Beau Tilghman, Council Members Nicole Ewing and Blaise Frost. On the conference call, Council Member Clayton Ayers, Mayor Antoinette Johnson and Secretary Victoria Cloud. Absent were Council Members Elizabeth Sinton Stephen Juhas. Also in attendance PW employee Greg Ziegler.

4. Approval of Minutes

Council President stated that Council member Nicole Ewing would be recording the meeting there at Borough Hall. The Secretary, on conference call, is also recording the meeting.

- Motion made by Council member Ayers to accept the minutes from August 3 and August 17, 2020 meetings. VP Tilghman second, all in favor, motioned passed.

5. Public Comment on Agenda items

- None

Guest speakers attended via conference call:

Ms. Susan Elks, Community Planning Director VPP Grant Administrator. Susan stated that the County response begins attending a Modena Council meeting to talk about the technical service process, and answer any questions. She would create a draft scope of work for the Council to review. If we come to agreement on a scope of work and cost, I she would create a contract for the Borough to review and sign if acceptable. All of this is with the understanding that the County would not have staff available to work on the update until 2021, but within 2021 have flexibility on a specific start date. At any point prior to Council signing the contract, the Borough can elect to not proceed forward. This letter does not commit the Borough to anything. It commits the County to responding to the Borough, places Modena "in line" for potential assistance, and starts a more formal conversation regarding a comprehensive plan update. The cost average for 2020 is \$60,000.00. Cost share, County would pick up 70% and the Borough 30%. In 2021, this may change to 60/40. President Daywalt requested that the 2020 share percent be locked in for Modena; Ms. Elks will look into it. The cost is allocated over a 2-year contract with eight payments. Further discussion will be at the September 21, 2020 council meeting.

6. Written Reports

6.1 Treasurer's Report

- Reviewed by Council. Council member Ayers asked why pay Louis Berger. Secretary clarified that WSP merged with L. Berger.

6.2 Payment of Bills

- VP Tilghman motioned to accept payment of the bills and accept Treasurer's report, Council member Ewing second, all in favor, motion passed.

6.3 Police and Fire Department Reports

- Council reviewed no comments.

6.4 Sewer Flow Report

- Numbers look good.
- The Highway Occupancy Permit was approved for the service lateral repairs on Meredith Court. Butch will speak with Fidelity to schedule work. One (1) flagger will be required on the job; number of days TBD.

6.5 Code Enforcement Officer Report

- Council reviewed no comments.

7. Council and Committee Reports

7.1 Council President Report

- President reported that there are no new numbers to report for the Census. Census ends September 30, 2020. You can mail in, go online and census people will be going door to door. We need everybody to report; for it helps the Borough receive funds from the County. It is quick and easy.
- President reminded everyone to vote this coming election.
- President will sign off on the final payment from county to Veterans for the bridgework.
- President is still waiting on the South Brandywine pocket park grants from the county and Brandywine Green Way. Park will be used for open space.

7.2 Secretary Report

- Will be discussed under new business.
- Mayor Johnson reported that the State of the Borough is completed was emailed to Council.
- Finance Committee is *looking into* a new truck. A lot of discussion to be done. Reviewing the quote from Fred Beans and the trade in value of the current two dump trucks.

7.3 Mayor Report

- - So. Coatesville Police Chief Pierce and Mayor will hold a virtual meeting in September regarding complains, concerns from the residents.
- Mode House Grants are being updated.

- Mayor will speak with Jose' Vasquez on his offer to help clean up the Mode House grounds. She needs a quote from him in order to place it into the Grant application.
- President, Mayor and Secretary have signed Resolution #282-2020 PECO Greenway and Resolution #284-2020 Municipal Grant. Council member Juhas made a motion to accept these two Resolutions, Council member Ewing second, all in favor, motion passed.

Borough Solicitor Hudson Voltz attended via conference call.

He asked if the survey is done on the Mode House to fulfill the Grant applications. This is time sensitive for all deadlines to be met. He suggested that in the Grant to say, what the Mode House will be used for and offered his 'free' help to work with the Mayor.

7.4 Park & Recreation

- There will be a meeting on Tuesday September 15 at 7:00 pm a Borough Hall to discuss events for 2021, along with Halloween/truck or treat and the festival of lights for this year.
- President suggested that there should be a Borough wide clean up day sometime in autumn.

7.5 Historical Committee Report

- Mr. Graves emailed a report. Council reviewed.

7.6 Police and Fire Community Relations Report

- There still has been no communication from Fire Chief to the Mayor.

At 8:15 pm, Council member Stephen Judas exits the meeting.

7.7 Streets Report

Committee head VP Tilghman reported the Following:

- The 2005 white salt spreader truck is out of service. The 1998 green truck is not inspected due to many mechanical problems that will cost the Borough too much money; its not road worthy.
- PW employee Greg Ziegler proposed a revised quote for a new truck from Fred Beans. Solicitor Voltz stated that bids are to be accepted from dealerships, Greg assured that the three dealerships he researched that Fred Beans is a COSTAR participant. The other two COSTAR participants would not offer a free quote, wanted to lock deal in without consulting with council and Treasurer. VP Tilghman emphasized how the Borough needs a new truck. President asked council 'what do you think'? Council feels that the Borough Treasurer should work on the figures for a loan with a bank (whoever has the lowest interest rate), come back to council for an emergency meeting to discuss her findings. Solicitor Voltz stated that he would like to attend this meeting also.
- Neither trucks are functioning adequately for work that will need to be done now and especially in the winter months for plowing and salt spreading.

7.8 Health & Housing

- Meeting needs to be scheduled; on a Thursday night.

7.9 Planning & Zoning

- Nothing to report

7.10 Ordinance Review

- Council member Ewing, Ayers, Mayor Johnson and President Daywalt will be attending a meeting on Wednesday September 16 @ 7pm at Borough Hall.

7.11 Finance Report

- Committee meeting notes have been scanned to Council for review.
- President Daywalt ask that Solicitor Voltz review the new Borough Procurement Policy, then advise committee if it can be immediately implemented.

President Daywalt suggested to table the last items on agenda then concluded this meeting at 8:51pm. Council member Frost made a motion to do so, Council member Ewing second, all in favor, motion passed. Next Council meeting will be held on Monday September 21, 2020 @ 7:00 pm at Borough Hall.

8. Unfinished Business

- 2020-2029 PADOT Suburban Master Casting Agreement & Resolution. Tabled until September 21, 2020 meeting.
- Centennial birthday committee needed. Community members would be nice also.

Mode House Update

- Mr. Graves is creating a Map of the Mode House property of where the house splits. He is also registering the house under the PA State Historic Preservation Office. This is a lengthy approval process, takes time, it will help when applying for Grants.

VPP Grant

- The cost average for 2020 is \$60,000.00. Cost share, County would pick up 70% and the Borough 30%. In 2021, this may change to 60/40. President Daywalt requested that the 2020 share percent be locked in for Modena; Ms. Elks will look into it. The cost is allocated over a 2-year contract with eight payments. Further discussion will be at the September 21, 2020 council meeting.

9. New Business

- New Right To Know – Borough of Modena submitted on 8/26/2020 – Treasurer and Secretary will work on this together. May have Solicitor review this request also.
- Pursuant to the Right to Know, this is a request for **an electronic copy of all payment transactions for fiscal year 2019**. This could be considered one of the following reports: *Vendor Payment Checkbook Report, Checkbook Register, Expenditure Data, Transactional Detail Payments, Online Checkbook, or Disbursements*. Here is an online example from the City of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania (<https://data.phila.gov/visualizations/payments>). We would accept any existing report, which contains a minimum of the Payee Name, Amount and Date of each transaction.

Janis Farese

American Transparency

Meeting Adjourned

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President:

Secretary:

Date: