

MONT ALTO BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING

CALL TO ORDER – Council Vice President Dennis Monn called the Regular meeting of March 2, 2009 of the Mont Alto Borough Council to order at 6:34 p.m.

ROLL CALL – Dennis Monn, Beverly Spicer, Debra Lee, Rick Lee, Tom Lowson and Shannon Strizziere present. Michael Gossard absent.

MAYOR – Mayor John Esser present.

BOROUGH STAFF – Jeff Evans Solicitor, Maurice Gossert Engineer, Michael Hansen Zoning Officer and Patricia Kocek Borough Secretary.

INVOCATION – P. Kocek

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

VISITORS

Sharon Bates Conditional Use Request & concerned citizen

Allison Stains The Record Herald

Sharon Bates

Conditional Use Application – Council Vice President D. Monn recognized Sharon Bates. S. Bates stated she is attending this evening to see if there is any update on her request for a Conditional Use Hearing and as a citizen of the Borough.

ATTORNEY'S REPORT

Conditional Use/Bates – Authorization to advertise Conditional Use Hearing - J. Evans told Council that there will have to be a Conditional Use Hearing and it will need to be advertised. D. Lee made a motion to set the Public Hearing for March 17, 2009 at 6:30 p.m. and to authorize J. Evans to advertise the same, B. Spicer seconded, any questions to that motion, hearing none, all in favor Aye, opposed No, so ordered.

ACCEPTANCE OF ZONING OFFICERS REPORT

February 2009 – D. Lee made a motion to accept the Zoning Officer's Report for February 2009, S. Strizziere seconded, any questions on the motion, hearing none, all in favor Aye, opposed No, Aye's have it.

BOROUGH OF MONT ALTO

ZONING OFFICERS REPORT TO THE BOROUGH COUNCIL

Michael Hansen
for Accredited Services, Inc.
Zoning Officer

Report Period: February, 2009

LAND USE PERMITS

NONE

DEMOLITION PERMITS

NONE

SUBDIVISION REVIEWS

NONE

Land Use Permits Issued This Month	0	Demolition Permits Issued This Month	0
Land Use Permits Denied This Month	0	Demolition Permits Denied This Month	0
Land Use Permits Issued To Date	0	Demolition Permits Issued To Date	0
Subdivision Reviews This Month	0		
Subdivision Reviews Year To Date	0		

Building Code Officials Report February 2009 and Complaint Log – M. Hansen very briefly reviewed the open issues listed on the Report with the members of Council. (Copy on file)

Fence 414 S Main Street - M. Hansen reported that the fence at 414 S Main Street is now in compliance and this issue will be removed from the Complaint Log.

Vehicles 108 Park Street - The problem with the cars at 108 Park Street has not been abated. J. Evans will file a complaint to have the owners remove the junked vehicles.

Electric Service meters/cable 312 Park Street – R. Slouthour, Electrical consultant for the Borough of Mont Alto still has an issue with this property. This issue has been submitted to M. Cermak and M. Cermak will contact R. Slouthour for resolution of the issue.

Electric Service Cable 410 Constitution Avenue – Accredited Services has not been able to make contact with the resident at this address. Discussion. P. Kocek to write a letter to the resident asking her to contact Accredited Services.

Commonwealth Code Inspection Service, Inc. Report - For your information.

Accredited Services Report – For your information.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

February 2, 2009

R. Lee made a motion to approve the Minutes of February 2, 2009, B. Spicer seconded, any further questions on the motion, all in favor Aye, opposed No, so ordered.

ACCEPTANCE OF TREASURER’S REPORT

January 31, 2009 – D. Lee made a motion to accept the Treasurer’s Report of January 31, 2009, S. Strizziere seconded, any questions on the motion, all in favor Aye, opposed No, so ordered.

ADOPT RESOLUTION NO. 481 TRANSFER OF FUNDS FEBRUARY 2009 – D. Lee made a motion to adopt Resolution No. 481, Transfer of Funds for February 2009, B. Spicer seconded, any questions on the motion, all in favor Aye, opposed No, so ordered.

FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE

COLA Policy – Council President M. Gossard is developing this Policy. M. Gossard is absent so no report was available this evening.

Capitalization Policy/Increase dollar amount – T. Lawson explained that on the advise of the auditors the amount for the Capitalization Policy should be changed to a higher dollar amount. It is set at \$500.00 at this time.

R. Lee made a motion to increase the amount for the Capitalization Policy from \$500.00 to \$1000.00, D. Lee seconded, any questions on the motion, all in favor Aye, opposed No, so ordered.

Appoint Auditor for Year 2008 Audit – This was not taken care of at the December 2008 meeting.

T. Lawson made a motion to appoint Boyer & Ritter as the Auditors for the 2008 Audit for the Borough of Mont Alto, S. Strizziere seconded, any questions to the motion, hearing none, all in favor Aye, opposed No, Aye’s have it.

VACANCIES - None

ATTORNEY’S REPORT

Conditional Use/Bates – Authorization to advertise Conditional Use Hearing – Covered previously in the meeting.

Recreation Fees for developers – T. Lawson said that after he finishes up a few other items he will contact J. Evans and they will begin to work on this subject.

MAYOR’S REPORT

March 2, 2009 – The March 2, 2009 report was provided to Council in their packets on February 27, 2009.

Mayor J. Esser briefly reviewed the March 2, 2009 Mayor’s Report with the members of Council. (COPY ON FILE)

Joint Venture Mont Alto State Park – Council and Mayor Esser discussed this matter and it was the consensus of Council to continue the discussions with Quincy Township in reference to Mont Alto State Park. J. Esser will contact P. Kocek when a joint meeting is scheduled. P. Kocek in turn will notify the members of the Recreation Committee of the meeting date. All items will come back to Council for approval before any final decisions are made.

The members discussed various items that should be discussed at the joint meeting with Quincy Township and DCNR.

Cleanup Mont Alto Initiative – Mayor J. Esser proposed the following: “I propose we look for ways to improve the overall appearance of the Borough. One thought I had was to have Accredited Services do a drive-by on one Borough street per week looking for **Very Obvious Ordinance Violations** such as major accumulation of trash, junk, junk vehicles, etc. Accredited Services or the Borough Secretary could then send the persons so noted a courtesy letter noting the violation and encouraging them to resolve the matter. If no action was taken after so many days, then an official notification of Ordinance Violation would be issued.” Council and Mayor Esser discussed many aspects of beginning this type of Project. Mayor Esser suggested adopting a Policy to define all of the aspects of the Cleanup Mont Alto Initiative. Discussion continued on the pros and cons of taking on this Project.

The Borough employees can also report Ordinance violations to the office.

R. Lee made a motion to have M. Hansen Zoning Officer canvas the town looking for flagrant violations, his time not to exceed one (1) hour per week, D. Lee seconded, any further questions on the motion, hearing none, all in favor Aye, opposed No, B. Spicer abstained, so ordered.

M. Hansen will give P. Kocek a list of the violations and a 30 day courtesy letter will be sent out. If no action is taken by the end of the 30 days then an Ordinance violation letter will be sent to the offender.

ENGINEER'S REPORT

Borough boundary proposal – M. Gossert provided a Memo describing Phase II of this Project and the costs associated with continuing with Phase II. The additional cost for Phase II would be \$14,500.00.

Borough Council previously approved up to a \$2500.00 expenditure for Phase I of the Boundary Project. At this point they have spent approximately \$2000.00.

M. Gossert described for Council the work that has already been completed and explained how the work on Phase II would be carried out.

Once the boundary survey is completed the Subdivision Ordinance would have an update added to make sure that all future surveys by property owners would be conducted in accordance with the coordinates established during the boundary survey.

D. Lee made a motion to approve the proposal from Nassaux-Hemsley, Inc. to complete Phase II of the boundary survey dated February 24, 2009, S. Strizziere seconded, any further questions on the motion, hearing none, all in favor Aye, opposed No, so ordered.

The Project should be completed within the next several months. M. Gossert will coordinate all phases of the Project.

WATER/SEWER COMMITTEE

Water/Sewer license – Vice President D. Monn reported that Todd Sharrah is training under L. Wenger to obtain his Water Treatment license and Chad Miller is being trained by J. Bakner to obtain his Certification for Sewer Treatment. D. Monn pointed out that in the future this may require an increase in wages to have backup operators.

Sewer Treatment Plant Upgrade – T. Lowson reported that the Municipal Authority is on schedule for the upgrade of the Sewer Treatment Plant.

ENGINEER'S REPORT (Continued)

National Flood Insurance Program/Request for information from Gannett Fleming, Inc.-

M. Gossert completed the map for the above and sent it along with a cover letter to Gannett Fleming, Inc.

Memo of Understanding Soil Conservation – M. Gossert will review this document and compare it with the Borough's existing Subdivision Ordinance to make sure that everything is covered in the Ordinance. If it is not covered then sections of the Ordinance would have to be revised.

Vice President D. Monn told those present that he and P. Kocek met with two (2) representatives from Soil Conservation last week and Soil Conservation presented them with the Memo of Understanding. J. Evans and M. Gossert will review this document to make sure the Borough is in compliance.

STREET COMMITTEE

Joint road maintenance with Quincy Township – Nothing at this time.

Mont Alto Borough Square Project – T. Lowson reported that there was a meeting with the Right of Way representatives from Penn Dot.

The pink area on the map needs to be deeded to the Borough of Mont Alto. Jess and Pat Smith are willing to deed this area to the Borough.

Vice President D. Monn listed various things that can be done with this small piece of land in the future.

Zoning Officer M. Hansen left the meeting at 7:28 p.m.

J. Evans thinks he can do an Assignment of Rights instead of the Smith's deeding the property to Penn Dot and then doing a subdivision to give the property to the Borough.

J. Evans was instructed to complete this item as soon as possible. D. Monn explained that Penn Dot wants to get this done because they will be starting this Project this summer.

D. Lee made a motion to accept an Assignment of Rights from Jess and Pat Smith for that portion of Ash Avenue to be abandoned by the State in connection with the realignment of the square, T. Lawson seconded, any further discussion on the motion, hearing none, all in favor Aye, opposed No, so ordered.

PROPERTY & SUPPLY COMMITTEE

Glessner's Alarm and Communications

Alarms (fire & intrusion)/Card Access System – Council Vice President D. Monn met with Glessner's today and new proposals will be provided for Council's consideration.

D. Monn explained the various security systems for Borough property that he discussed with Glessner's. Glessner's will come back next with a technician and evaluate the areas where a security system might be needed. Discussion about possibly placing a camera system at the Recreation Area.

Police Uniforms – Council Vice President D. Monn told Council that the uniforms are going to be donated to the high school drama department. They will be picking up the uniforms.

Office Upgrade – Council discussed the quote that was received to install counter tops on the short file cabinets in both offices. In the front office drawers would be installed on top of the file cabinets before installing a counter. After discussion this item was tabled until the March mid-month meeting. S. Strizziere and R. Lee will contact contractors that they know and have them present a quote prior to the mid-month meeting.

ELECTRIC COMMITTEE

Adopt Ordinance 480 "An Ordinance to allow only the Borough of Mont Alto to aggregate Demand Response of Retail customers located in and served by the Borough in accordance with FERC Order 719" – D. Lee made a motion to adopt Ordinance 480, B. Spicer seconded, any further discussion on the motion, hearing none, all in favor Aye, opposed No, so ordered.

Pennsylvania NYPA Recipients/Letter dated 2-10-2009

PPA, ARR & FTR's – T. Lawson explained that on March 19, 2009 the rate for the NYPA power is going to increase. T. Lawson, D. Monn and S. Hirsch discussed the impact the rate change will have on the Borough. Even with the increase in rates the power through the NYPA is still a good value.

T. Lawson explained the ARR and FTR process to Council. It is a very complicated process.

T. Lawson reviewed the PPA and the relevelization process with Council.

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

D. Lee said that Personnel matters will be discussed in Executive Session.

SANITATION & SAFETY COMMITTEE – Nothing

RECREATION COMMITTEE

Joint venture Mont Alto State Park – Covered previously in the meeting.

REPORT ON COG (COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENT) ISSUES – No meeting.

VISION 2015 – D. Monn gave a report on the various items that were discussed at the Vision 2015 meeting. The group then toured the new addition at the Waynesboro Area High School.

OLD BUSINESS

NIMS Certification – Council Vice President reported that there are some new classes coming up. He will provide more information at a later date.

Public Gathering/Festival Ordinance – Nothing at this time. The MAVFD is discussing holding tractor pulls at the Carnival Grounds.

Ordinance 35 – An Ordinance Regulating Hawking, Peddling and other Borough

Ordinances – S. Strizziere has researched the fees for various ordinances. Discussion on whether to change each ordinance or do one ordinance to change a number of ordinances.

P. Kocek is to provide S. Strizziere with an Index of the ordinances for S. Strizziere to review.

S. Strizziere will use the index to determine which ordinances need to be changed and will provide this information to J. Evans.

Generator for Mass Care Center – Council Vice President D. Monn provided Council with a tabulation of the final cost for the generator. He also sent a copy of this to Guilford and Quincy Township.

D. Monn met with Senator Alloway and Senator Alloway told D. Monn that he would support the MAVFD in submitting a Grant application. The amount of the Grant request is \$27,503.31. D. Monn and Bryan Stevenson (Grant writer for the MAVFD) will submit the Grant application. Discussion. Senator Alloway will push the Grant.

D. Monn reminded Council that is this not a MAVFD project but it is the responsibility of the elected officials to provide the citizens with a facility like this that meets the requirements. Discussion about the generator project.

NEW BUSINESS

Commemoration of John Brown Memorial on Route 233 – Council Vice President D. Monn met with a member of the Chambersburg Historical Society. They want to rededicate the John Brown Memorial on Route 233. The gentleman came to the Borough because the Borough has to submit the application to Penn Dot to close down a portion of Park Street (Route 233) on October 4, 2009 between the hours of 11:00 a.m. and 12:00 noon.

D. Monn has contacted David Rock at Penn Dot, but D. Rock has not responded to D. Monn's call.

Discussion on various ways to handle directing traffic during this event. D. Monn will contact the Mont Alto Fire Police to see if they would be interested in doing this with Borough Council giving a donation to the Fire Police.

Donation from the Mont Alto Historical Society – The Mont Alto Historical Society presented a \$50.00 donation to the Borough of Mont Alto. The donation is to be used for maintenance at the Mont Alto Veteran's Memorial. Council Vice President D. Monn thanked the Historical Society for the donation.

Ambulance Service Agreement – Council Vice President D. Monn reported that this Agreement is being rescinded by the Ambulance Squad.

The Ambulance Squad, after considering the matter, decided that the donation they receive from the Borough more than covers the amount of ambulance calls in the Borough.

Franklin County Emergency Service Alliance Minutes – For your information. D. Monn reported on various items that were discussed at the meeting.

Emergency Operations Plan – This plan needs to be updated. P. Kocek will provide a copy of the EOP to Mayor Esser. D. Monn will provide a template to J. Esser containing a draft EOP.

Emergency Management Coordinator – Council Vice President D. Monn discussed the lack of interest by the Emergency Management Coordinator for the Borough of Mont Alto. D. Monn will contact the Emergency Coordinator and ask if he is still interested in continuing as the Emergency Management Coordinator for the Borough of Mont Alto.

Fire Extinguisher Yearly Maintenance – Keeney Fire Extinguisher Service in Quincy bought Helm's business. Quotes were obtained from Jones' Fire Extinguisher Service and from Keeney. After review D. Monn decided there wasn't any reason to make a change. P. Kocek to notify Keeney to come in and do the yearly maintenance on the fire extinguishers.

Open Records Act Seminar -D. Monn told Council that P. Kocek and G. Socks attended an evening seminar on February 26, 2009.

The opportunity to go to this seminar did not come up until after the last Council meeting. D. Monn approved P. Kocek and G. Socks attending this seminar.

D. Lee made a motion to approve the expenditures and attendance at the Open Records Act Seminar for P. Kocek and G. Socks, S. Strizziere seconded, any further discussion on the motion, hearing none, all in favor Aye, opposed No, so ordered.

CoStars Training March 12, 2009 Attendance by D. Monn – D. Monn is requesting permission to attend this training. The cost of the seminar is \$35.00.

D. Lee made a motion to approve the expenditures for D. Monn to attend the CoStars Training on March 12, 2009, R. Lee seconded, any questions on the motion, hearing none, all in favor Aye, opposed No, so ordered.

EXECUTIVE SESSION – Council Vice President D. Monn called for an Executive Session at 8:29 p.m. to discuss personnel issues.

Council Vice President D. Monn called the Regular Meeting of March 2, 2009 back to order at 9:06 p.m.

Council Vice President D. Monn stated that there are some personnel issues that Council will continue to discuss at the mid-month meeting in Executive Session.

Adjournment – T. Lawson made a motion to adjourn the Regular Meeting of the Mont Alto Borough Council of March 2, 2009 at 9:08 p.m., S. Strizziere seconded, all in favor Aye, opposed No, so ordered.

Respectfully submitted,

Submitted to Council for their approval on
April 6, 2009.

Patricia A. Kocek

Patricia A. Kocek
Borough Secretary

Michael Gossard President

Dennis Monn Vice President

Debra Lee President Pro Tem