

# **MONT ALTO BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING**

**May 3, 2010**

**CALL TO ORDER** – Council President Dennis Monn called the Regular meeting of May 3, 2010 of the Mont Alto Borough Council to order at 6:30 p.m.

**ROLL CALL** – Dennis Monn, Tom Lawson, Beverly Spicer, Rick Lee, Shannon Strizziere, Cheryl Sobun and Karlton Smith present.

**MAYOR** – Mayor John Esser present.

**BOROUGH STAFF** – Jeff Evans Solicitor, Larson Wenger Maintenance Supervisor, Michael Hansen Zoning Officer, Erik Vranich Borough Engineer and Patricia Kocek Borough Secretary

**INVOCATION** – P. Kocek

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**VISITORS**

Debra Lee      Conditional Use Hearing

**CONDITIONAL USE HEARING** – J. Evans Solicitor announced that now is the time and place set for a Public Hearing on the Conditional Use Application filed by Richard Lee.

J. Evans asked for quiet because there is a stenographer here because this is a Public Hearing and she has to record what is said.

J. Evans: At this time we will convene the Public Hearing that was dually advertised pursuant to the provisions of the Mont Alto Zoning Ordinance and the Municipalities Planning Code. At this time D. Sydnor Court Stenographer began taking the transcript of the Public Hearing.

J. Evans closed the Public Hearing at 6:52 p.m.

J. Evans told Council that they have 30 days to issue a final decision according to the Zoning Ordinance.

T. Lawson made a motion to table the decision on the Lee Conditional Use Public Hearing until the Mid-month meeting on May 18, 2010, K. Smith seconded, any further discussion, any further discussion, all in favor Aye, opposed No, motion carried.

**VISITORS**

Council President D. Monn recognized the visitors in attendance regarding electric issues.

President D. Monn reminded the visitors that there was a sign-in sheet circulating and each person should sign the sheet. (See sign in sheet filed in the Minutes Book for the date of this meeting)

Resolution 296 states that a group, such as is in attendance this evening, needs to appoint a spokesperson.

Council President D. Monn recognized Brian Phillips of 219 Park Street as spokesperson for the group in attendance this evening.

A lengthy discussion followed between Council and those in attendance. There were several heated exchanges between members of Council and those in attendance.

After a heated discussion between Council President D. Monn and B. Phillips, Council President D. Monn resigned from Council and left the meeting.

One of the items the visitors asked Council to consider is to remove the penalties from the invoices that were due on April 25, 2010. This will be discussed later in the meeting.

Towards the end of the visitor comments Jason Holden from 5 N Main Street arrived at the meeting and asked:

1. To see a copy of each and everyone's electric bills sitting at the table - because of a degree of fraud going on
2. To see a copy of the Borough office's electric bills

The Council people do not have to provide a copy of their utility bills to the public unless they so desire. The Borough office electric bills are public record and can be reviewed by providing a written request for the information.

J. Evans explained that Council has 30 days to fill the vacancy once Council accepts the formal resignation. If Council doesn't fill the vacancy in 30 days then the Vacancy Board has 14 days to fill the seat. If the Vacancy Board doesn't fill the seat then the Solicitor has to petition the Court once someone has sent a letter stating they are interested in filling the seat and meet the requirements. Anyone interested in serving on Council has to provide, in writing, a request to serve on Council.

J. Evans encouraged the visitors to get involved. Many of the visitors left the meeting at this time.

Council Vice President T. Lowson called for a ten (10) minute recess at 9:33 p.m.

S. Strizziere left the meeting at 9:40 p.m.

Council Vice President T. Lowson called the Regular meeting of Mont Alto Borough Council back to order at 9:47 p.m.

## **VISITORS**

Bob Angle     Fogelsonger Subdivision  
John High     Fogelsonger Subdivision

### **Jeremy & Cathy Fogelsonger Subdivision**

Eric Vranich of William F. Hill & Associates, Inc. provided a list of items that need to be addressed concerning the Fogelsonger Subdivision.

B. Angle, J. High, M. Hansen and E. Vranich discussed some of the items concerning the comments provided by Hill & Assoc. about the subdivision. After discussion, it was decided that

B. Angle will address some of the items in writing to Hill and Associates. E. Vranich and B. Angle will also discuss some of the issues.

Council will be holding the Mid-month meeting on May 18, 2010. Council Vice President T. Lowson asked E. Vranich to address the issues and have a response by the Mid-month meeting. E. Vranich is to attend the May 18, 2010 meeting.

**Contract with William F. Hill & Associates, Inc.**

**Borough Engineers** – R. Lee has this document in his computer. He will forward it to the Council members for review. Council is to come back to the mid-month meeting with comments.

**ACCEPTANCE OF ZONING OFFICERS REPORT**

M. Hansen reported that he has posted the Troy Beam property because of the trash problem. He also spoke with the new rental agent. The tenants will be vacating the property next week and she will work on getting the area cleaned up. The contract for next year for this property will require the tenants to have trash pickup and closed containers.

M. Hansen is proposing a change to the Nuisance Ordinance to help remedy the trash problem. M. Hansen passed out copies of the proposal for Council to review. This item was turned over to the Safety and Sanitation Committee and they are to come back to the next meeting (mid-month meeting) with their recommendations. M. Hansen will provide more information to C. Sobun concerning the proposed amendment to the Nuisance Ordinance.

E. Vranich left the meeting at 10:11 p.m.

**April 2010**

B. Spicer made a motion to accept the Zoning Officer’s Report for April 2010, C. Sobun seconded, any comments, any further comments, all in favor Aye, opposed No, motion carried.

**BOROUGH OF MONT ALTO  
ZONING OFFICERS REPORT TO THE BOROUGH COUNCIL**

Michael Hansen  
for Accredited Services, Inc.  
Zoning Officer

Report Period: April, 2010

**LAND USE PERMITS**

<u>Date</u>	<u>Name</u> <u>Project Address</u>	<u>Inspections</u>	<u>Comments</u>
4/5/2010	Steven Freeman 4 Spruce Street	Attached Garage Addition	Permit 10-04
4/8/2010	Mark and Tina Garling 103 Park Street	New Detached Garage	Permit 10-05
4/20/2010	Richard and Donna Henderson 306 Hickory Street	Addition and Attached Deck	Permit 10-06
4/22/2010	Richard and Leslie Sleicher 19 Oak Street	28’ X 28’ Addition	Permit 10-07

**DEMOLITION PERMITS**

4/20/2010	Richard and Donna Henderson 306 Hickory Street	Remove 14’ X 17’ Deck	Permit 10-03
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**SUBDIVISION REVIEWS**

NONE

Land Use Permits Issued This Month    4    Demolition Permits Issued This Month    1

<b>Land Use Permits Denied This Month</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>Demolition Permits Denied This Month</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Land Use Permits Issued To Date</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>Demolition Permits Issued To Date</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>Subdivision Reviews This Month</b>	<b>0</b>		
<b>Subdivision Reviews Year To Date</b>	<b>0</b>		

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

**Accredited Services Report** – For your information.

**ADOPT RESOLUTION NO. 506 TRANSFER OF FUNDS APRIL 2010** – R. Lee made a motion to adopt Resolution No. 506, Transfer of Funds for April 2010, B. Spicer seconded, any comments, any further comments, any further comments, all in favor Aye, opposed No, motion carried.

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

#### **April 5, 2010**

R. Lee made a motion to approve the Minutes of April 5, 2010, K. Smith seconded, any comments, any further comments, all in favor Aye, opposed No, motion carried.

#### **April 20, 2010**

R. Lee made a motion to approve the Minutes of April 20, 2010, C. Sobun seconded, any comments, any further comments, all in favor Aye, opposed No, motion carried.

### **ACCEPTANCE OF TREASURER’S REPORT**

#### **March 31, 2010**

T. Lawson made a motion to accept the Treasurer’s Report of March 31, 2010, R. Lee seconded, any comments, any further comments, all in favor Aye, opposed No, motion carried.

Table the April 30, 2010 Treasurer’s Report until the May 18, 2010 meeting.

### **FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE**

T. Lawson will provide information under the Finance and Administration Committee concerning the new spread sheet at the mid-month meeting and will also provide an update on the electric.

### **MAYOR’S REPORT**

**May 3, 2010** – The May 3, 2010 report was provided to Council in their packets on April 30, 2010.

Mayor Esser asked Council to review the report and if they have any questions they can be addressed at the May 18, 2010 meeting.

**PROPERTY & SUPPLY COMMITTEE Flag Pole** – D. Monn had provided a drawing showing the proposed location of the flag pole. Discussion.

R. Lee made a motion instructing L. Wenger to install the flag pole as indicated on the drawing, K. Smith seconded, any comments, any further comments, all in favor Aye, opposed No, motion carried.

## **PERSONNEL COMMITTEE**

**Employee Handbook Update** – R. Lee provided a copy of the updates to B. Spicer for her review. They may have comments on this ready for the 5-18-2010 meeting.

## **FINANCE & ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE**

**\$10,000.00 Grant/Historical Society** – The Grant can be modified so that the Historical Society would receive some money from the Grant. Table until 5-18-2010.

**REPORT ON COG** – T. Lawson reported that at the COG meeting they discussed Chamber Choice and other basic issues.

## **FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE**

**Local Services Tax** – P. Kocek was instructed to move this item under the F & A Committee for the next meeting. T. Lawson will report further on this subject at a later date.

**MAINTENANCE SUPERVISOR'S REPORT** - L. Wenger told Council that there isn't anything major to report at this time.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

**Master File of Contracts** – This was discussed at the March meeting. P. Kocek is working on assembling this file.

**Franklin County Drug Task Force Spring Breakfast** – T. Lawson, J. Esser, B. Spicer and D. Monn attended the breakfast. The Drug Task Force is very active in Franklin County and doing a good job. The Drug Task Force will provide a packet to each entity. This information is not to be distributed but kept in the Borough files.

**United States Census 2010 Info from PA DCED** – For your information.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

**Letter from resident Re: Speeding and control of animals** – Will discuss this letter at the mid-month meeting May 18, 2010.

T. Lawson requested that P. Kocek put something on the utility invoices regarding animals defecating/owners to cleanup after their animals.

**Franklin County Association of Township Supervisors** – If anyone is interested in attending this meeting please advise the Borough Secretary and she will make the reservations.

**NASASP (Letter in packet)** – Agenda May 18, 2010

**Thank you letter from Home Nursing Agency Foundation** – For your information.

**Adjournment** – C. Sobun made a motion to adjourn the Regular Meeting of the Mont Alto

Borough Council of May 3, 2010 at 10:31 p.m., K. Smith seconded, any comments, all in favor Aye, opposed No, motion carried.

## **Reconvene Mont Alto Borough Council meeting of May 3, 2010**

Council Vice President T. Lawson reconvened the regular meeting of Mont Alto Borough Council of May 3, 2010 at 10:32 p.m.

**Remove electric late fees** – J. Evans advised Council that they can do a one time removal of the electric late fees. If Council wants to eliminate late fees altogether they would have to pass an Ordinance.

Council discussed at length the best way to remove the electric late fees for the bill received April 1, 2010 with a due date of April 25, 2010 so that everyone is treated fairly.

C. Sobun made a motion that as a result of the estimation problem in February 2010, the Borough, for any customer failing to pay the balance of their April 1, 2010 bill by April 25, 2010, will waive the late fee that would accrue as a result thereof, K. Smith seconded, any more discussion, any more discussion, all in favor Aye, opposed No, motion carried.

P. Kocek informed Council that since this motion was made it would take several extra days to get the invoices in the mail. The consensus was that this would not be a problem.

**ADJOURNMENT** – C. Sobun made a motion to adjourn the regular meeting of Mont Alto Borough Council of May 3, 2010 at 11:06 p.m., R. Lee seconded, no discussion, all in favor Aye, opposed No, motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Submitted to Council for their approval on  
June 7, 2010.

Patricia A. Kocek  
Borough Secretary

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Thomas Lawson Vice President

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Beverly Spicer President Pro Tem