

MONT ALTO BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING

CALL TO ORDER – Council Vice President Dennis Monn called the Special meeting of January 16, 2007 of the Mont Alto Borough Council to order at 6:02 p.m.

ROLL CALL – Dennis Monn, Thomas Lawson, Ginger Weaver, Beverly Spicer and Michael Kauffman present. Fred Herrington, Sr. and Michael Gossard absent.

MAYOR – Mayor Steven Knepper present.

BOROUGH STAFF – Patricia A. Kocek Borough Secretary

INVOCATION – P. Kocek

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

VISITORS

Gary L. Calimer, Jr. Maintenance Supervisor

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

Review Applications and make recommendations for unfilled Maintenance position – Council Vice President D. Monn called for an Executive Session at 6:04 p.m. to discuss Personnel matters.

Council Vice President D. Monn called the Special Meeting of Mont Alto Borough Council back to order at 6:25 p.m.

Employee Health Insurance – G. Weaver talked to Sue Ellen Campbell of Blue Cross. S. Campbell said the Borough plan rolled over into another plan that was closest to the Borough plan. This happened at the renewal date for the Borough plan. The Prescription Drug Coverage changed, the amount for prescriptions increased and a \$50.00 per year deductible was added to the prescription coverage.

S. Campbell suggested Rx Option 7. Discussion on Option 7 benefits. The Borough now pays \$512.20 for Single cover and this includes Option 2 and the new premium for Single coverage and Option 7 would be \$518.95. The only part of the insurance coverage being considered this evening is the Prescription Drug Coverage.

G. Weaver said that if enough employees are interested the employees should look in to Aflac.

Short discussion on the \$250.00 deductible per person with the current plan.

Discussion on HSA (Health Savings Account) and how they work and whether or not this would be an option for the Borough.

The Borough allows retirees to continue their insurance coverage through the Borough, but the retiree pays their own premium.

T. Lawson explained to Council about the previous attempts to obtain health insurance for the Borough.

Discussion on the High Mark Blue Shield coverage that Quincy provides for their employees through Craig-Friedly-Potter & Moore.

G. Weaver will look into this plan and also obtain information on other health insurance plans for the Borough.

G. Weaver suggested changing to Option 7. T. Lawson pointed out there is not money budgeted for additional health insurance. Will have to look for the money if going with Option 7. Employees may have to give up a cost of living raise to fund other options to health insurance.

At this time the Borough is not changing to Option 7 and by the next meeting G. Weaver will have additional information on health insurance.

NEW BUSINESS

Naming Baseball field within the Mont Alto Recreational Area – Robert Harris, Jr. read a Proclamation at the Memorial Service for Sgt. Edward W. Shaffer. R. Harris is asking Council to name the ball field at the Mont Alto Recreation Area after Edward W. (Buzz) Shaffer who died of injuries sustained in Iraq.

A very lengthy discussion followed on the proper way to memorialize Sgt. Shaffer. Council wants to do it in the proper way because in the future it may have to done again.

Discussion on how to fund whatever is decided upon.

T. Lawson explained that the Veteran's Memorial was designed to have pavers installed around it. Pavers could be purchased in memory of, in honor of, etc. T. Lawson would like to see this project revived and completed.

Borough Council does not see anything wrong with naming the ball field after Sgt. Shaffer.

Discussion on the proper type of sign to place at the ball field to memorialize Shaffer.

G. Weaver left the meeting at 7:03 p.m.

T. Lawson reported that Giant Food called and they are going to donate a bench to the Recreation Area in honor of Sgt. Ed Shaffer. T. Lawson accepted it on behalf of the Borough.

Vice President D. Monn stated that he is not opposed to naming the field, but he feels it is breaking the tradition of naming streets after the soldiers.

D. Monn and others feel R. Harris should have presented the Proclamation to Council before reading it at the Memorial Service.

T. Lawson said that if the Veteran's Memorial Project is completed there would be a place for any future soldiers to be honored. The pavers would be installed around the Veteran's Memorial so that they can be removed to be engraved and then placed back in their original spot. KIA's would be honored with a gold paver.

Consensus of Council is to have M. Kauffman and Gary Calimer, Jr. meet and prepare an estimate to install a sign on the backstop, naming the field after Sgt. Shaffer. This information is to be presented at the February 5, 2007 meeting. The Secretary was instructed to include this item on the Agenda for February 5, 2007

R. Harris would like to have the dedication on Memorial Day 2007. The sign could be installed and covered until the time of the dedication.

A short discussion followed at which time various Council members briefed new Council member B. Spicer on various items, such as COG, etc.

Adjournment – T. Lawson made a motion to adjourn the Special Meeting of Mont Alto Borough Council of January 16, 2007 at 7:23 p.m., M. Kauffman seconded, all in favor Aye, opposed No, motion carried.

Submitted to Council for their approval on February 5, 2007

Patricia A. Kocek
Borough Secretary