

JUNIATA TERRACE BOROUGH COUNCIL
JANUARY 14, 2020 MINUTES – REGULAR MEETING

PRESIDED:	MIKE DUKES, PRESIDENT
MEETING OPENED:	6:00 P.M.
PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:	PRESIDENT DUKES
INVOCATION:	COUNCILMEN MILLER

ROLL CALL: DUKES, RHODES, MCMILLIN, BOLGER, MILLER

Others in Attendance: 51 people signed in.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

After Reviewing, **Fred McMillin moved and Eric Rhodes seconded the motion to accept the December minutes as submitted.** Motion carried.

HEARING OF PERSON'S PRESENT:

- Anne Lusk & Amin Habeeb- Spoke to the concerned residents about the Refugee Resettlement Program. Donald Trump is allowing 18,000 Refugees in the United States, they will not be sending criminals here, everyone is evaluated. They are respectful, highly educated people who have bachelor and master degrees in chemical engineering, lawyers, and doctors. There are many organizations that sponsor refugees. Anne stated her hometown Lititz PA just accepted refugees. There are 500 jobs available here in your area and 20 are at Nittany Paper. The Refugees would have health insurance and jobs if they are placed here in your area. They are not just left alone; they have 5 years of mentorship. Nittany Paper reached out to the Catholic Charities stating they need more workers. Refugees have to be accepted in order to come into the United States, they also have to be in physically good health so they don't bring any sickness or diseases to the United States. Refugees are eager to work; they do not move from one job to another very easily.
- Mike Martinez 48 Delaware – He asked Don Chapman how many people do you have working for you? Don said 160 at Nittany Paper. Mike also stated why do we want to bring people into this area that are only going to be making \$12/hour and won't be able to support themselves. Why do we want more poor people here in our community?
- Susie Tyson 21 Hudson – Why do we want to bring people here that are not going to make it. Don Chapman said they can save money and they have different ways of living. Susie also asked Don what have you done to get people here in our community to work for you? He stated we have a wicked Drug Problem here; you can't smoke pot and work in a factory.
- Denise Gussler 2 Terrace – Asked where are they going to live? Anne stated they can live where ever they want and they are evaluated every 6 months. They do have a 1-year contract in a house before they are on their own.
- Isla Dean 308 Terrace – We have slumlords here and places here I would not take my dog in.
- Don Chapman stated he has 20 job openings right now.

- Randy Colyer 101 Terrace – Asked him why he will not hire him.
- Virginia Weaver 116 Terrace – How many places have you visited?
Anne Lusk said Lewistown Borough, County Commissioner Robert Postal, Granville Township. We want people to ask us questions because we understand there is fear. We want your community to grow you have a company that is trying to grow.
- Susie Tyson 21 Hudson – Don you had an article in The Sentinel today why didn't you stat about 20 job openings? He said he didn't know what the Sentinel put in they write the article.
- Rhonda Pupo Granville – said to Anne you said highly educated, what is highly educated? Anne said Bachelors, Masters
- Lydia Cox 130 Delaware – I have moved about 3 dozen times, I was a disaster worker following Hurricane Katrina, I was then known as the white woman! The agency I worked for worked for Catholic Charities I have also worked with Refugees.
- Skip Royer 224 Terrace – We heard all the positives; do you have statistics on drugs? Anna stated she can get that information.
- Rhonda Pupo – If these people get in trouble with the law will they be sent home? And she also thanked Don for the jail release program.
- How many people have you lost from this program?
Amin said one went to Scranton instead of Harrisburg but to get lost zero people.
- Doris Fultz 29 Hudson – So you never had any problems with anyone getting into trouble.
They said they have had no issues.
- Anne Lusk stated she has had tenants for 25 years now that were refugees.
- Mike Martinez 48 Delaware – so you want to import poor people here but we had 46 families homeless this year in our school district.
- Don Chapman – I'm against illegal people from coming here but I am a business man and want my business to succeed.
- Jim Smith Granville Supervisor – How do you deal with school aged children who do not speak English?
Amin stated schools have ESL classes and these kids would learn more English then their parents.
- Susie Tyson 21 Hudson – Don how many do you want here? He said at least 10. She said so if you bring 10 now and in 2021 you want another 100.
Anne Lusk said they don't have that many available and there are only 17 refugees approved for this region.
- Gavin Taylor – Don what have you done in our community to offer jobs?
Don said they have reached out to Penn Tech; and they have been to career fairs. Every where needs people its Nation Wide.
- Anne Lusk also mentioned the time frame to get the refugees could take up to 9 months because there are no families available right now.

BOROUGH SECRETARY REPORT:

After Reviewing Eric Rhodes moved to accept the Borough Secretary Report as submitted and David Bolger seconded the motion. Motion carried.

BOROUGH SUPERVISOR REPORT:

- Salted
- Painted Community Room, Bathrooms, and Office
- Handed out Flyers

COMMUNICATIONS:

1. PSAB
2. FAME
3. 2020 Borough Council Listing

TREASURER'S REPORT:

After Reviewing **Eric Rhodes moved to accept the Treasurers report as submitted and David Bolger seconded the motion.** Motion carried

SCHEDULE OF BILLS:

Eric Rhodes moved and David Bolger seconded the motion to pay bills Motion carried.

TAX COLLECTOR'S REPORT:

After Reviewing, Fred McMillin moved to accept the Tax Collectors report as submitted and William Miller seconded the motion. Motion carried.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Finance/Law & Ordinance/Public Safety: N/A
Property & Supplies: N/A
Streets & Highways: N/A
Sewer & Sanitation: N/A
Personnel: N/A

MAYOR'S REPORT: N/A

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

- Refugee ongoing issues, we need to make sure we are doing what is best for our Community.

NEW BUSINESS:

- Mikes Landscaping – estimate 2 pieces of equipment \$250/hour

GOOD & WELFARE:

ADJOURNMENT: Eric Rhodes moved and Fred McMillin seconded the motion to adjourn at 7:30. Motion carried.