

Regular Meeting Minutes
July 11, 2019

President Bill Heaton called the meeting to order. Mrs. Sepp and Ms. Harker were excused. All other members were present including Mayor Farkas. A Harris/Little motion approved the June meeting minutes. The Officer's reports were approved by a Little/Tate motion.

Correspondence was read which included a letter from DEP notifying the borough of action needed for the Rock Avenue excess flow.

Mr. Harris moved to hear the citizens present at the meeting and was seconded by Mr. Tate. The motion passed.

Mr. Ron Tomasula, representing his son, John 816 Rock Avenue was present to discuss the former Grace Stelter property now owned by his son. There is confusion regarding the front yard. A neighbor says that he doesn't own the front yard or the driveway and a study completed by Widmer Engineering shows that there is no evidence that the property isn't his. There are no tax codes. Since it is private property, the borough has no jurisdiction to act to quiet the title or show adverse possession. Mr. Bovalino had previously discussed this situation with their attorney, Joseph Budicek but he will contact him again and discuss further regarding options such as vacating the street and licensing the land.

Mrs. Theresa Berkfelt, 4500 West 6th Avenue brought to council attention that the street in front of her house is in very bad shape. There is a post from the gas company in the middle of the road and the drainage is terrible. No paving has been done in quite a few years and gravel is running into her walkway; snow is not plowed. Mr. Little will stop in the morning and see what can be done to help remedy the problem.

Mr. John Beres, 705 Lenox Avenue was checking on the status of his complaint at last month's meeting regarding the storm water from Lenox running off into his yard. A small curb was requested to alleviate this problem and it is on the list of work to be done but the weather has not cooperated and there is other work on the list that also needs attention. It will be looked into.

Mrs. Kitty Cramer, 121 Ross Avenue said that the conditions at her neighbors has gotten worse instead of better, there is garbage in the yard; a car with no plates on Coolidge; hedges as high as the windows. The trailer is still in the yard on Railroad Street. Wilson Avenue used to be a road but no one was using it. Bill is going to talk to the owner regarding the trailer. She also complained about high grass on the road near the tunnel on Patterson. The street department has been working on cutting along the berms of the roads in the borough. Mr. Bovalino will look into how the street is vacated etc. and Mr. Lemmon will be in on it too.

Mr. Regis Bendon, 104 Ross remarked that Wilson Avenue has been opened since 1962.

Mrs. Victoria Orlowski, 3616 West 3rd Avenue asked about the speed limit on Standard Alley as well as the weight limit. There is a lot of speeding as well as heavy trucks accessing Standard Steel. She is concerned because of children playing in the area. Unless, otherwise posted, the speed limit is 25 mph on all borough roads. She suggested a sign stating slow, watch for children.

Mr. Michael Orlowski, 100 Ross Avenue asked about the storm drain on Ross Avenue. His drains have nowhere to go but into the storm drain. Mr. Heaton will look at it tomorrow.

Mr. Phil Woodley, 4746 Fourth Avenue, Beaver Falls is not a borough resident but a baseball coach for 9 and 10 year olds. He is interested in taking over the ball fields for the West Mayfield kids if the Beaver Valley Traveling League gives up the contract. There has been a problem with sharing the fields because they don't get to use them when they want and he has no problem with sharing the fields. Other coaches are very supportive of this. Re-leveling the fields needs to be done and there is a lot involved in taking over the fields. Mr. Tate remarked that everyone walked away from the fields before and they fell into disrepair. The traveling league not only restored the fields, but made many improvements. It was suggested that Mr. Woodley get a committee together and create a business plan for the maintenance of the fields and present it to council.

Mrs. Robin McGraw, 900 37th Street provided pictures of the flooding that occurred after Saturday's heavy rain. The water ran down from Mayfield Village, through the Percic property into her garages facing West 9th Avenue. The water is running through an open pipe creating a river through the yards. There should be some way that the water could be diverted in another direction. She will go to the courthouse to see who owns the property. DEP should also be contacted.

Mr. Richard Pegg, 3812 High Street Extension said that the drainage problem has not been corrected. French drains from his property are going into property at 3808 High Street Extension. We will definitely take care of that – it is not permissible for someone's drains to be directed onto another property. All the gravel from his French drains has been pushed away. The catch basin on High Street Extension is lifting the asphalt from the road. Brian cleaned it out but it will be checked to make sure it is working properly. DEP is involved in this complaint. A letter was supposed to be sent to the property owner who is diverting his French drains onto 3808 High Street Extension but was not sent.

Our ordinances definitely need to be recodified and it was suggested to contact the Department of Community Affairs for assistance in doing that. It was also suggested to check the federal guidelines for property maintenance.

Theresa Goe, 1011 37th Street, complained about a drainage problem at the bottom of her driveway. There is a ditch at the bottom and she hits bottom when driving her car out of the driveway. Mr. Little will look at that tomorrow.

With no other citizens present, Mr. Tate moved to return to the regular order of business and was seconded by Mr. Harris. The motion passed.

Old Business

Parks and Playground –Mrs. Sepp again apologized for the error of the wrong tree being trimmed in the park. She offered to relinquish her council pay but council refused that offer. Council requested that she contact the contractor to see if he will come down in price for the error and also to submit an invoice for the payment.

Streets and Lighting - Mrs. Sepp provided a report to Mrs. Lansberry from Duquesne Light regarding the completion of the LED lights. There was a misunderstanding that the lights would be free of charge but that is not the case. The cost will be \$1090 (\$109 for the removal of each fixture). Mr. Tate moved to approve the fee of \$1090 and was seconded by Mr. Kosanovich. The motion passed.

Sewers and Sanitation – Mr. Kosanovich reported that the overflow at 8th Ave and Rock Avenue seems to be caused by the significant amount of rain that has occurred recently.

Ordinances – amending the no burning ordinance was discussed. It was decided to amend the ordinance to read that a 4-5 foot diameter fire pit fueled by firewood for recreational use would be acceptable. Mr. Bovalino will advertise the amendment and also it should be publicized on the website.

Building and Equipment – Mr. Harris none

Streets, Lighting and Bridges- Mr. Little said that Wilson Avenue has not been used for years. Mr. Bovalino will find out for sure.

Finance and Litigation – Mr. Tate – none but he did remind council that the salt shed roof needs to be repaired.

Mayor Farkas asked if an ordinance that prohibits animal waste on property was ever enacted in the borough. Mr. Kosanovich will see what he can find out.

Mr. Heaton discussed the continuing issue with the drain on Wilson Avenue. The solicitor and engineer are involved and it is done. He will follow up with DEP.

He also said that DEP has scheduled a compliance inspection for the MS4 Storm water Ordinance. They also requested the presence of the Engineering Firm at the meeting so Mr. Heaton will contact Dan Sell from Widmer with the available dates provided by DEP and set that up.
A meeting is also scheduled with Code Systems regarding the contract.

New Business

Mr. Kosanovich addressed the water run-off problem on Lenox and said the drain on Knape Street either needs to be re-graded or a curb put in.
Lenore Alley had to be patched due to the heavy rains – the road was damaged severely. A ditch was dug but it needs a 15 inch drain. PennDot will be contacted to put in a catch basin since it is on 37th Street.

Mr. Harris – none
Mr. Little – none
Mr. Tate – none
Mayor Farkas – none
Mr. Heaton – none
Mr. Bovalino - none

The bills were reviewed and Mr. Kosanovich moved to pay the borough bills and was seconded by Mr. Little.
The motion carried.

Mr. Little moved to approve purchases made by committees and was seconded by Mr. Harris. The motion carried.

Mr. Harris moved to adjourn at 8:55 p.m.; seconded by Mr. Little with unanimous approval.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia Lansberry
Secretary