

Regular Meeting Minutes
December 12, 2019

President Bill Heaton called the meeting to order. Mr. Tate was absent and Mr. Bovalino was excused because of illness. Chief DeLuca reported that he would be unable to attend the meeting. All other members were present including Mayor Farkas.

A Harris/Sepp motion approved the November meeting minutes. The Officer's reports were approved by a Harker/Little motion.

The only correspondence read was a letter from Widmer Engineering requesting to be reappointed as the borough's engineering firm. This will be taken under consideration at the reorganization meeting.

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

Theresa Goe, 1011 37th Street reported that cold patch that the borough employees had placed at the bottom of their driveway had worn away and as a result, she hit bottom while exiting the driveway, tore a reflector off the bumper of her car and damaged the undercarriage. She requested help from the borough in paying for the repair costs. She provided an estimate from McElwain Motors that listed replacement of front bumper cover and replacement of lower reflector in the amount of \$1,476.85. Council asked if she had turned the claim in to her insurance company and she responded that she did not because she feels the borough should be paying for it. The claims process by the borough was explained to her. Simply stated, the borough insurance company will ask her for the name of her insurance company, contact them and it moves forward from there. Mr. Heaton asked if she had a drainage pipe under her driveway and she does not. He explained that he needed to speak with the solicitor before any action could be taken but he and Mr. Little will take a look at her driveway and then consult with Mr. Bovalino. She said that her mom has a problem with her driveway too and they will look at that.

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

Old Business

Fire and Police – Ms. Harker – none

Parks and Recreation – none but she reminded everyone about the borough Christmas Party on December 14th from 3 until 5:30 at the fire hall.

Sewers and Sanitation – Mr. Kosanovich – He is filling out a small grant application for sewer repair that has to be turned in by December 13th at 5 p.m. There is a 15% matching that will have to be remitted by the borough if the grant is awarded. The two projects he is submitting are as follows:

1. West 4th Avenue from 43rd Street to 47th Street – 1360 feet of sewer line for a total of \$220,400 (borough match would be \$149,600)
2. Reline pipes – 11 that are extremely bad for a total of \$70,800 (borough match would be \$33,600)

There are requirements for the grant which are a letter of ownership, an official resolution to apply for the grant and a matching funds commitment. Mr. Kosanovich moved to enact a resolution to apply for the grant for sewer repairs and was seconded by Mr. Harris. A roll-call vote passed the resolution as follows: Ms. Harker – yes; Mrs. Sepp – yes; Mr. Kosanovich – yes; Mr. Harris – yes; Mr. Little – yes and Mr. Heaton – yes. Mayor Farkas questioned the life expectancy of the lining. Mr. Kosanovich responded that industry standard sets a warranty between 30 and 50 years. Mr. Harris moved to choose option 2, relining of pipes and was seconded by Ms. Harker. A roll-call vote passed the motion as follows: Ms. Harker – yes; Mrs. Sepp – yes; Mr. Kosanovich – yes; Mr. Harris – yes; Mr. Little – yes and Mr. Heaton – yes. Mr. Little moved to agree to a matching funds commitment and was seconded by Mrs. Sepp. A roll call vote passed the motion as follows: Ms. Harker – yes; Mrs. Sepp – yes; Mr. Kosanovich – yes; Mr. Harris – yes; Mr. Little – yes; and Mr. Heaton

– yes. There is also a \$100 application fee that is the borough's responsibility. Mrs. Sepp moved to pay the \$100 application fee and was seconded by Ms. Harker. The motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Kosanovich also reported that the recycling grant awards will be revealed tomorrow. He will contact all council members with the results.

There are a number of grants that will become available in the summer for stream retention; park grants for ADA accommodations which must include a van accessible parking space, ADA sidewalk, restrooms, shelter accessibility, etc. An engineering fee is required in the proposal that equals 10% of the cost. Mr. Kosanovich spoke with the representative of the state regarding our creek bank eroding and damaging the ball fields. We would like to armor and reinforce the creek bank to protect the ball fields. That would also be grant eligible. The first \$30,000 of the grant is free but there is a 50% matching on anything above the \$30,000. Our employee work hours could be included in the matching funds.

Ordinances – none

Building and Equipment – none but the salt shed roof is going to be patched.

Streets, Lighting and Bridges- Mr. Little – leaf pick-up has been completed and the necessary repairs to the leaf vacuum will be done in house.

No reply has been received regarding the broken manhole on 37th Street. Mr. Heaton said that he had a meeting with PennDot and they will repair the 37th Street manhole as well as uncovering the manhole that they covered on Short Street. The representative said that if their own crews could not get to Short Street, they would have Lindy Paving take care of it. The water run-off problem on 37th Street past High Street will also be taken care of. Regarding the problem on Lenore Alley, the borough can tap into that and install a manhole as long as they don't do onto 37th Street.

Mayor Farkas - none

Mr. Heaton reported that the pallets that were ordered were received. The trailer on Railroad Street was removed. He received the results of the MS4 inspection and it was favorable. There were no violations, but there still is work to be done.

The water run-off problem from Mayfield Village onto 37th Street was traced to the driveway of the maintenance shed owned by Mayfield Village. They will determine what needs to be done and the owner will keep the borough informed.

He also reminded council that the 2020 budget needed to be accepted. Mr. Harris moved to adopt the 2020 budget in the amount of \$355,076.00. Ms. Harker seconded the motion which was passed as follows: Ms. Harker – yes; Mrs. Sepp – yes; Mr. Kosanovich – yes; Mr. Harris – yes; Mr. Little – yes and Mr. Heaton – yes.

New Business

Fire & Police – none

Parks & Recreation – Mrs. Sepp reported that there are tree branches laying on the road on Glade Street impeding traffic. Mr. Little will try to have that taken care of tomorrow. There is a pipe that needs to be reconnected to the drain on West 4th.

Sewers & Sanitation - Mr. Kosanovich– none

Ordinances – none

Buildings & Equipment – Mr. Harris reported that the inventory is 70% complete and supplied a copy to all council members. He has no estimate of the missing tools but will compare his list with the list that Mr. Little has. He suggested that the tool room be locked but no action was taken at this time.

Streets, Lighting & Bridges – Mr. Little requested permission to purchase shirts and hoodies for the new employees. Mayor Farkas suggested insulated coveralls for all employees. Permission was given.

Mr. Little requested permission to purchase hams for council members, the solicitor and the tax collector for Christmas. Mr. Harris moved to permit the purchase and was seconded by Mrs. Sepp. The motion passed all in favor.

Mr. Little also requested permission to give Mr. Langer, Mrs. Lansberry, Mr. Lemmon and Mr. Seybert, a \$100 Christmas bonus. Mr. Harris moved to give a \$100 Christmas bonus to the above-named employees and was seconded by Mrs. Sepp. The motion passed unanimously.

Ms. Harker reported that the fire department was called out at 1 a.m. for a flooding problem beginning at the Vets Club that continued down Patterson Avenue and flooded the tunnel. It seems that a beaver dam let loose. The tunnel had to be closed and the road patched and re-opened today. The manhole was also blown out.

Mr. Heaton wanted to remind council that the new employee, Ben Langer is a member of the fire department and wanted them to determine when he should be permitted to leave work to respond to a fire call. There was a discussion and Mr. Harris moved that he would only be permitted to leave work for a structural fire within the borough as long as it would not interfere with the job being done or be a hazard to the other employee. Mrs. Sepp seconded the motion that passed all in favor.

Mayor Farkas – none

The bills were reviewed and Ms. Harker 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 Mrs. Sepp. The motion carried.

Other Business

Mrs. Sepp asked about employees using borough equipment and facilities after work hours. The employee was given permission by Mr. Little.

Mr. Heaton said that there should be a point person to have information sent to Kevin for posting on the website rather than random people calling him or asking someone else to contact him for publication. Mrs. Lansberry volunteered to be the point person so anyone on council wanting information posted on the website will need to contact her and she will forward the information to Kevin.

Mr. Harris moved to adjourn at 7:55 p.m.; seconded by Mr. Little with unanimous approval.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia Lansberry
Secretary