

Regular Meeting Minutes
January 14, 2021

President Bill Heaton called the meeting to order. With the exception of Mr. Harris who was at work, all members were present including Mayor Farkas. The December minutes were approved unanimously by a McNeely/Sepp motion. The Officers reports were approved unanimously by a Harker/Little motion.

Mr. Little moved to hear the citizens present at the meeting and was seconded by Mrs. Sepp. The motion passed. The citizens present were only here to observe so Ms. Harker moved to return to the regular order of business seconded by Mrs. Sepp. The motion carried.

Old Business

Fire and Police - Ms. Harker - none

Parks and Playground - Mrs. Sepp - none

Sewers and Sanitation - Mr. Kosanovich had seven call outs to Robinson Pipe Cleaning to clear clogged sewers since the last meeting. Each call out costs approximately \$1500.

Ordinances - none

Streets, Lighting and Bridges –Mr. Little reported that there have been complaints regarding trash build-up at a residence on Short Street. Mr. Lemmon will check it out. The manhole on Walnut Street has been cleaned out and an 811 call has been placed so that the street department workers can dig up around the storm drain off Fifth Avenue and route the water across the road. He also asked permission to purchase 3 sections of 15” pipe to do the project. In the spring he will install a catch basin which should take care of the Fifth Avenue problem.

Finance and Litigation – Mrs. McNeely – none. She has, however, had complaints about the plowing not being done correctly. She also stressed that vacation time should not be used during plowing season. Each street should be plowed until it’s done and they aren’t dropping the plows completely down. Mr. Little said the workers have come in when called whether time off was scheduled or not when the snow came. Part of the problem was that the snow came down so hard and so fast and 37th Street was closed down that our workers couldn’t get to the roads because of vehicles being stuck and blocking areas. Mr. Heaton said that since 37th Street is continuing to be an issue he will talk to PennDot to see if something can be done.

Mayor Farkas said that the potholes are pretty bad on West 8th Avenue Alley. He realizes that it’s difficult to keep up with them in the winter.

Mr. Budicak- none

Mr. Heaton said the pipe on High Street needs to be repaired to avoid a major problem. Mrs. McNeely moved to proceed with the repair of the pipe on High Street and was seconded by Mrs. Sepp. The motion passed all in favor.

New Business

Fire and Police Ms. Harker gave a year-end report on the fire department. There were 67 fire calls answered by the fire department. Engine 1 - 326 miles, Engine 3 - 49 miles and the Squad 168 miles. A total of 108 gallons of fuel were used.

Parks & Playground – Mrs. Sepp – none.

Sewers & Sanitation; Mr. Kosanovich reported that he is working on the application for the small water grant that is due in February. He also reported that the cost for relining pipe on Fourth Avenue would cost approximately 30 – 35 dollars per foot.

Ordinances - none

Buildings & Ground – Mr. Little for Mr. Harris – the trucks need inspected. The exhaust on the big truck and the light on the plow have been repaired. The little pick up (2004 Sierra) has some problems – a front oil seal leak, water pump, cab mounts are gone. He will get estimates on the cost of repairs and also will check on prices for parts if he would do the repairs himself. The bucket truck has not been inspected since 2017 and he will see what is needed and bring costs to the next meeting.

Streets, Lighting & Bridges – Mr. Little – none. When Mr. Sapp was injured this summer on the Scag mower he did not want to apply for workmen’s comp because he didn’t feel that the injuries were that severe. The doctor would not release him to return to work unless we had light duty which we don’t. He was asking if there was any way Mr. Sapp could be compensated for the 3 weeks that he did not work. It is too late to apply for workmen’s comp now so there is no way to compensate him for time lost. Mr. Little also asked about having the backhoe door repaired. That repair had been approved at the last meeting.

Finance & Litigation – Mrs. McNeely – none
Mayor Farkas – none
Mr. Budicak - none

Mr. Heaton received a citizen’s complaint about work being done at the foundry. The foundry was sold and the new owner has been digging up some of the hillside. The citizen wanted to know why we were not informed of the sale and why we were not checking on the work that was being done. Mr. Heaton went and spoke with the new owner and found that the property was bought at a judicial tax sale and talked with him about the work that was being done. He said that DEP should be called to make sure that the earth being moved is not a hazard and said that he would contact DEP for him. He then let the citizen who lodged the complaint know about what was being planned but that person had already contacted DEP. DEP has been in contact with the new owner and he is aware of the steps that have to be followed for soil removal etc. The new owner plans on using the property to house some of his heavy equipment used in his towing business. Mr. Kosanovich is concerned about the heavy traffic that might be using Craig Alley since there are already issues with storm water backup. He would like to see if there are any fractures in the pipe.

The January bills were presented to council and Mr. Kosanovich moved to pay the borough bills seconded by Mr. Little. The motion passed unanimously.

Ms. Harker moved to ratify all purchases made by committees and was seconded by Mrs. Sepp. The motion passed all yeas.

With no further business to discuss Mrs. McNeely moved for adjournment at 7:30 p.m., seconded by Mrs. Sepp. The motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted,

Patricia Lansberry
Borough Secretary