

Regular Meeting Minutes
May 13, 2021

President Bill Heaton called the meeting to order. Mrs. Sepp was excused. All other members were present including Mayor Farkas. The April minutes were approved unanimously by a Harris/McNeely motion. The Officers reports were approved unanimously by a Little/Harris motion.

Correspondence from Charles Jones, Beaver Falls City Manager, was read. Beaver Falls is looking into the possibility of selling the Beaver Falls Sewage Treatment Plant to an independent company. The Borough is concerned that there will be an increase in sewer user fees and we will have to consider an increase in our fees to our residents. We have not increased fees for a number of years and our fees are among the lowest in the county.

Mr. B.J. Giangiulio, president of HA Thomson company was present to review our insurance policies. He reviewed all buildings, equipment, tools etc. along with the liability coverage for all council members. Our deductible will remain at \$250 but there will be a slight increase in the premium. We are satisfied with the coverage that we have and made no changes to our policy. He also reviewed our work comp policy and there will also be a slight raise in our premium. He requested that a fire department roster with names and birthdates of all members be forwarded to our representative.

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

Mr. Dan Woodske, a supervisor with Chippewa Township was present to discuss a study that the township is looking into. It is a study with the state that will provide assistance to the service to residents provided by the fire departments. A letter of intent to join the study is necessary and a resolution would have to be passed to implement the program if it is adopted. Ms. Harker asked if it was a study to form a regional fire department. This had been discussed previously regarding police protection and it is something that doesn't work well for us. Mr. Heaton asked about the cost to be involved. We would not be required to be a part of it once the study has been completed. His only request right now is for joining the study. No decision was made at this time but West Mayfield is not interested in participating.

Mrs. Licia Cogley, 604 37th Street Extension reported wires hanging on trees by the railroad tracks on Wallace Run and Glade Streets. This is something that the electric company has to take care of. It is not known if Duquesne Light or Penn Power is the company that would need to be contacted. She also asked if Craig Street Alley was on the list for paving. There is water collecting and the engineer looked at it and we are trying to get something done to correct the problem. She also wanted to know how much of Boyd Avenue is going to be paved. It will be from Coolidge to Brook.

Mrs. Kathy Brewer, Borough Tax Collector wanted to report to council that she will no longer be given technical support to the existing tax collection program after the 28th of this month. This is not only affecting her but other tax collectors in the county. She was just given notice and has no idea what is going to happen. There is going to be a meeting to discuss this. She also wanted to thank our police officers because it is National Police Week.

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

Old Business

Police and Fire – Ms. Harker – none

Parks and Playground – Mr. Little reported for Mrs. Sepp that they were going to tear the tube unit by Shelter 2 down, but instead broke it down from an L Shape to a single unit and moved the slide. They also took out the plastic bubbles and replaced with wood. Swings had new chains installed and were painted, the pavilions have new roofs and mulch was put around the playground equipment.

Sewers and Sanitation - Mr. Kosanovich reported that Insight Pipe completed the relining of sewer lines on High Street.

Ordinance – because of the littering ordinance in place, he is going to have signage installed stating that there is a \$300 fine for littering or 30 days in jail. He will have the borough ordinance code listed on the sign.

Buildings, Grounds and Equipment – Mr. Harris - none

Streets, Lighting and Bridges – Mr. Little reported that the bucket truck is running. The electrical part for the generator is being worked on. The employees are working on storm drains, small pot holes, grass cutting and working on the alleys.

Mr. Heaton met with Dan Sell at Widmer Engineering to begin the paving project. The paving will be divided between the general fund and the liquid fuel fund. The cost is estimated at \$120,000 but could increase a little. On Boyd Avenue, there are concrete pads on the right side of the road. They need to be moved for paving. On Harding Street, leave the width alone. Back fill will have to be along the edges with a berm so the new pavement won't be damaged. On West 3rd Avenue, do we want the millings or give them back. It costs more to keep them than to give them back. On West 6th we will need to fill in also. Our work to prepare should take about a week.

He met with Dan Sell at Widmer to see what the best way is to proceed with the water collection problem on West 5th Alley. He spoke with a contractor who said the work could possibly be done ourselves and he would be willing to come and advise. Bill asked him to provide a bid. We would need 3 foot basins and the 15" pipe could be changed to 10 or 12. Will look at the cost and see what the bid is.

Finance and Litigation – Mrs. McNeely – none. She asked if the quarterly newsletter had been sent. Mr. Kosanovich didn't have a list. Post office needs to be notified. We should check to see if the post office will allow us to just bulk mail to residents. Michelle will check on it.

Mr. Budicak – none

Mayor Farkas reported that the alley behind West 8th is in need of repair.

Mr. Heaton spoke with John Young regarding the problems with garbage collection. He said he was not aware of the issues. He has been working with his workers and will be looking into it. Sometimes large items are not picked up because the truck is full but they will come back and get it after they empty the truck.

New Business

Police and Fire – Ms. Harker asked the police chief if he knew anything about an explosion at 12:30 last night. Something blew up in Koppel.

She gave Mrs. Lansberry the fire department roster requested by the insurance company.

The fire department has been checking fire hydrants and some of them are too tight and can't be opened. Work is being done by PMAC to clean up the parking lots.

A letter was received by the fire department from Todd Rebich. According to a Times article, there are plans to build a crematorium on Ingrich Road.

She also noted that residents are requesting to plant trees at the park. We would need to be involved in the placement so that we don't overrun the park with too many trees.

Sewers & Sanitation; Mr. Kosanovich would like to have the contractor that was looking at West 5th Alley put in a bid on the Rock Avenue sinkhole and outfall on the hillside. The catch basin on the uphill side of Rock and the pipe goes diagonally at a 45 or 22 bend is failing where it hits the elbow. Within 2 years we will lose our road. We could cut through the roadway and there is serious excavation involved. This would be a large scope project. We could also take the elbow out altogether and reroute it moving it further down the road or run it along the shoulder.

Ms. Harker said there is a tree stuck under the bridge on Patterson between the bridge & West Third. The tunnel is failing also.

Ordinances - none

Buildings & Ground – Mr. Harris - none

Streets, Lighting & Bridges – Mr. Little – reported that the area behind the diesel tank (recycling area) has been cleaned out. He would like to put up some 15 barriers along the hillside all the way down. This will

keep from losing our material. The cost would be about \$980. The barriers are \$50 apiece and there is a hauling fee of \$90. Only 8 at a time can be hauled. Mr. Kosanovich moved to authorize the purchase and hauling of 15 barriers to the recycling area. Mrs. McNeely seconded the motion which passed all in favor. Mr. Little asked Mrs. McNeely if she had heard anything about the juvenile work program and she has not received any further information.

Finance & Litigation – Mrs. McNeely – none. She told council that she was approached by Kip Richeal to see if we could put in a handicap walkway at the park from the parking lot to the ballfield. He is disabled and it is difficult to maneuver his cart through the gravel. It was decided that Mr. Little should meet with him to see exactly what he wants and what would be involved. She was also asked by resident, Christy Barkfelt, who has a residence at the intersection of Rock and 37th Street. Cars negotiating the turn are running into her property and her house has actually been hit on occasion. She would like to have something put up to keep the cars out of her yard. She doesn't particularly want guardrails, but maybe some reflectors. We will see what can be done.

Mayor Farkas - none.

Mr. Budicak – none.

Mr. Kosanovich obtained some large wood crates that would be great for making bins for recycling by the cell tower. He would need some 2 x 4's and hinges to make lids for the bins. It would probably cost between \$200 and \$300 for the materials and he would place them under the camera and have signage listing the borough ordinance and fine information to avoid littering. Mr. Harris moved to authorize the purchase of materials to create lids for recycling bins and was seconded by Mr. Little. The motion passed all in favor.

Mr. Heaton reported that the resident who reported the problem on Jean Street and Sand Alley doesn't want guardrails put up. He wants a curb. Mr. Heaton doesn't think that will work but he will check into it to see. Mr. Heaton informed council that Penn Dot has classes on line for road safety. These classes may be useful to us for information and he can attend. The recycling grant information has been submitted and we should be receiving our money in the near future.

He also discussed the complaining from a resident about work being done without a building permit. He contacted Mr. Lemmon about the complaint and Mr. Lemmon said that the resident was simply replacing and permits are not required.

The May bills were presented to council and Mr. Little moved to pay the borough bills seconded by Mrs. McNeely. The motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Little moved to ratify all purchases made by committees and was seconded by Mr. Harris. The motion passed all yeas.

Monica and Michelle passed around a copy of the first borough newsletter. This one will be mailed to all residents as well as posted on the website and will be written quarterly. The subsequent letters will be placed in pick-up boxes placed at several locations in the borough. The locations will be posted on the website.

With no further business to discuss Mr. Harris moved for adjournment at 8:30 p.m., seconded by Mr. Little. The motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted,

Patricia Lansberry
Borough Secretary