

Regular Meeting Minutes
January 12, 2023

President Lou Little called the meeting to order. All council members were present. Code Enforcement Officer, Chris Lemmon was excused.

A Tate/Seybert motion approved the December meeting minutes.

A Harker/McNeely motion approved the officers' reports.

At this time Mike Yeck, Pennsylvania Game Commissioner was introduced to explain the hunting rules in the state of PA. Regardless of municipal ordinances, state laws override them. Hunting is permitted as long as permission is given by the property owner, the hunter must be licensed and have written permission to do so. There are strict rules to be followed as to distances from buildings, etc. These rules differ for gun and bow hunting. There is no target practice permitted and hunters are not permitted to harass. If an animal is shot but escapes, the hunter must gain permission to access property in order to track their prey. There are 3 Sundays where hunting is permitted but again, permission must be granted by the property owner.

Holly Vogt from the Beaver County Department of Waste Management was introduced next to explain the recycling grants and what is involved. She explained how the cost of everything has increased – landfill dumping fees, fuel usage, wear and tear on trucks, etc. There are two types of grants – 902 and 904. 902 is for tonnage - \$2 per every ton of trash dumped by carrier. 904 grant involves tracking yard waste and other recyclables, and must include education for residents. Yard waste can be collected by the borough in bins, and can be chipped but must be taken to the Brighton Township center for credit. You can also get a 30 yd box and haul it out every quarter. You cannot just push them over a hill. The grants are available every other year. Mr. Kosanovich noted that it would be more economical for us to collect the yard trash in a bin and take it out to the center when full rather than making a bunch of trips. It is also more time efficient and frees our employees to do other work. We will discuss this more. The branches, twigs, etc. could be chipped and used at the playground around trees, but not children's playground equipment.

Holly explained that there are various recycling days available for items to get rid of – shredding once a month, items such as paint, oil, etc. on designated days and tvs, computers, printers also on designated days. Just call the recycling center for information or look on the website. Items can be comingled – cardboard, paper, aluminum cans etc.

Nora Soos suggested that a letter could be sent out to the households once a year.

Mr. Tate moved to listen to citizen comments and was seconded by Mrs. McNeely. The motion passed all in favor.

Patty Rossi, 1001 Mayfield Village informed us that she had posted no trespassing signs on the Mayfield Village property but they had all been removed. Mr. Yeck suggested that the signs be put up high so that they can't be easily removed or to take pictures of all the signs and document when they were put up. Property management has to testify – use a camera. Cameras are being removed. He suggested getting a cellular camera GPS tagged. Permission was given by the owner of adjacent property to put up a tree stand and there were no trespassing signs placed all over the tree stand.

Roxanne Possa, West 5th Avenue asked if a registered sex offender can have a hunting license. Mr. Yeck responded that they are permitted to hunt with bow and arrow but no firearms. Our police chief said that regulated patrol knows that fire arms can't be used – just bow and arrow and muzzle loader.

Nora Soos, 102 37th Street Extension asked if the financial report could be posted on the website along with the minutes. Mrs. Lansberry will send that information to Kevin also.

Mr. Bob Kaiel 3782 West Fifth Avenue was again complaining about the mill parking lots that are no longer being used overrun with trash, etc. We will pass this information on to Mr. Lemmon. He may have the address of the property owner.

Kathy Brewer, 3628 Matilda Street wanted council to know that there is going to be a change on penalty and discounts on taxes.

She also wanted to know the status of the cat & dog situation on her neighbor's property. We don't have any information on how to condemn property. She also wanted to know if there was any way to ban them from ever having pets again. The borough has to do that through the magistrate. No one else can do that. We need to get information from Chris on the hearing that was held. Bill will let Kathy know.

Kevin Farkas, 3706 West 8th Avenue was checking on the progress of uncut grass in the borough. Chris doesn't appear to be doing his job and a lot of residents are expressing their frustration. With the Centennial coming up, he encouraged council to make sure that Chris is doing his job.

Robert Tkacik, West 4th Avenue, has no trash (he brought a small Walmart bag to show how much trash he has). Jake responded that unfortunately we can't really do anything to help. We advertised for bids and were not happy with the results (only 1 bid was received) so we advertised a second time. The bids we received were similar and we accepted the lowest. We can't solicit bids on our own.

A question came up about what would happen if someone doesn't pay their bill – Mr. Budicak responded that we could put a lien on their property and that our ordinance states that a fine of \$300 can be charged as well as jail time.

Another question was about vacant homes that are not livable – the home owner could make an argument. Jake suggested that someone from council call Aiken to discuss this. Kevin offered to post information from Aiken on the website.

Christine Barkfelt – Rock Avenue wanted to know if there was anything being done about the condition of Rock Avenue. That will be discussed during the meeting.

With no other citizens wishing to comment, Mr. Heaton moved to return to the regular order of business, seconded by Ms. Harker and approved unanimously.

Old Business

Streets & Bridges – Ms. Harker reported that 2 streets need measured. 43rd Street and West 8th Ave., West 9th, 38th Street, Norwood, Glade, Rock, Harding and Lenox are the streets being considered for repair.

The 2004 borough truck is at A-1, back bumper, tires and wiring. Tires were purchased at Meyer's Mobile tire and it was questioned whether they were priced out.

The furnace has been repaired twice and still isn't working. She got quotes for new furnace as follows: Homer Nine – Lenox – 20 year warranty on heat exchanger, 2 year on labor - \$3907.00. Maier, 70k BTU Honeywell – 10 year warranty, lifetime on heat exchanger - \$4,294.92. Alberts – 80k BTU, 20 year heat exchanger, 1 year parts and labor - \$3900.

\$1686 price for backhoe tires. Michelle will call to get more prices.

Streets – we still need to have a dollar amount & go back to see what actually needs done. Mr. Budicak said that we would have to call a special meeting to make a decision.

Jake asked about the bucket truck and parts truck that council wants to sell. He has pictures but no information. Who is going to answer questions once the vehicles have been placed on Munci Bid?

Fire & Police – Year-end report – engine #1 481 gal. fuel, engine #2 66 gal. fuel; Squad – 219 gal. fuel; 128 gal. diesel. Five members are taking the fire fighter 1 exam.

Buildings, Grounds & Equipment – Mr. Kosanovich – the application for the small water grant (\$200K) has been submitted. The \$100 application fee was charged on the borough credit card. \$30 K will be the borough's part to pay if the grant is approved.

Costars for next year – \$79.28 per ton - still higher than most other municipalities but that's what we have to pay. We are obligated to order 110 tons. Next season I would like permission to get bids.

Financial Interest forms are being passed out to everyone. They must be turned in to Mrs. Lansberry by May 1. Everyone is required to fill one out.

Sewers & Sanitation – Mr. Heaton – Ann Street is completely finished. There were manhole problems all the way to 37th Street that had to be cleaned and flushed out. They found 5 – 7 tap-ins that were filled with roots. The line was relined the whole way down.

Regarding the request for a tap-in on West 4th Avenue – DEP required 3 years of records. All of the required records were submitted and we received 2 tap-ins for this year. If you don't use them, you lose them. In order to be eligible for more tap-ins CAP reports need to be done at the beginning middle and end of the year. Flow is overloaded and we have infiltration. Lining helps but we have to look at manholes and we need to know our overflow. We have no flow meters and I called the sewage company but they didn't return my calls.

Ordinance – Mr. Seybert got a bid on grass cutting but need to get two more. Chris needs to let him know what properties need done because it has to be documented. We can put a lien on the property for the customer. Cost will depend on the lot size and when it needs cut. We need a baseball contract.

Finance & Litigation- Mrs. McNeely – none

Parks & Recreation – Mr. Tate – 280.48 tons of slag was delivered to the park but we still need a little more. Will even it out. It sinks in and actually turns into concrete.

Mayor Cogley talked to Kip to see what dates he wants to use the fields. The car cruise is scheduled for August 19th. The Centennial Committee needs the entire park on the weekend of August 25, 26 and 27 to hold the Jubilee ceremonies and activities. The mayor will contact renters and baseball teams to free up shelters and ballfields.

There were complaints from residents attending the committee's Christmas Party about the people in the kitchen. Kathy Brewer had complaints about the language in the fire hall and found it embarrassing to the residents, the fire department and council. There were children present in the building. We will make sure that this never happens again and any person or persons using inappropriate language will be escorted from the building. .

Kevin Farkas said that he heard wonderful comments about the party. Thank you to everyone – the fire department, council and committee. It was nice bringing the community together.

Christy Barkfelt said a 10-11 year old punched the Grinch in the mouth. This behavior was on the parents and needed to be taken care of the moment it happened. Lou is going to talk to the person who was dressed as the Grinch to see what happened. The Grinch will not be portrayed again at the party next year. The committee made \$1500 profit from the party.

Mr. Budicak – none

Mr. Heaton asked to speak again regarding the closing of Lenore Alley. This has to move forward. Jake moved to provide barriers from the last driveway to the first driveway to close Lenore Alley. Michelle seconded the motion that passed all in favor.

Bill also said that anyone who needs help taking the emergency management 100 and 700 test to contact him and he'll be happy to help.

New Business

Streets & Bridges - Ms. Harker suggested looking into re-opening the part of 43rd Street that has been closed (Ho-Chi-Min Trail) to see what would be involved. She is getting more bids on the backhoe tires.

Fire & Police - none

Buildings, Grounds & Equipment - Mr. Kosanovich – none

Sewers & Sanitation - Mr. Heaton the DEP CAP process says that any basement storm water has to be pumped outside and can't go into the sanitary sewer problem. We need to have the ability to condemn

property and need to find out what is involved. A search warrant can say that a property is not fit for habitation and the borough engineer can go in and make a formal report that deems it unfit for habitation. Joe will talk to Chris and explain it to him. He will have a plan of action prepared for the next meeting. Bill also went over the Employee Handbook and had several changes in wording that he thought should be made. Mr. Budicak asked everyone to go over the suggested changes and bring their comments back to the next meeting. This handbook has to start being used.

Ordinance - Mr. Seybert – thank you to Holly and Mike for taking the time to explain things to everyone.

Finance & Litigation - Mrs. McNeely should she be informed when accidents occur. Communication between committees needs to improve.

Parks & Recreation- Mr. Tate – He needs more information to list the bucket and parks trucks. He had a report of the borough truck at Meyer’s Mobile in Rochester to pay a fire department bill. An account for the borough needed to be set up because of tires for the 2004 truck at A-1 being repaired and Ms. Harker & Mr. Boniphant were going to meet with Mr. Kosanovich at his office. That is why they were in the borough truck.

There is a problem with hall rentals for the community. Can we please reach a happy medium and take priority to rent the hall for community functions unless it is already rented. There is also an issue about the park shelter already being rented on the days needed for the Centennial. Can the fire department explain the need for the park for this very special event and try to reschedule or refund the money that was already paid. A meeting has got to be set up with the baseball association to create rules and regulations for the sue of the park.

Mayor Cogley – the borough should have rights to the park rental and having a schedule of when the shelters are rented should be available so that plans can be made.

Kevin said that the best place to find any and all information is on the website.

Mr. Heaton said the MS4 stream bank has to be completed by August 24th. Widmer will design 260 linear feet – Walnut Bottom Run – sight plans need to be set up. Mr. Heaton asked for a motion to proceed with the MS4 project. Mrs. McNeely moved to move ahead with the MS4 project and was seconded by Mr. Seybert. The motion passed al in favor.

Ms. Harker moved to pay the bills listed on the bill list and was seconded by Mrs. McNeely. The motion carried.

Mr. Seybert moved to ratify purchases made by committees and was seconded by Mr. Tate. The motion carried.

At this time Mr. Budicak asked that a motion be made to go into executive session to discuss a personnel issue. Mr. Tate moved to enter into executive session and seconded by Mr. Kosanovich. The motion carried.

Ms. Harker moved to adjourn at 10:41 pm; seconded by Mr. Heaton with unanimous approval.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia Lansberry
Borough Secretary