

Regular Meeting Minutes
May 11, 2023

President Lou Little called the meeting to order. Ms. Harker and Mr. Lemmon was excused. All other members were present.

A Heaton/McNeely motion approved the April meeting minutes.
A McNeely/Seybert motion approved the officers' reports.

Mr. B.J. Gianguillo, President of H A Thomson is reviewing our insurance policies for the coming renewal of Property & Liability on 8/1 and Work Comp on 9/5. Buildings, park, monument and equipment will remain the same coverage. Tools will be increased to \$10,000. PIRMA insurance has raised rate by 8%. Work comp will be determined by last audit information.

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

Bob Kaid, 3782 West 5th Avenue said that the PMAC property has still not been cleaned up. The property owners have been contacted and are planning to tear down some of the buildings and they will be taking care of all the trash issues. They are also planning on installing cameras so that people dumping trash will be identified.

He also complained about the foundry. It is for sale, but it has to be cleaned up. Code enforcement will be notified to look into this.

Christina Martinez, 3775 W 4th Avenue had a concern about the pizza shop sign at the corner of W4th and 37th Street. You can't see cars coming up the hill when you are at the intersection and there is going to be an accident there. The owner has been informed and he is going to move the sign or take it down.

Tracy Popovich, 1017 High Street said that codes and ordinances are not being enforced. There is garbage not being taken care of and property not being maintained. There are also cars without registration and plates. Jeff Seybert will contact Chris Lemmon and have him look into it.

Linda Burns 1010 High Street, the 15 mph speed limit on High Street is still not being adhered to. There are a number of children in the neighborhood and she is afraid that someone is going to get hurt. The chief explained that it is difficult to control speeding. He is putting the digital sign that is used on 37th Street on High Street and has a detail in place in Mayfield Village. She also said that it is the people living in Mayfield Village who are speeding. She also asked the chief about progress in the shooting from last month. There are warrants in place but the investigation is ongoing. There are certain things that still have to be determined in order for the prosecution to be successful. The chief assured her that there is absolutely no danger to the community.

Margaret McCauley, 1020 High Street lodged a complaint about the abandoned apartment building at Mayfield Village. Something needs to be done about it – it should be torn down.

Kevin Farkas, webmaster was concerned about the condition of the borough with grass not being cut. He suggested that a report from council listing what has been given to Chris be given at the meetings. He also informed council that he had looked at a traffic calming handbook published by PennDot. There are "speed bumps" that can be installed but they must be designed in a specific

way and maintained. They are expensive. He also informed everyone that the West Mayfield ordinances are posted on the website.

Nora Soos, 102 37th Street Ext – when there is an ordinance issue it has to be sent to Chris. A citizen comment form has been posted on the website and has to be filled out. Council tries to answer the complaints as quickly as possible and direct the complaint to the proper person to have it resolved.

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

Old Business

Buildings, Grounds & Equipment – Mr. Kosanovich – reviewed the revisions to the employee handbook. The person designated as senior laborer will be responsible for duties if there is no operator. Comp time will no longer be issued. Any overtime work will be paid. There was also a discussion about instituting a background check for new employees, physical for new employees and random drug testing. A decision on those items was not decided upon. Michelle will be updating the employee application. Jake moved to adopt the newly revised employee manual and as seconded by Michelle. The motion passed all in favor.

Eli also discussed the purchase of chain saws and had obtained some prices. MS271 Stihl 20 inch for \$432. Echo 4920 \$380. Jake said that a 3 series chainsaw is more in line for the needs of the borough. We will table this until we get more prices for a chainsaw better suited to our needs.

The Centennial committee is looking into laminated signs with clips that will attach to fences. Signs by Sam can provide them at \$! 00 each. We will need specifications.

As discussed last month, “Welcome to the Borough” signs need to be replaced. We need input as to what should be placed on the sign and what material should be used for the construction of them. He suggested that we put it on the website for input of the citizens.

There was also more discussion about the naming of the ball fields. It was just found out that the one field is already named because it was created by a young man earning his Eagle Scout badge.

Jake suggested that we put the field signs as a plaque at the bottom of West 3rd and Patterson.

There is still an issue about garbage not being picked up. Eli suggested that we contact Aiken and ask for the names and addresses of residents who have not paid their bills so that we can have code enforcement inform them of ordinance violation.

Joe will go over the contract with Aiken to see if there is a way to get out of it.

Sewers & Sanitation – Mr. Heaton – he talked with Patty at BAR and she will send a letter giving the borough permission to go onto the property to correct the water from drains on W10th going over the hill onto private property.

Could Jake Tate be hired as a part-time employee to help out with the operation of equipment in emergency situations? Mr. Budicak sees no problem with that. Eli moved to hire Jake Tate as a part-time employee for emergency purposes only at the rate of \$15 per hour. Michelle seconded the motion that passed all in favor.

We need to find out about renting a boom mower or getting prices on the repair of our broken one. In regards to the paving project, he spoke with Dan Sell and the package has been completed and sent out to Youngblood for approval. He will inform us of the start date when he gets it.

MS4 project – we are still waiting on final approval from DEP. The Brook Street project is also in the hands of DEP.

Ordinance – Mr. Seybert – the Oven Pizza sign will be removed and Valley will be contacted about garbage on the road.

Finance & Litigation – Mrs. McNeely reported that Shawn Johnston, the new employee who was hired didn't work out and no reason was given. Anthony Galucci, one of the applicants has small plow skills but lives in New Castle so coming in for snow emergencies will be a problem. We need to hire someone as soon as possible.

Parks & Recreation – Mr. Tate – the baseball fields are worse – weeds are overgrown and the infields need addressed. The dugouts need redone and no one is taking care of the grass. If the borough is supposed to take care of the grass, we need to know. Kip Richeal was supposed to be at the meeting tonight to discuss ball field issues but he's not here. The parking lot was supposed to be taken care of and it wasn't. It was supposed to be covered with slag and that hasn't happened. We need to let companies in the borough doing work know that they are not permitted to dump gravel at the lot on West 3rd and Patterson anymore. Since the person who won the bid on the bucket truck never came to pick it up or pay for it, he will rebid it. He asked about receiving keys for the park so that he can get busy with the work that needs done. Lou said that he is going to have all the locks changed and Jake will be given a set of keys.

President Lou Little – All residents of Lenore Alley have been given letters that the alley is being closed and they will have to place the garbage in the front on Ann Street. The one house at the bottom of the alley will have to put garbage on 37th Street Extension.

Mayor Cogley – none

Mr. Budicak – will discuss litigation in an executive session after all business has been taken care of.

New Business

Buildings, Grounds & Equipment - Mr. Kosanovich – none

Sewers & Sanitation - Mr. Heaton – The complaint that was received about grass being blown onto Boyd Ave by the property owner of the building with the fence has been taken care of. He will get it cleaned up.

A company doing work on the cell tower on borough property has repaired the line that was cut leading to our diesel tank.

There is a sewer pipe that goes across the creek on West 3rd carrying water coming down the hill... I will get in touch with DEP to get an emergency permit to fix this.

Emergency Management – there was an oil spill at Standard Steel. Thanks to the citizen who turned it in. Thanks to Eli and the fire department – they put a boom in the water on the Beaver Falls side to attract the oil. DEP will be contacting them for sure and I will continue to follow up.

Ordinance – Mr. Seybert – I need to get in touch with Chris Lemmon to get some more tags so that I can tag property that have been complained about.

Finance & Litigation – Mrs. McNeely – Requests executive session at the end of all business to discuss personnel issues.

Parks & Recreation- Mr. Tate – has received some complaints – There is carpet in the alley next to Lou’s house (Lou said he thinks that it has been taken care of); PMAC lot and Foundry as to be taken care of; there are 5 gallon buckets behind the Corner Tavern – giving this information to both Jeff and Chris to have it taken care of.

Mayor Cogley – Please let everyone know about the Mother’s Day Breakfast at the fire hall and also that the Centennial Committee will be cooking dinners to take out at the fire hall on election day.

Mr. Little – none

Mr. Budicak - none

Mr. Tate moved to pay the bills listed on the bill list and was seconded by Mr. Heaton. The motion carried

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

Mr. Heaton moved to enter into executive session at 9:10 p.m. to discuss litigation and personnel issues. Mrs. McNeely seconded the motion that passed all in favor.

At 9:45 Mr. Heaton moved to return to the regular order of business and was seconded by Mr. Seybert. The motion passed all in favor.

A motion to hire previously interviewed candidate for second laborer Zayne Priests-Kish at a rate of \$14 per hour and increased to \$15 per hour following a 90 day probation period was moved by Mr. Heaton and seconded by Mr. Seybert. The motion passed all in favor.

With no further business to discuss, Mrs. McNeely moved to adjourn at 9:48 pm; seconded by Mr. Heaton with unanimous approval.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia Lansberry
Borough Secretary