Regular Meeting
March 8, 2012

In the absence of President Tom DeLuca, V.P. Jim Bostek called the meeting to order. Mr. Tate & Mr. DeLuca were on vacation and Mayor Farkas was unable to attend because of a medical emergency. A Little/Harker motion approved the minutes. A Heaton/Little motion approved the officers' reports unanimously. Ms. Harker moved was seconded by Mr. Little & the motion carried to hear the citizens present.

Debbie Yuricha, 102 Patterson Ave. was again present to complain about the creek washing away her property. Mr. Heaton had inspected the property with a county rep and there is nothing that the borough can do because it is private property. As far as doing something with the creek, there is so much red tape involved and permits that are quite costly to obtain. The Fish & Game Commission has regulations regarding the waterways. Unfortunately, nothing can be done quickly but Mr. Heaton will try to get some costs about what can be done and what permits are required. There is a tree on West 3rd and Patterson that needs cut down because it is interfering with the wires.

Margo Parker, 201 Patterson Avenue requested that one of the no-parking signs that were installed can be moved because she has no place to park her car. The signs were installed because residents parking on the street were blocking the road and emergency vehicles and busses had no access. The owner of a Jeep is causing the most problems. Mr. Bostek will look at the situation and see if anything can be done – possibly putting in signs that say no parking here to corner. The most they could move the sign would be one car length.

Mina Mineard, 4303 W. 5th Ave had a handicap parking sign installed but her neighbor is parking his car right to the edge of the sign and she can't fit her car in the space. He is also harassing both her and her son. She has called the police but has had little success. Chief Jones told her to call the police non-emergency number and he will send an officer to investigate. Since it is a public road there is no buffer zone and he will have to look into it. The curb was never painted blue to designate a handicap parking area so that would be the first place to start.

Kathy Brewer, tax collector requested help from council regarding a computer issue. She had a problem with the tax program and received a bill for $225.00. She talked to the programmer who explained that he does offer a tech support package for $500.00. This program is for 12.5 hours of support @ $40 per hour rather than his normal fee of $75 per hour. Bill Heaton moved to purchase the tech support for one year. Lou Little seconded the motion that passed all in favor. Mrs. Brewer also reported that she is using her own computer for the taxes as did the prior tax collector. That is part of the problem. Council will look into purchasing a computer for the tax collector that will be passed down when the tax collector changes.

Mrs. Harker moved to return to the regular order of business, was seconded by Mr. Heaton with the motion carrying.

OLD BUSINESS

Mrs. Helbig reported that she has heard nothing from Shannon Steele regarding the solicitor position.

She also is still looking into having someone set up a web site. PSAB offers the service for a $50 one-time set up fee and $299 yearly cost for maintenance. She is waiting for more information from them as well as other vendors.
She also reviewed the code enforcement report – a letter was sent to the owners of property at 3768 W. 5th regarding rubbish; she is still working with the new owners of the foundry and the car on Orchard Street has been towed so the file is now closed.

Ms Harker provided council with the address for the owner of property on Ann Street who is parking in the road completely blocking it from traffic. A letter will be sent to him with an explanation and request to discontinue blocking the road.

Mr. Little called Mr. Young from the refuse company and reported that he was very cooperative. The worker who had been taking items and throwing garbage cans has been fired. He asked that any misconduct from his employees be reported to him and he will take care of it. Mr. Little picked up the signs and delivered them to the borough garage.

Mr. Heaton reviewed the resolution to accept the county emergency mitigation plan (Resolution 03082012). Ms. Harker moved to adopt the resolution and was seconded by Mr. Little. The motion passed unanimously. Tires were purchased from Meyer's for the Bobcat at a cost of $1231. That was the lowest quote.

Mr. Bostek reported that all contracts for salt purchase have been met. If more is needed, the COG price is the best so use them.
He also reported that some municipalities have filed a law suit regarding Marcellus Shale drilling. The house passed a bill that overrides all municipal ordinances and companies can drill wherever they want. He will attend a meeting to obtain more information. He also spoke with our solicitor who advised him that joining the law suit could be more costly than it's worth.

Chief Jones, Beaver Falls Police, reported that the activity at the park is being watched. He informed council of the very successful Neighborhood Watch Program in effect in Beaver Falls and invited them to attend a meeting to learn more about it. Fliers were handed to council members with the date and time of the meeting. Ms. Harker told the chief that she had a problem with Minuteman about the tickets needed for the police department.

NEW BUSINESS

Mrs. Helbig reported that railroad ties could be purchased at Habitat for Humanity for $5 each to be placed alongside the creek for parking. Mr. Tate had suggested putting in gravel. The discussion will be tabled for another meeting. Blackhawk soccer would like to use the field for practice Monday through Friday. She needs to find out exactly how much they need to use it and have someone come to a meeting. Mrs. Helbig also noted that the hillside property owned by Mr. Tate needs to be cleaned up.

Ms. Harker – none

Mr. Little reported that he has the DEP report and Mr. Heaton will get it and help with filling it out. The MS4 reports are being completed. He also reported that Mr. Emge wants the Jubilee Shelter at the park

every Sunday for tournaments. Mr. Little will find out why and request that Mr. Emge attend a meeting to discuss.

Mr. Heaton reported that on Wednesday the 14th a quarterly emergency management training meeting will be held.
For council, he reported that through 2/29 $7043.00 has been spent and only $5000 was budgeted. He said spending has to be cut. After a phone call with Terry Eckles, he reported that council should purchase 4 signs "No parking either side of the street" and this should resolve the parking problem on High Street. He also reported that some improvements could be made at the park – extra guardrail at Shelter 3 toward the basketball court – approximately 200 feet long by placing guardrail. We have the guardrail but would require about 15 posts. A little could be done each year. Estimates of cost will be obtained and presented at the next meeting. The trees on Boyd Street need trimmed.

Mr. Bostek said that we need to advertise for bids for road resurfacing on Mayfield Alley, tar & chip on Rock and Lenox to be opened at the May meeting. More information is needed prior to advertising. An inspection of borough roads was set up for April 5th at 6:30.

Mr. Heaton reminded council that the borough employee handbook still needs to be reviewed and completed. A committee meeting was scheduled for the 19th.

A motion to pay the borough bills as listed on the bill list was made by Mr. Little, seconded by Mrs. Helbig and passed all in favor.

A motion to ratify purchases made by committees was made by Ms. Harker, seconded by Mr. Heaton and passed all in favor.

Mr. Heaton moved for adjournment at 7:50 p.m., seconded by Mr. Little and passed all in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia J. Lansberry
Borough Secretary