



# Borough of Walnutport Regular Meeting Minutes Thursday June 14, 2012

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- 1. Matthew Newhard, President called the June 14, 2012 regular meeting of the Borough Council to order at 7:01 pm in the Borough Municipal Building, 417 Lincoln Avenue, Walnutport, PA 18088. Mr. Newhard led the Pledge of allegiance**
- 2. Roll Call: Matthew Newhard, President; Michael Gaston, Vice-President; Joan Rehrig, Councilwoman; William Turk, Councilman; David Stankovic, Councilman; Henry Kline, Mayor; Jason Newhard, Engineer; Michael Corriere, Solicitor; Eric Strohl, Road Foreman; Michael Wentz, Grant Coordinator; and Annette Lacko, Secretary/Treasurer.**

Absent-- Lamar Lauer, Councilman, & Harold Greene, Councilman.
- 3. Opportunity for Residents & taxpayers to be Heard**
  - A. Richard Romig Jr., a part time police officer address council about the part time officers getting a raise and the borough paying for their bullet proof vests. Matt explained that it is not in the budget this year. That the secretary and road crew have not gotten a raise in 52 years. The Chief needs to request that in his budget for the New Year when he hands in his budget.**
  - B. Michele Raber and Paul Gass were here about the NL Community Center requesting a letter of support from The Borough of Walnutport. Matt explained that they will discuss it will the Solicitor during an executive session later in the meeting.**
- 4. Motion to approve**
  - A. minutes of the workshop meeting May 3, 2012 and regular meeting May 10, 2012**
  - B. Tax Collector's Monthly Report for May 2012**
  - C. Police Officer's Report for May 2012**
  - D. Zoning Officer's Report for May 2012**
  - E. May 2012 Profit & Loss Report**
  - F. May 2012 Bill List made by Joan. Bill seconded the motion. Motion carried.**

## 5. Standing Committees –

**A. Finance – Michael Gaston - nothing**

**B. Law – Michael Gaston –**

- Mike made the motion to hire Dean Heffelfinger as a part time police officer with the normal training and pay scale. Dave seconded the motion. Motion carried.

**C. Streets – Eric Strohl- nothing**

**D. Solid Waste – Bill Turk**

- Working on garbage contract

**E. Ordinance Review – David Stankovic**

- Flood Insurance Rate Map (waiting on engineer & solicitor)
- Joan made the motion to adopt Ordinance 2012-08. Dave seconded the motion. Motion carried.
- Zoning ordinance change 2012-07 (see attached information)

Dave made the motion to allow the solicitor to take the necessary steps to adopt the zoning ordinance change for the August 2012 meeting. Joan seconded the motion. Motion carried.

**F. Personnel – Joan Rehrig- nothing**

**G. Secretary's announcements**

- Chamber picnic—remember to get your rsvp to Annette or mail in yourself
- Codification—does council want Annette to keep the ordinance book up to date with on a yearly basis? Annette will get a quote of an estimate cost.

**H. Grants- Michael Wentz**

- PPL grant—Bill made the motion to have Mike proceed with the application process. Will cost borough about \$8,500.00 but will save money and get our money back in less than 2 years. Joan seconded the motion. Motion carried.
- Joan made the motion to have Mike apply for sands casino gaming money for a police vehicle and a tractor that will be used with a rotary disk mower. Bill seconded the motion. Motion carried.

**I. Solicitor's Report – everything is on agenda plus he needs a few minutes in executive session for litigation and settlement offer**

**J. Engineer's Report –**

- See report—no change except restroom improvements project. Ashwood dropped off signed contracts. Will have preconstruction meeting the week of the 25<sup>th</sup> of June.
- Discussion about Resolution 87-9—Joan made the motion to have the planning commission make an alley ordinance and vacation plan, what

should be ordained, what should be vacated throughout town. Dave seconded the motion. Motion carried.

- Mike made the motion to authorize the execution of the agreement and contract documents of the restroom project with Ashwood Enterprises continuant the review of the documents by the solicitor and Northampton County. Dave seconded the motion. Motion carried.

**K.** Borough council entered into executive session at 8:10 pm – 9:10 pm – litigation, and police personnel—no action

## **6.** Unfinished Business/issues –

**A.** Street lights-Solicitor working on

**B.** Canal FEMA/PEMA—working on paperwork

**C.** Emergency Management Coordinator & Deputy

- Mike made the motion to appoint Walter Ingles as the EMC for the Borough of Walnutport. Dave seconded the motion. Motion carried.
- Mike made the motion to appoint Michael Wentz as the Deputy EMC for the Borough of Walnutport. Dave seconded the motion. Motion carried.

**D.** Appoint TCC representative resolution 2012-06

- Mike made the motion to appoint Robert Treskot as the primary voting delegate, Matthew Newhard as the first alternate, and Annette Lacko as the second alternate (resolution 2012-06). Joan seconded the motion. Motion carried.

**E.** NLCC—Mike made the motion to have the solicitor prepare a letter of support. Dave seconded the motion. Motion carried.

**F.** Lease for farm land in Lehigh Township (Lorah Farm-leasee/renter)—Rick will review the lease and speak to Mr. Lorah about the conditions of the lease

**G.** Elk lighting property swap (see attached)

**H.** NIZ litigation resolution 2012-07—motion to adopt resolution 2012-07 made by Dave. Joan seconded the motion. Motion carried.

**I.** Nickeloid easement (see attached)

## **7.** New Business –

**A.** REMINDER there will only be one meeting in July Only July 5<sup>th</sup> due to Walnutport Playground Associations annual carnival that runs July 10-14, 2012

**B.** Letter from Slatington Library looking for donations---will look at the budget and where the borough stands towards the end of the year.

- C.** Wayne Weidner asked if the Fire police could have permission to help with traffic control in Lehigh Township this Saturday for a welcoming route for a veteran returning home from Afghanistan. Bill made the motion to allow the fire police to help. Mike seconded the motion. Motion carried.
- D.** Joan made the motion to change the borough office hours to be Monday – Friday 8:00 am – 4:00 pm. Bill seconded the motion. Motion carried.
- E.** Bill made the motion to reimburse Holly Carlson \$15.00 for a posting error in her garbage account. Mike seconded the motion. Motion carried.
- F.** Cell tower agreement—solicitor will send letter to the correct party to take care of the weeds and grass
- G.** Purchase bucket truck with Slatington—council will look into what we can do and what we can afford to do. Matt will see when their committee meeting is and two council members will meet with their committee

**8.** Mayor's Announcements – Have a Happy and Safe Independence Day (the 4<sup>th</sup> of July)!!! & Happy Fathers day to all the fathers out there.

**9.** Thank you to the boy scouts who were present to observe a public meeting!

**10.** Adjournment- motion to adjourn the meeting made by Joan at 9:30 pm. Bill seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted by,

Annette S. Lacko, Secretary/Treasurer