



Borough of Walnutport Workshop Meeting Minutes Thursday, February 7, 2013

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- 1.** Matthew Newhard, President called the February 7, 2013 workshop meeting of the Borough Council to order at 7:03 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; Harold Greene, Councilman; David Stankovic, Councilman; Michael Corriere, Solicitor; Michael Wentz, Grant Coordinator; and Annette Lacko, Secretary/Treasurer. Henry Kline, Mayor-ABSENT
- 3.** Borough council entered into executive session to discuss possible litigation. 7:04 -7:37 pm
- 4.** Concord Public Financing-Jamie presented the options for the refinancing of the smaller loan and getting additional funds for the capital improvements needed (roof)
 - A.** Joan made the motion to accept Susquehanna Bank's office for 7 years fixed at 2.75%. Bill seconded the motion. Motion carried.
 - B.** Mike made the motion to approve ordinance 2013-03. Harold seconded the motion. Motion carried.
- 5.** Appoint vacant council seat
 - A.** Motion was made to conduct as comity of whole (suspend Roberts rules)
 - B.** Council discussed the 3 candidates and how they wanted to proceed.
 - C.** Mike made the motion to nominate Laura Stauffer
 - D.** Joan made the motion to nominate James Batdorf
 - E.** Dave made the motion to nominate Patrice Hunsicker
 - F.** Council was handed a piece of blank paper where they each wrote down their name along with each nominee with a vote of yes or no for the vacant council seat.

Vote was as follows

 1. Patrice Hunsicker-yes by Mike, Matt, Harold
 2. Laura Stauffer-yes by Dave, Mike, Bill, Joan, Harold
 3. James Batdorf-yes by Mike
 - G.** Mike made the motion to appoint Mrs. Laura Stauffer to the vacant council position. Joan seconded the motion. Motion carried.
- 6.** Opportunity for Residents & taxpayers to be Heard
 - A.** Brian Filchner and council had a discussion on a few issues.
 - i.** When will the WPA be able to get back in the building—waiting on final inspection
 - ii.** Use of facility forms—will give to Annette or Wayne until the Rec Board starts meeting regularly
 - iii.** Baseball/softball sign up fees—Y r they so expensive—Brian also said they would be using West End fields because there are too many teams to all have time on the fields here in Walnutport.
- 7.** Standing Committees –
 - A.** Finance – Michael Gaston – tax collector issue – Mr. Corriere said it is past the time line to do anything else until 2017.
 - B.** Law – Harold Greene
 - i.** Harold read a letter that was received today
"Members of Borough Council, Please accept this letter as my intent to retire as Chief of Police effective April 3, 2013. My last day of work will be February 28, 2013. I will then be using accumulated time till April 3, 2013. Respectfully, Joseph W Pennisi Chief of Police."

- ii. Harold made the motion to accept Chief Pennisi' retirement letter. Dave seconded the motion. Motion carried.
 - iii. Harold made the motion to promote Sergeant Peter Wayda to interim Chief effective April 4, 2013 until a replacement is hired. Mike seconded the motion. Motion carried.
- C. Streets – Harold Greene**
- i. Mike made the motion to approve the change order for the 215 Lincoln Avenue restroom project for \$1,588.00. Joan seconded the motion. Motion carried.
 - ii. There was a meeting with Penn Dot, Borough of Slatington, Borough of Walnutport, and Julie Harhart. We finally received a letter with the answers about snow removal on the bridge. Penn Dot will do it after the streets are taken care of.
- D. Solid Waste – Bill Turk**
- i. Motion to waive service for 322 Kiddie Lane, 316 N Best Ave, & 209 Main Street made by Bill. Dave seconded the motion. Motion carried.
 - ii. Mike, Matt, & Annette met with GreenStar (attachments). We are getting better rate than in contract.
- E. Recreation –Joan Rehrig-**
- i. Still looking to fill 2 seats on board – both seats expired 2012-
 - 1) 3 year term and 1) 4 year term
- F. Ordinance Review – David Stankovic –**
- i. Flood Insurance Rate Map
 - ii. Dumpster- the original plan for the dumpster permit was to prevent dumpsters from sitting on properties for an extended period of time.
- G. Personnel – David Stankovic/Joan Rehrig**
- i. Mike made the motion to allow the chief to advertise for 2 - 32 hour position officers. Bill seconded the motion. Motion carried. Mike will talk to the chief tomorrow so he advertises.
- H. Grants-Michael Wentz**
- i. PPL grant-inspected last week waiting on the occupancy sensors
 - ii. CGBG- going to apply for playground again. Only have to update numbers
 - i. This year he will apply for the streets again. Only have to update numbers
 - iii. Traffic light was denied. He will try to put it in again. (@\$80K)
 - iv. Mike will meet with county to see if we can use money anywhere else in the building before we have to give back
- I. Secretary announcement/notes**
- Audit- they are about 80% complete with our audit already this year
 - Letter from PADEP about recycling grant act 101. We will get about \$4K for 2010
 - Mike made to motion to allow Annette to add any non profits that benefit our residents to our website. Joan seconded the motion. Motion carried.
- 8. New Business –**
- A.** Mike made the motion to reimbursement to Corriere & Andrea for Elk lighting filing fees and transfer tax fees. Dave seconded the motion. Motion carried.
- B.** 2 letters from Northern Lehigh Events Committee
- i. Permission to hold parade on Main Street was made b Mike. Harold seconded the motion. Motion carried.
 - ii. Permission to use pavilion to serve refreshments after parade was made by Bill. Mike seconded the motion. Motion carried.
- C.** Discuss with Day care hall way use/entry door

- D.** Dumpster reimbursement- Dave made the motion to have Annette reimburse anyone who put a dumpster in a yard and received a permit for it, in the last 6 months. Harold seconded the motion. Motion carried.

9. Unfinished Business –

- A.** Canal FEMA/PEMA—working on paperwork/bid docs
- B.** Easement with 4683 Timberline Road (Estate of Martha Kern)
- C.** Reappointment for Zoning Hearing Board
 - i.** Donald Evans term expired 1-1-13...motion made by Mike. Joan seconded the motion. Motion carried.
- D.** DROP (keep on until we get answers)
- E.** SSM is working on bid specs for roof

- 10.** Adjournment – motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Joan at 9:50 pm. Bill seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted by,

Annette S. Lacko, Secretary/Treasurer