



Borough of Walnutport Regular Meeting Minutes Thursday August 13, 2015

The public is advised that the Borough of Walnutport Public meeting is being recorded for transcription purposes only and is intended only for the use of a Borough Secretary in transcribing the official meeting minutes. The tape is made solely for the employees own personal use and does not have an official purpose.

1. Michael Gaston, Vice-President called the August 13, 2015 regular meeting of the Borough Council to order at 7:01 pm in the Borough Municipal Building, 417 Lincoln Avenue, Walnutport, PA 18088. Mr. Gaston led the Pledge of allegiance.
2. Roll Call: Matthew Newhard, President (8:10 pm); Joan Rehrig, Councilwoman; Michael Gaston, Vice-President; David Stankovic, Councilman; William Turk, Councilman; Patrice Hunsicker, Councilwoman; Wayne Weidner, Mayor; Michael Corriere, Solicitor; Jason Newhard, Engineer; Michael Wentz, Grant Coordinator; Eric Strohl, Road Foreman; Sean Corey, Zoning Officer & BCO; and Annette Lacko, Secretary/Treasurer. Harold Greene, Councilman & Chief Peter Wayda-Absent.
3. In attendance: Ricky Smith, Charles Gaston, Mike & Ricky Haring, Brian Filchner, Robert Treskot, & Marilyn Kaul.
4. Opportunity for Residents & taxpayers to be Heard
 - A. Mike Wentz, Ricky Smith, and Charles Gaston trustees from the Diamond Fire Company were here to discuss their tax exempt status and the taxes they had to pay since the deed change last year. Bill made the motion to reimburse Diamond Fire Company \$4,607.20 for real estate taxes they paid due to delinquency. Joan seconded the motion. Motion carried. Bill made the motion to have solicitor at the tax exemption hearing stating the borough supports the exemption. Dave seconded the motion. Motion carried.
 - B. Brian Filchner representing the WPA asking about the dugout. Council reminded Mr. Filchner that the engineer needs to get new numbers to the grant coordinator so he can apply for grant by September 30th. Road Foreman spoke with PPL. They will not charge up to turn off power to fix the building. It would cost about \$3,000 to move the panel to the other building. Council decided the electric would be in a small room right outside the door so the panel would only be moved a few feet so it wouldn't cost any more money and dugout can be fixed.
 - C. Marilyn Kaul asked for update on Hedmeck property. Solicitor informed council this is the property he couldn't locate on the map when the search was done. This information was passed back to Mr. Kaul last year. Another attorney contact Mr. Corriere about this issue and he will work with him to find the property on the map and move forward. Mr. Corriere will update council at next month's meeting. Mrs. Kaul also asked for an update on Lock 24. Engineer stated we are still waiting on DEP.
5. Motion to approve A-G by general consent made by Joan.
 - A. Minutes of the workshop/regular meeting July 8, 2015
 - B. Tax Collector's Monthly Report for July 2015
 - C. Zoning Officer's Report for July 2015
 - D. Build Code Officials Report for July 2015
 - E. July 2015 Profit & Loss Report
 - F. July 2015 Bill List
 - G. Police report July 2015. Dave seconded motion. Motion carried. (5-0)

6. Standing Committees –

A. Finance – Mike & Matt

- Lehigh County-911 invoice this item was tabled until later in meeting.

B. Law –Mike-nothing

C. Streets – Bill & David Motion to approve spot paving up to \$12,000.00 made by Patrice. Bill seconded that motion. Motion carried. (6-0) vote

D. Solid Waste – Matt & Patrice-discussed in executive session-contractual matter

E. Recreation –Patrice & Joan-nothing

F. Ordinance Review – Dave & Bill

- Business/Rental license update will be advertised for next month's meeting

G. Personnel – Joan, David, & Harold- nothing

H. Grants-Michael Wentz

- Salt shed will be submitted by September 1st
- Dugout will be submitted by September 30th and awarded in December. Mike is trying to meet with representative to get this project approved so we can have dugout fixed this fall and just wait for reimbursement from grant. The dugout will not last another bad winter.
- DEP toter grant. Annette has call into Toter Company to order additional toters for grant. Since we handed out educational material/information when they were delivered, the grant will pay for the assembly and delivery.
- Need a few minutes in executive session about one of contracts

I. Secretary/Treasurer's report

- Email back up pricing (police & borough & authority)-Patrice made motion to allow email to be changed to Microsoft/cloud so we have an archive period that would follow the right to know policy. Bill seconded the motion. Motion carried.
- Annette handed out the flyer/mailer that is going to be sent out next week.

J. Engineer's Report

- Darren Heckman was here and spoke on behalf of Doggy Style.
- Joan made motion to grant conditional approval with conditions to be met in SSM's letter dated July 8, 2015. Dave seconded the motion. Motion carried.
- Dave made the motion to grant a waiver for the submission of a traffic impact study (section 395.55B and allow the plan to be submitted as a Preliminary/Final Plan. Joan seconded the motion. Motion carried.
- Dave made motion to approve 15 minute customer parking only/loading parking (about 2 spots) on RR right next to proposed Doggy Style. Bill seconded the motion. Motion carried.
- The developers are planning to use porous asphalt as a storm water best management practice in order to meet retainage and infiltration requirements. Council should also note that the developers have agreed to improve Bakers Alley to Borough specifications along the developers' property frontage.
- Nothing else to report.

K. Solicitor's report

- Solicitor and Engineer will be attending the ZHB on September 1st at 5:30
- Solid waste contract is next year so we are a little ahead of schedule
- Appeals hearings-September 9, 2015
 - 233 Main Street-Mennonite Congregation @ 3:00
 - 110 Main Street-Diamond Fire Company @ 3:20

7. New Business –
 - A. Patrice made the motion to allow fire police to help direct traffic during NL Halloween Parade. Dave seconded the motion. Motion carried.
8. Council entered into executive session from 7:50 - 8:36 pm to discuss litigation, property purchase. No action taken.
9. Unfinished Business – some items will not be acted upon for several months ~ this is a reminder that they are a work in process
 - A. Open seats of the following boards
 - UCC & Property Maintenance
 - Vacancy Board
 - Recreation board
 - Representative on the Slatington Public library
 - B. Slatington Public Library-need a board member to represent Walnutport
 - C. J2SW1A81033 (N Canal Street)-Annette filed the paper work-waiting on Northampton County
 - D. 911 invoice-Mr. Corriere will be sending letters to Northampton and Lehigh County to get this straightened out.
10. Upcoming events-
 - A. E-Recycling event September 16, 2015
 - B. Walnutport Canal Festival Sunday October 18, 2015
 - C. Trick or Treat Wednesday October 28, 2015; 6-8 pm; RAIN OR SHINE
 - D. Halloween parade October 31st
11. Mayor's Announcements – will be swearing in new officer after meeting.
12. Adjournment- Joan made the motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:18 pm. Matt seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted by,

Annette S. Lacko, Secretary/Treasurer