



Borough of Walnutport Regular Meeting Minutes Thursday December 15, 2016 7:00 pm

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- 1.** William Turk, President called the December 15, 2016 regular meeting of the Borough Council to order at 7:02 pm in the Borough Municipal Building, 417 Lincoln Avenue, Walnutport, PA 18088. Mr. Turk led the Pledge of allegiance
- 2.** Roll Call: William Turk, President; Harold Greene, Vice-President; Joan Rehrig, Councilwoman; Nancy Treskot, Councilwoman; David Stankovic, Councilman; Aaron Kromer, Councilman; Patrice Hunsicker, Councilwoman; Wayne Weidner, Mayor; Michael Corriere, Solicitor; Jason Newhard, Engineer; Michael Wentz, Grant Coordinator; Chief Peter Wayda; and Annette Lacko, Secretary/Treasurer.
- 3.** Present from the public ~ Al Acker, Timothy Dennis, Ed Zeigler, and Kelly Androide-Times News.
- 4.** Opportunity for Residents & taxpayers to be Heard
 - A.** Ed Zeigler spoke to council about the speed limit being changed on Route 946 in Lehigh Township. He paid for the signs. He would like the speed limit sign by Burger King changed or taken down. It still says 55. We will look into whose sign it is and have it taken care of.
- 5.** Motion to approve A-G by general consent made by Joan. Harold seconded the motion.
 - A.** Minutes of the workshop meeting November 6, 2016 and regular meeting November 10, 2016
 - B.** Tax Collector's Monthly Report for November 2016
 - C.** Zoning Officer's Report for November 2016
 - D.** Build Code Officials Report for November 2016
 - E.** November 2016 Profit & Loss Report
 - F.** November 2016 Bill List
 - G.** Police report November 2016. Motion carried.
- 6.** Budget hearing-Tim Dennis gave council a few ideas on how to reduce taxes since council advertised a .5 mil tax increase. Nancy explained to Mr. Dennis if you think it's easy he should run for council and sit at the table and make the decisions. We cant reduce taxes when we have to pay salaries, insurances, fix heating system in this building and all the other expenses that have increased this year.
- 7.** Standing Committees –
 - A.** Finance -- Nancy –
 - Annette reminded Nancy of a few changes that need to be made to budget. Workers comp increased, need to add \$2,000 for mulch in the playground next year, and the few changes for grants that Mike Wentz explained.
 - Patrice brought to everyone's attention that the ad in the newspaper for the budget was incorrect. It said adoption was going to be the 8th. Michael Corriere will advertise for December 29th at 7:00 just to do budget no other action will be taken/addressed that night. He will take care of the fees for the advertisement.
 - B.** Law – Harold & Nancy
 - Pension-Harold made the motion to approve the change to the police contract. The police contribution was omitted from contract. It needs to say they contribute 3%. Dave seconded the motion. Motion carried.
 - C.** Streets –David-need short executive session to discuss a possible litigation.
 - D.** Solid Waste – Patrice & Aaron-
 - Garbage service needs to be Monday am instead of Wednesday am. Tamaqua Transfer can not pick up on a Wednesday. They will be sending out a letter from us, letter from them and the pickup schedule. It should be out in the mail by the middle of next week.

- E.** Recreation – Joan & Aaron-day of meeting-2nd Tuesday room is being used by Walnutport Authority- they will meet the 4th Thursday of the month
- F.** Ordinance Review – David & Patrice
 - Dog nuisance ordinance- table to next month when Rick is here.
- G.** Personnel –Harold, Joan, & David- need short executive session.
- H.** Secretary/Treasurer-
 - County/election- Annette reminded everyone that there will be 6 seats on the ballot in 2017.
 - Solvency fee – Aaron made the motion to not participate in this program. Joan seconded the motion. Motion carried.
- I.** Grants-Mike Wentz- already discussed.
- J.** Borough Maintenance & Property Management- Nancy & Rick- just waiting on answers when heating/ac unit will be installed.
- K.** Engineer's Report –
 - Motion to approve payment application #3 (final payment) to Eagle for lock 24 in the amount of \$114,763.50 made by Nancy. Dave seconded the motion. Motion carried.
 - Jason updated everyone on a few developments that will be happening
 1. Craig Deutsch will be submitting forms for a duplex on 300 block of Main Street
 2. Valley Pizza will be redeveloping
 3. Walnutport Authority accepted escrow from Walmart that is going in Lehigh Township
- L.** Solicitor's Report –
 - Needs copy of tax collector's increase in salary. Annette just needs to get Mayors signature then she can pass along.
- 8.** Council entered into an executive session to discuss personnel matter and possible litigation.
 - A.** Aaron made the motion that all Borough of Walnutport properties be posted for no trespassing. If someone wants to hunt on these properties they will have to come into the borough office and sign a waiver and be approved by borough council. The secretaries will copy their hunting and drivers licenses along with getting a description of the vehicle that will be parked on borough property. We will then pass the vehicle information and name along to Lehigh Township police so they are aware who is allowed to be there. Patrice seconded that motion. Motion carried.
- 9.** New Business –Ed Erschen would like to purchase the piece of property that adjoins his in Lehigh Township. Patrice made the motion to allow Mr. Erschen to have an appraisal done on that piece of property for possible sale. Nancy seconded the motion. Motion carried. Annette will get Solicitor the tax parcel ID for that property. Permission needs to be given every year.
- 10.** Unfinished Business – nothing
- 11.** Opportunity for Residents & taxpayers to be Heard-non
- 12.** Mayor's Announcements – Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!!
- 13.** Adjournment-Patrice made the motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:10 pm. Nancy seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted by,

Annette S. Lacko, Secretary/Treasurer