



Borough of Walnutport Regular Meeting Minutes Thursday December 17, 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. Matthew Newhard, President called the December 17, 2015 regular meeting of the Borough Council to order at 6:58 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; Joan Rehrig, Councilwoman; Harold Greene, Councilman; Michael Gaston, Vice-President; David Stankovic, Councilman; William Turk, Councilman; Patrice Hunsicker, Councilwoman (absent); Wayne Weidner, Mayor; Chief Peter Wayda; Michael Corriere, Solicitor; Jason Newhard, Engineer; Eric Strohl, Road Foreman; Michael Wentz, Grant Coordinator; and Annette Lacko, Secretary/Treasurer.
3. Opportunity for Residents & taxpayers to be Heard
 - A. Bob Treskot asked council if Diamond Fire Company was exonerated from real estate taxes. Council informed him that yes, they made the motion to exonerate them. Bob asked what the tax millage will be for 2016. Annette explained to Bob, again, that they will be setting it tonight but they do have till 12-31-15 to set it. Bob told council he got the call from Annette about a budget and has given it to Annette. Matt thanked Bob and informed him council will be reviewing it.
 - B. Seiler asked about Craj Holding. Matt explained it will be discussed later in the meeting.
4. Motion to approve A-G by general consent made by Joan. Bill seconded the motion. Motion carried.
 - A. Minutes of the workshop meeting November 5, 2015, and regular meeting November 12, 2015
 - B. Tax Collector's Monthly Report for November 2015
 - C. Zoning Officer's Report for November 2015
 - D. Build Code Officials Report for November 2015
 - E. November 2015 Profit & Loss Report
 - F. November 2015 Bill List
 - G. Police report November 2015
5. Standing Committees –
 - A. Finance – Mike & Matt
 - 2016 Budget
 - ✓ Motion to approve budget for liquid fuels made by Harold. Joan seconded the motion. Motion carried.
 - ✓ Motion to approve budget for Sanitation made by Joan. David seconded the motion. Motion carried
 - ✓ Motion to transfer \$3,488.51 from sanitation to general fund to add to the roll over monies into 2016 made by Mike. Joan seconded the motion. Motion carried.
 - ✓ Motion to approve budget for general funds made by Harold. Bill seconded the motion. Motion carried.
 - ✓ Motion to approve Ordinance 2015-04 to set 2016 real estate tax mil rate at 18.25 made by Joan. David seconded the motion. Motion carried.
 - B. Law – Harold & Mike
 - Chief Wayda informed council of the accident that Officer Hartman had with 67. He is okay. We are waiting on estimate and insurance company to see what will happen.
 - The Chief ordered the equipment to do electronic tickets. He had enough in his 2015 budget. Annette will send a check out next week. The equipment will be here right after New Year. This will save the officers time and be more legible.
 - C. Streets – Bill & David - nothing

- D. Solid Waste – Matt & Patrice
 - 2016 mailing and calendar from Advanced Disposal-Matt noticed that juice boxes and milk cartons aren't listed. Annette will ask them if they can add that. Motion to approve the mailing made by Joan. Harold seconded the motion. Motion carried.
 - We received a letter about the tipping fee from WM. Our contract states there is no tipping fee. Solicitor will be sending them a letter reminding them of that detail.
- E. Recreation –Patrice & Joan
 - Rick will contact Brian Filchner to get update on when they will move forward with the dugout and to inform him the grant was approved.
- F. Ordinance Review – Dave & Bill - none
- G. Personnel – Joan, David, & Harold - nothing
- H. Secretary/Treasurer's report
 - Revisit closed business licenses- Solicitor review the record retention and recommends that business licenses fall under 3 year record retention. Joan made the motion to allow secretaries to dispose of business licenses that are closed after 3 years. Bill seconded the motion. Motion carried.
- I. Engineer's Report
 - See attached report- no action
- J. Council entered in to an execution session to discuss litigation and a part time personnel matter.
 - The road foreman will be making a phone call to check availability of part timer.
 - Solicitor, Engineer, Zoning Officer, and council president met with Craj Holding and their Solicitor. They proposed a few changes and will be purchasing additional properties to make parking. Motion to have Borough Solicitor work with Craj's Solicitor renegotiating a settlement agreement from the appeal the Borough of Walnutport filed against the Zoning Hearing Board's approval.
- K. Solicitor's report
 - Hedmeck property-if they need council to give a letter of support they will let us know. Property is up for sale.
 - 911 invoices- Solicitor is working with Lehigh County. He will set up a meeting with them and Secretary.
 - A Zoning matter is moving forward and they will be going to Northampton County court.
 - COLA-Joan made the motion to accept the report from our actuary with the COLA change. Dave seconded the motion. Motion carried. Annette will send a letter to the retired police officer.
- 6. New Business – no new business
- 7. Unfinished Business – some items will not be acted upon for several months ~ this is a reminder that they are a work in process
 - A. J2SW1A81033 (N Canal Street)-Annette filed the paper work-waiting on Northampton County
 - B. Newsletter will revisit in January.
- 8. Mayor's Announcements – Wayne wished everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!!!
- 9. Adjournment- Joan made the motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:56 pm. Harold seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted by,

Annette S. Lacko, Secretary