



Borough of Walnutport Regular Meeting Minutes Thursday November 12, 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 November 12, 2015 regular meeting of the Borough Council to order at 6:59 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 (Absent); Michael Gaston, Vice-President (7:25); David Stankovic, Councilman; William Turk, Councilman; Patrice Hunsicker, Councilwoman; 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. In attendance: Bob Treskot, Kelly from Times News, Martha Kahan, Brian Filchner, Al Acker, Fred Seiler, Ronny Seiler, Mr. & Mrs. Benson.
4. Martha Kahan from No Nonsense Neutering – (handouts) – gave a presentation about Trap Neuter Return (TNR) program
5. Opportunity for Residents & taxpayers to be Heard
 - A. Bob Treskot asked council if they were going to reimburse him for his items he submitted earlier in the year. Matt advised Bob that council does not have to reimburse him for his schooling or memberships. Council will look at the reimbursements next month when we know where we stand financially.
 - B. Brian Filchner is waiting on update on dug out.
 - C. Seilers' would like to know where thing stand with the appeal/variance on Washington Street. Solicitor let know we filed appeal on all 3 issues. Next step is the ZHB solicitor.
6. Motion to approve A-G by general consent made by Joan. David seconded the motion. Motion carried.
 - A. Minutes of the workshop meeting October 1, 2015, and regular meeting October 8, 2015
 - B. Tax Collector's Monthly Report for October 2015
 - C. Zoning Officer's Report for October 2015
 - D. Build Code Officials Report for October 2015
 - E. October 2015 Profit & Loss Report
 - F. October 2015 Bill List
 - G. Police report October 2015
7. Standing Committees –
 - A. Finance – Mike & Matt
 - Mike made the motion to reimburse Fire Company \$2,433.00 for training. Bill seconded the motion. Motion carried.
 - Budget was tabled to later in meeting discussed from 8:30-10:30 pm.
 - Motion to take a 10 minute recess for Annette to update numbers made by Joan. David seconded the motion. Motion carried
 - Motion to come back into session made by Joan. David seconded the motion. Motion carried.
 - Council worked on numbers again then

- o Joan made motion to have Annette go update numbers. Bill seconded the motion. Motion carried.
- o Joan made the motion to come back into session. David seconded the motion. Motion carried.
- o Joan made the motion to approve the preliminary budget with 4th police officer effective 7/1/15 with a deficit of \$11,908.51. Motion seconded by Bill. Motion carried.
- o Joan made the motion to advertise a .25 mil increase for 2016. Bill seconded the motion. Motion carried.
- o Motion to reschedule December's regular meeting from the 10th to the 17th made by Joan. Bill seconded the motion. Motion carried. Instead of having a special meeting this would save time.

B. Law – Harold & Mike

- Chief Wayda informed council that the drug box was delivered. He is just waiting on the streets department to anchor it to the floor and it can start being used.

C. Streets – Bill & David

- Guys are busy crack sealing, picking up leaves. Livengood Exc started today to fix streets that were approved several months ago.

D. Solid Waste – Matt & Patrice—still getting lots of complaints about pick up.

E. Recreation –Patrice & Joan - nothing

F. Ordinance Review – Dave & Bill

- Motion to approve Ordinance 2015-03 24 hours garbage out made by David. Patrice seconded the motion. Motion carried.
- Motion to approve Ordinance 2015-02 time line mercantile tax made by Joan. David seconded the motion. Motion carried.

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

H. Secretary/Treasurer's report

- Motion to approve resolution 2015-06 Police Pension Plan made by Joan. David seconded the motion. Motion carried.
- Closed business files-7 years
- Annette confirmed with RRS we will do e-recycling events the 3rd Wednesday of May and September every year.

I. Grants- Michael Wentz-Mike asked to talk to council in an executive session for a personnel matter before he gives his report. Council went through the rest of the agenda, went into executive session then came back to grants.

- Dugout-Mike went down and presented the dugout project. The committee approved it. Now it goes to open space council then final approval needed from county commissioners. He got okay to start project. This project we need to submit cancelled checks and invoices to get reimbursed the \$9,957.50 there is about \$26K available. They asked what other projects we might be thinking about. Mike informed them council was thinking about that rubberized matting for the playground.

J. Engineer's Report

- See attached report
- Joan made the motion authorizing Engineer to start Lehigh Street project (CDBG grant) getting some of the surveying done before the snow falls.

K. Solicitor's report

- New rate sheet for Solicitor

- 911 invoices. Waiting on Lehigh County's response
 - Need brief executive session about litigation
 - Spoke with rep from WM about GreenStar-Annette is looking for more paperwork and will get back to Michael as soon as that is located
8. New Business –
- A. PPL letter-just file
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 (2 seats)
 - Vacancy Board (1 seat)
 - Recreation board (7 seats)
 - Representative on the Slatington Public library (1 seat)
- B. J2SW1A81033 (N Canal Street)-Annette filed the paper work-waiting on Northampton County
- C. Hedmeck property (Solicitor working on)
- D. 911 invoices (Solicitor working on)
- E. Newsletter
- F. View Drive-informed council about property sold up there
- G. BB&T – Annette to set up appointment with branch manager and regional manager about how accounts changed, service charges etc.
- H. Council would like checks signed by either President or vice president and a secretary, not 2 secretaries.
10. Council was in an executive session to discuss litigation and employee issue from 7:45-8:06 pm. No action taken.
11. Mayor's Announcements – nothing
12. Adjournment- Joan made the motion to adjourn the meeting at 10:41 pm. Patrice seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted By,

Annette S. Lacko, Secretary/Treasurer