



Borough of Walnutport

Workshop/Regular Meeting Minutes

Thursday July 6, 2017 7:00 pm

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. William Turk President called the July 6, 2017 regular meeting of the Borough Council to order at 7:00 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; Jennifer Wentz, Councilwoman; Patrice Hunsicker, Councilwoman; Wayne Weidner, Mayor; Michael Corriere, Solicitor; Jason Newhard, Engineer; Michael Wentz, Grant Coordinator; Eric Strohl, Road Foreman/Code Enforcement Officer; and Debbie Paules, Asst. Secretary.
3. Present from the public-Vince Morris, WCA; Ed Ziegler; Ron Bauer; Donald Eckhart; John Pettit; & Joe DePascale.
4. Opportunity for Residents & taxpayers to be Heard –
 - A. Mr. Morris from the Canal Association informed Council that they are planning to install a new bridge at the canal. A discussion was held regarding this matter and it was decided that Jason would look at the project before it was started. A Motion was made by Patrice to have Jason look at the project if he feels that what they have planned is ok to proceed the project will be approved. (Harold also brought to the Councils attention that while on a call with the Fire Company there was a pole sticking out of the ground. Apparently it has some historical value and Jason will look into this matter and make suggestions. Harold was concerned someone could become injured if the feel on the pole.) Motion was seconded by David. Motion carried
5. Motion to approve
 - A. Minutes of the workshop meeting June 1, 2017 & regular meeting June 8, 2017
 - B. Tax Collector's Monthly Report for June 2017
 - C. Zoning Officer's Report for June 2017
 - D. Build Code Officials Report for June 2017
 - E. June 2017 Profit & Loss Report
 - F. June 2017 Bill List
 - G. Police report June 2017

Nancy made a motion to accept items A, B, C, E, & F (there were no reports from D & G). Motion was seconded by Jen. Motion carried.
6. Standing Committees –
 - A. Finance – Nancy
 - Nancy stated she is waiting for requested information for the budget. She hopes to have a preliminary for September Workshop meeting. She needs reports and request from all Department heads. She asked that Pete be reminded of this.

- Nancy discussed the repairs needed at Day Care. She would like to have a total so she can work on new Rental agreement. Rick told her he would be sure she got the figures.
- Nancy requested that the bill list council receives for meeting be made available before meeting night. She had questions and would like to have the time to look over it more carefully before meeting.

B. Law – Harold & Jennifer – NOTHING TO REPORT

C. Streets/buildings –David & Harold

- David reported the Salt shed is moving along nicely.
- He was also disappointed with the clean up after the street projects.

D. Personnel – Bill, Harold, David – NOTHING TO REPORT

E. Ordinance – Jennifer

- Tax relief-volunteer fire fighter – Jen responded to this topic with help from Mike. A very long discussion was held regarding this matter. It was decided that more information is still needed, therefore it will remain on the agenda until resolved.
- 2017-06 parking RR for hot dog shop (motion to approve) = Motion to approve Ordinance 2017 -06 was made by Harold. Seconded by David. Motion carried.

F. Solid Waste – Patrice

- Patrice is hoping for the additional dumpster at the Fire Co. to happen soon.
- Bill brought up the topic of late Garbage payments. A discussion was held and a Motion was made by Harold that if a payment is in the drop box the morning of the next business day after the due date it should be considered as a onetime payment. This is a change to past practice. Also we will now look at the postmark date and if it is the due date or before the payment will be considered on time. Any late payment envelopes will need to be stamped and kept as proof that they were mailed after the due date. Motion was seconded by Nancy. Motion carried.

G. Recreation Board- Jennifer Wentz

- NL Recreation Authority- Nancy
- Walnutport Playground Association & Walnutport Canal Association-Joan
- It was reported that the Playground has found a stage for the Carnival. They are also looking into fabricating their own. A grant may be available through NL Recreation as reported by Nancy.
- It was brought to Council's attention that the Borough agreed and passed in a previous months minutes to pay for a new roof on the building located at the playground. Nancy questioned if they were ever notified or given the money. She asked that a letter be written telling them to move ahead with the project. Amount of money approved \$1,500.00. Jen will write the letter.

H. Code Enforcement Officer – Eric Strohl -Rick verbally gave his Code Enforcement Officer report.

I. Grants- Michael Wentz

- Mike gave an update on some grants in process.
- He also said he and Jason had a conversation with a Mr. Brooks regarding Federal monies released to the County. It was regarding blighted properties. A discussion was held regarding a property that Mr. Brooks thought may fall into this category. Mike's suggestion that since there are many parts involved in this process it would be better to have Mr. Brooks attend the next regular meeting on August 10. Council agreed with this.

J. Engineer's Report –

- See report
- Motion for final payment for the Oil/Chip Street Project: Shiffer Bituminous Services for \$36,826.47. Motion to pay was made by Nancy. Motion was seconded by Patrice. Motion carried.

- Taco Bell approval from Planning Commission

Joe DePascale and John Pettit reviewed the plans for Taco Bell. Wayne had a question regarding traffic congestion. Jason felt that since no changes were made to the driveway entrances there was no problem for the Borough. A Motion to approve waivers for preliminary/final submission as noted comments 6A,B & C and from SSM review letter dated 6/6/17 and Section 2 from Broughal and DeVito letter dated 6/15/17 was made by Nancy. Motion was seconded by Patrice. All yes's

- A motion was made to Approve Conditional preliminary/final plans with waivers of 6ABC, SSM Letter dated 6/6/17 and from Broughal and DeVito letter of 6/15/17 section 2 conditioned upon satisfying comment's in SSM letter dated 6/6/17. Motion was made by Nancy. Motion was seconded by Patrice. All yes's
- Motion was made to approve Conditional Preliminary/Final plan conditioned on improvements agreement to be executed by the developer and Borough. Motion was made by David. Seconded by Harold. Motion carried.

K. Solicitor's Report –

- 911 issue with Lehigh County & Northampton County-O'Donnell, city solicitor reached out to Mr. Mulchany – he is waiting on him moving forward.
- Gogel - Attorney requested Executive Session -

7. NEW BUSINESS:

A. Letter of interest for vacancy board - Letter was received from Matt Newhard. Motion to accept his letter to appoint him to the position was made by Nancy. Motion seconded by Joan. All yes's

B. Hunting permits 2017/2018 Motion to approve – Motion was made by Patrice to approve the hunting permits for the three people listed. Motion was seconded by David. Motion carried.

- Brian Lutz
- Christopher Prutzman
- Ronald Prutzman

- C. A discussion was held regarding the number of permits that will be approved. Some Council members felt that there may be a need to put a cap on the number of permits. Not action was taken at this time.
8. Unfinished Business – NONE
 9. Went into Executive session requested by Atty. 8:45 – 9:25 Legal and personnel matter.
 10. Mayor's Announcements – Wayne asked Council members to please volunteer time for the Carnival next week. He made the paper available.
 11. Adjournment- Motion to adjourn was made by Patrice. Motion was seconded by Nancy. Motion carried.

Respectively Submitted by,

Deborah L. Paules
Assistant Secretary

