



Borough of Walnutport Regular Meeting Minutes Thursday June 8, 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 June 8, 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; Eric Strohl, Road Foreman/Code Enforcement Officer; and Annette Lacko, Secretary/Treasurer.
3. Present from the public- Kelley Andrade-Times News, Debbie Paules, Michael Wentz, Michael Gaston, Janet Gaston, Ed Ziegler, Jason Biechy, Robert Bauer, John Barto, Tyler Minnich, Kyle Foster, Thomas John, Michael Dalessandro, & Donald Eckhart.
4. Opportunity for Residents & taxpayers to be Heard – They are all here to speak at the hearing and agenda items.
5. John Barto-install storm piping along the vacant lot he just purchased-Nancy made the motion to allow the owner to install piping on the said property to tie into our existing system (at the owner's expense). David seconded the motion. Motion carried.
6. Fire Company- tax relief for volunteer fire fighters- there was a discussion on the new PA law. Mike Wentz will get the required information to borough office and Michael Corriere will look into the other questions. This item will be discussed for the next several months. (7:40 pm)
7. Hearing for vacating Cherry Alley-several residents spoke to council about this issue
 - A. Michael Gaston on behalf of his aunt Janet Gaston-against
 - B. Jason Biechy - against
 - C. Tyler Minnich - against
 - D. Kyle Foster – against
 - E. David made the motion to deny the petition to vacate Cherry Alley due to there is not 51% of the neighbors signing the petition or in favor of the vacation. Jenn seconded the motion. Motion carried.
8. Motion to approve A-G made by Nancy. Patrice seconded the motion. Motion carried.
 - A. Minutes of the workshop meeting May 4, 2017 & regular meeting May 11, 2017
 - B. Tax Collector's Monthly Report for May 2017
 - C. Zoning Officer's Report for May 2017
 - D. Build Code Officials Report for May 2017
 - E. May 2017 Profit & Loss Report
 - F. May 2017 Bill List
 - G. Police report May 2017

9. Standing Committees –

A. Finance – Nancy

- Nancy brought up the problem with the canal that will need to be fixed next year. We will need about \$15,000 to fix the side wall of the canal that is falling down before it starts effecting the road. Nancy made the motion to allow Jason (borough engineer) to start process of water encroachment permit. David seconded the motion. Motion carried. The permit process will take months that is why we need to wait till next year to fix.

B. Law – Harold & Jennifer - nothing

C. Streets/buildings –David & Harold

- Salt shed, oil & chip, & paving project as scheduled to all start next week.
- Mulch is being done next Saturday. There are a lot of volunteers coming. Jason figured out we need 108 yards. It is about \$3,000.

D. Solid Waste – Patrice

- Reminder garbage bills are due June 12th
- There is a new driver
- Damage to a property on Green Street. Patrice is working with him and hauler to fix damage.
- Still no dumpster at Fire Company. Patrice will talk to them ask when it will be placed and remind them about extra dumpster for carnival in July.

E. Recreation Board- Jennifer Wentz

- NL Recreation Authority- Nancy reminded everyone of the movie in the part at the eagles nest this Saturday at dusk. The Chamber raised \$3,800 at their mini golf event.
- Walnutport Playground Association & Walnutport Canal Association-Joan
 - Bill said Joan will get paid \$25.00 per event that she opens the pavilion. Jimmy will clean up after each event instead of hiring someone separate to clean.
 - Band shell for WPA carnival-Annette was informed we cannot have it the week we need it because their carnival was

F. Code Enforcement Officer – Eric Strohl

- A bunch of phone calls, 2 letters, 1 hearing, & 5 inspections

G. Engineer's Report –

- See report
- Salt Shed-starting demo next week
- First Avenue-pre construction meeting Tuesday 10:00 am
- 2017 Street Improvements-both contractors are starting next week. Should be done till end of week...weather permitting

H. Solicitor's Report –

- 911 issue with Lehigh County & Northampton County-waiting on answer to have meeting
- Marijuana ordinance-Nancy made motion to send to Planning Commission to come up with an ordinance. Joan seconded the motion. Motion carried.

- Mini cell tower- Nancy made the motion to send to the planning commission. Dave seconded the motion. Motion carried.

10. New Business – nothing

11. Unfinished Business –

A. Per capita issue from last week – Annette spoke to Berkheimer

- Patrice made the motion to waive the \$25.00 fee for Nicole Double but she must pay Berkheimer the \$11.00 for the per capita bill. Joan seconded the motion. Motion carried.

12. Mayor's Announcements

A. The Chief and the Mayor would like borough council to authorize 2 police officers to be on duty during the carnival day/times. If they get a call there usually it involves 2 individuals and 1 officer has a hard time taking care of that situation. Dave made the motion to allow 2 officers to be on duty during those times. They cannot be 2 full time officers. Joan seconded the motion. Motion carried.

B. The cursing issue was addressed

C. The police will be patrolling the playground more often to keep the kids from hanging out and destroying/vandalizing the property.

13. Executive session to discuss personnel matter 9:06 - 9:40 pm- no action

14. Adjournment- Nancy made the motion to adjourn the meeting. Joan seconded the motion. Motion carried at 9:40 pm.

Respectfully Submitted by,

Annette S. Lacko, Secretary/Treasurer