



Borough of Walnutport Regular Meeting Minutes

Thursday October 12, 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 October 12, 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 (absent); Nancy Treskot, Councilwoman; David Stankovic, Councilman; Jennifer Wentz, Councilwoman; Patrice Hunsicker, Councilwoman (absent); Wayne Weidner, Mayor; Michael Corriere, Solicitor; Jason Newhard, Engineer; Eric Strohl, Road Foreman/Code Enforcement Officer; Michael Wentz, Grant Coordinator; Chief Peter Wayda; and Annette Lacko, Secretary/Treasurer.
3. Present from the public- Kelley Andrae-Times News, Marilyn Kaul, Jeanne Boehrer, Rod Hatcher, Ron Bauer, Don Eckhart, Dan & Emil Solderitz, Ricky Smith, Todd, Andrews, Tim Dennis, & Mike Gaston.
4. Opportunity for Residents & taxpayers to be Heard –
 - A. Marilyn Kaul-from WCA- asked council about Northern Tier Trail. She wants the WCA kept in the loop. Council explained they have no idea what is going on that we just received a request for our comprehensive plan. We will include them in all emails pertaining to the project as we get them. She also Thanked Rick or whoever for putting up the canal banners. She would like them to be put up in spring and keep up till after festival every year.
 - B. Rod Hatcher from Green Street wanted council to know the garbage truck drove over his yard, again...this is the third time this year. What are we going to do about this? He doesn't want to see the rest of the neighbor suffer for something the garbage company is doing. Rick talked to council about possible opening up the other end, getting the fence moved and ordaining the street. Michael Corriere and Jason Newhard will look into what needs to be done.
 - C. Dan Solderitz-gave Michael Corriere the rest of the information that was needed for his street vacating petition. He agreed he will pay for the advertisements.
 - D. Ricky Smith wanted to thank Patrice for taking care of the dumpster issue. DFC now has the original size dumpster they have had in the past. They will make sure they are letting air out of bags to make more room in the dumpster. Patrice had stopped in last Friday to explain what happened to the staff at DFC.
 - E. Todd Andrews wanted to talk to council about the smart meters that PPL is putting in. He says they cause cancer and want to know if the borough wants to help in preventing them from being installed.
5. Motion to approve A-g made by Nancy. David seconded the motion. Motion carried.
 - A. Minutes of the regular meeting August 10, 2017
 - B. Tax Collector's Monthly Report for August 2017
 - C. Zoning Officer's Report for August 2017
 - D. Build Code Officials Report for August 2017
 - E. August 2017 Profit & Loss Report
 - F. August 2017 Bill List
 - G. Police report August 2017
6. Standing Committees –
 - A. Finance – Nancy
 - i. Budget

- B. Law – Harold & Jennifer – Chief Wayda reviewed a handicapped parking application. He and Rick approved it. Motion to issue handicapped parking spot at 123 New Street made by David. Harold second the motion. Motion carried.
 - C. Streets/buildings –David & Harold- salt shed completed and filled.
 - D. Personnel – Bill, Harold, David – will need executive session
 - E. Ordinance – Jennifer
 - i. Tax relief-volunteer fire fighter –there was a brief discussion since 3 of our councilmembers are going to the training class this Saturday. If anyone thinks of a question let one of them know. We need to be looking at EIT also, not just real estate. There are a lot of young firefighters and we need to keep them.
 - F. Solid Waste –discussed early
 - G. Recreation Board- Jennifer Wentz-we have 18 tree adoptions so far. Does council want to adopt a tree? They decided they will but money out of own pockets. Annette will complete a form and wait form money from each councilmember.
 - i. NL Recreation Authority- Nancy- Don Eckhart said they had an auditor in and discussed what they need to keep and for how long. That type of stuff.
 - ii. Walnutport Playground Association & Walnutport Canal Association-They gave a letter to Annette that the WPA will be holding their annual carnival next year the week of July 10-14 2018. Reminder the WCA festival is this Sunday.
 - H. Secretary/Treasurer notes/announcements-
 - i. Email from Alice Wanamaker-Asst. Vice President of Greater LV Chamber-Municipal luncheon 11-14-17. Bill will attend.
 - ii. Street vacating petition- since we had so many requests lately and not knowing what to do, Annette made up a permit. Does council want to charge a fee? Solicitor recommending Annette look to see what the 2 advertisements would be and that be the fee. Annette will put on workshop agenda.
 - I. Code Enforcement Officer – Eric Strohl-he sent out 6 letters and had 4 inspection.
 - J. Grant Coordinator-Mike Wentz
 - i. Motion to approve resolution 2017-09 made by Nancy. Harold seconded the motion. Motion carried.
 - ii. Motion to allow Bill to sign agreement with ppl to execute grant made by Jen. David seconded the motion. Motion carried.
 - K. Engineer’s Report –
 - i. See report
 - ii. Motion to approve final pay application to Joao & Bradley for \$88,666.00 made by Nancy. Harold seconded the motion. Motion carried.
 - L. Solicitor’s Report –
 - i. 911 issue with Lehigh County & Northampton County-he spoke to Dan O’Donnell and he is willing to meet with everyone.
 - ii. Mercantile tax questions for solicitor – he gave an update on the ordinance.
 - iii. Need brief executive session
 - 7. New Business –
 - A. Flags on Main Street-Rick ordered new ones and took down all of the old tatted ones. Jen made the motion to have Rick use his discretion on when the flags are up to save on them. Not that they are up all year around. Nancy seconded the motion. Motion carried.
 - 8. Unfinished Business –
 - A. Camera at the dug outs/playground-Dave made the motion to approve second price of \$1,479.00. Harold seconded the motion. Motion carried.
- Executive session – personnel matter- no decision or action
- B. Council asked Annette to send Joan flowers- @ \$50.00

9. Upcoming events

A. October

- Canal festival 10-15-17
- Towpath trot 10-14-17
- Boot camp 10-21-17 walking trail at recreation center
- Trick or Treat October 25th 6-8 pm rain date October 26th

B. November

- Election day 11-7

C. December

- Tree lighting 12-2-17
- Candy cane hunt 12-9-17

10. Mayor's Announcements-nothing

11. Adjournment- motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:25 made by Nancy. Jennifer seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted by,

Annette S. Lacko, Secretary/Treasurer