



# Borough of Walnutport

## Workshop Meeting/Regular Minutes

### Thursday January 10, 2019 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 January 10, 2019 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; Michael Gaston, Councilman; David Stankovic, Councilman; Jennifer Wentz, Councilwoman; Patrice Hunsicker, Councilwoman; Wayne Weidner, Mayor; Michael Corriere, Solicitor; Jason Newhard, Engineer; Michael Wentz, Grant Coordinator; Chief Peter Wayda; and Annette Lacko, Secretary/Treasurer.
3. Present from the Public-Terry Ahner-Times News, Ed Ziegler, Donald Eckhart, Deborah Paules, Paul Gass, Earl Snyder, Ricky Smith, & Al Acker.
4. John Morganelli, DA for Northampton County spoke to council about the Drug task force, the money that is confiscated and then available to municipalities for education of anti-drugs. He also spoke about only council knows what is best for its residents. Some areas have decided going to a regional police for or even state police coverage was better than their own police force. Mr. Morganelli left at 7:10 pm
5. Opportunity for Residents & taxpayers to be Heard –
  - A. Paul Gass from the NLCS/NL Recreation Authority
    - Thanked council for the use of the recreation facility for the candy cane hunt. They had about 1500 people there.
    - He asked for each councilmember's support for the community center. Money is always an issue
  - B. Earl Snyder wanted an update on the Oak Street addresses. Michael Corriere updated everyone. Judgement was filed. Sheriff will take care of the next step. Items on property will be levied and sold to a 3<sup>rd</sup> party.
  - C. Donald Eckhart wanted to make sure everyone makes the meeting January 24<sup>th</sup> for the feasibility study for the community center. He handed an invitation to all of council.
6. Annual appointments- Dave made the motion to approve A-K except D by general consent. Harold seconded the motion. Mike-yes, Harold-yes, Joan-yes, Patrice-yes, Jen-yes, David-yes, & Bill-yes. Motion carried.
  - A. Motion Borough Engineer: The SSM Group
  - B. Motion Borough Solicitor: Corriere & Andres, LLC
  - C. Motion to retain Eric Strohl to serve as Code Enforcement officer for the Borough
  - D. Mike made the motion to retain Michael Wentz to serve as Grant Coordinator for the Borough. Dave seconded the motion. Mike-yes, Harold-yes, Joan-yes, Patrice-yes, Jen-abstain, David-yes, & Bill-yes. Motion carried.

- E. Motion to retain Sean Corey to serve as Zoning Officer/BCO:
  - F. Motion to confirm Fire Police for the Diamond Fire Company and the Borough of Walnutport for the year 2019:
  - G. Motion to authorizing the Diamond Fire Company to engage in fund raising activities, participate in mutual aid with any local municipalities/fire company and authorizing the fire police to serve during non-emergency functions during 2019:
  - H. Motion to reappoint Earl Snyder, Michael Newhard, and Kevin Rex to the Planning Commission Board:
  - I. Motion to retain Anderson & Assoc., Inc. to manage Police & Borough Pension plan
  - J. Motion to retain HA Thomson to manage our insurance policies
  - K. Motion to retain Labor Council, Scott Blissman
7. Jen made the motion to approve A-G by general consent. Harold seconded the motion. Mike-yes, Harold-yes, Joan-yes, Patrice-yes, Jen-yes, David-yes, & Bill-yes. Motion carried.
- A. Minutes of the workshop meeting December 6, 2018 & regular meeting December 13, 2018
  - B. Tax Collector's Monthly Report for December 2018
  - C. Zoning Officer's Report for December 2018
  - D. Build Code Officials Report for December 2018
  - E. December 2018 Profit & Loss Report
  - F. December 2018 Bill List
  - G. Police report December 2018
8. Standing Committees –
- A. Finance – Jennifer
    - LV Planning Commission-Jen attended a meeting about funding for transportation. If someone did not attend we could possibly lose 20 years of funding.
    - Tax Collector commission-if we want to adjust it, we need to do it by February 15<sup>th</sup>. It wouldn't be for 2019 but would be for whoever is elected for 2020. Harold made the motion to have Annette prepare the resolution to change the commission to 3% for 2020. Dave seconded the motion. Mike-yes, Harold-yes, Joan-yes, Patrice-yes, Jen-yes, David-yes, & Bill-yes. Motion carried.
    - Solar panel/PPL project- we will be setting up a meeting. They want the engineer included. Jason & council is okay with it.
  - B. Law – Michael & Harold –
    - Pete is recommending hiring Justin Williams as PT Police Officer. He is currently working at Lehigh County Sherriff's office, graduated from Allentown police academy September 2018, he has family that lives in town, he and his wife live in Catasauqua. Patrice made the motion to hire Justin Williams. David seconded the motion. Mike-yes, Harold-yes, Joan-yes, Patrice-yes, Jen-yes, David-yes, & Bill-yes. Motion carried.
  - C. Streets –David & Harold –
    - Leaf machine-Dave made the motion to order/purchase the leaf machine. We got a grant from DEP for it. Jen seconded the motion. Mike-yes, Harold-yes, Joan-yes, Patrice-yes, Jen-yes, David-yes, & Bill-yes. Motion carried.

- Expedition- Rick will rebid since original bidder is not returning any phone calls. Rick left several messages with his secretary with no return.

#### D. Recreation – Jennifer-

- Walnutport Recreation Board-Jennifer
  - a) Trees with come down after the 18<sup>th</sup>
  - b) We received a nice thank you note from Yenser's tree farm. They donated the 13 foot tree in front of building and we purchased the other trees from them.
  - c) A woman contact the office about taking some of the trees for her goats
- NL Recreation Authority-Patrice
  - a) Grant for memorial-council said he should move forward on removing the trees, did we get the DCNR funding? How much can we use for in kind services?
  - b) Do we have anything in mind for ideas for other grants-Jen will email Mike Kukitz the list, again
  - c) Don't forget the meeting on January 24th
- WPA/WCA-Patrice/Joan -nothing

#### E. Ordinance – Harold-nothing

#### F. Personnel – David & Michael – nothing

#### G. Grants-Mike Wentz – a lot pending

- Mike needs to go for a mandatory class for grants on February 20 at 8:30-10:30. Dave made the motion for Mike Wentz to stay on the clock for that class (including the travel time). Mike Gaston seconded the motion. Mike-yes, Harold-yes, Joan-yes, Patrice-yes, Jen-abstain, David-yes, & Bill-yes. Motion carried.

#### H. Secretary/Treasurer-Annette Lacko

- Newsletter- if everyone can get me their information by February 7<sup>th</sup>, in word format, emailed so Annette can compile it to send to printers.
- Workers Comp lists- Annette ask Michael Corriere a few questions. Fire Company gave Annette lists that were needed. The fire company wants to know why it's needed and explanation on grace periods. Annette will set up a meeting with fire company representative, insurance company, and council.
- 11 Main Street-Mike made the motion to exonerate 11 Main Street from garbage since property is inhabitable. Harold seconded the motion. Mike-yes, Harold-yes, Joan-yes, Patrice-yes, Jen-yes, David-yes, & Bill-yes. Motion carried.
- Ethic forms- please fill out and get back to Annette
- Motion to send delinquent taxes to appropriate collections made by Mike. Joan seconded the motion. Mike-yes, Harold-yes, Joan-yes, Patrice-yes, Jen-yes, David-yes, & Bill-yes. Motion carried.
  - a) Per capita taxes
  - b) real estate taxes

I. Engineer's Report –

- TRAFFIC LIGHT IMPROVEMENTS-We received and are reviewing the shop drawings for the light improvements. We still don't have a set schedule from CM High, Inc.
- LOCK 23 RETAINING WALL AND REPAIRS-Waiting on PEMA decision on funding before proceeding with permit. PEMA may not fund Engineering if we proceed without approval.
- LINCOLN AVE CDBG PROJECT-We need Council authorization to proceed with design and bidding for the water main replacement and street overlay in the 900 block of Lincoln Ave. (First Ave. to SR145). Mike made the motion to authorize SSM to proceed with the design and bidding for the water main replacement and street overlay in the 900 block of Lincoln Ave. Patrice seconded the motion. Mike-yes, Harold-yes, Joan-yes, Patrice-yes, Jen-yes, David-yes, & Bill-yes. Motion carried.

J. Solicitor's Report –

- Norfolk Southern paperwork was signed and sent to them. Waiting on returned signed documents
- Gogel was discussed earlier
- Green Street-paperwork filed

9. New Business –

- A. Walnutport Authority letter-Motion to reappoint Richard Thomas to a 2 year term to the Walnutport Authority made by Mike. Patrice seconded the motion. Mike-yes, Harold-yes, Joan-yes, Patrice-yes, Jen-yes, David-yes, & Bill-yes. Motion carried.

10.Unfinished Business – nothing

11.Reminders/work in process-

- A. Band Shell-grant applied for
- B. Rubber matting (play equipment)
- C. Volleyball court
- D. 2018-03 Green Street
- E. Twin Alley Storm water issue

12.Mayor's Announcements - nothing

- 13.Adjournment Joan made the motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:30. Mike seconded the motion. Mike-yes, Harold-yes, Joan-yes, Patrice-yes, Jen-yes, David-yes, & Bill-yes. Motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted by

Annette S. Lacko, Secretary/Treasurer