



Borough of Walnutport Regular Meeting Minutes

Thursday September 12, 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 September 12, 2019 regular meeting of the Borough Council to order at 7:01 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 (absent), Councilman; Jennifer Wentz, Councilwoman; Patrice Hunsicker, Councilwoman; Wayne Weidner, Mayor; Michael Corriere, Solicitor; Jason Newhard, Engineer; Michael Wentz, Grant Coordinator; and Annette Lacko, Secretary/Treasurer.
3. Present from the Public-Terry Ahner-Times News, Jeanne Boehrer, Marilyn Kaul, Debbie Paules, Larry & Doneta Merkle, Brenda & Vince Morris, Al Acker, Ed Zeigler, Todd Andrews, Susan Gegeckas, Lindsay Taylor, Sherry Acevedo, & Grant Wolfe.
4. Opportunity for Residents & taxpayers to be Heard –
 - A. Marilyn Kaul discussed the lack of water in the canal this past week and that lock 25 needs a lot of attention. Mike Wentz updated council on Carlton Miller helped open it up and there is a little more water flow. They are trying to borrow an excavator to clean out what needs to be done but all the local contractors are busy so we can not borrow one. They looked into renting one but there are any out there to be rented. They are staying on top of it. The river is also low right now.
Annette is to reach out to D&L about setting up a meeting. maybe they can help with lock 25 funding.
5. Lindsay from NL Recreation Authority just wanted to introduce herself. They meet on the 3rd Wednesday of every month.
6. Ed Zeigler-VFW is the current commander. They are opened. Asked about rubbish in alley. Disappointed about flag not being down when it should be. Also wanted to thank Chief for his officer showing up when the alarm went off.
7. Sherry Acevedo from Northampton County was here to discuss the memorial grant from 2017. There was a lengthy discussion. Council wants borough engineer to be aware of when all work will be done and to inspect the work before any more money is released. There will be a site meeting on September 23rd at 9:00 am. Annette will contact contractor.
8. Jen made the motion to approve A-E by general consent. Harold seconded the motion.
 - A. Minutes of the workshop meeting August 1, 2019 & regular meeting August 8, 2019
 - B. August 2019 Profit & Loss Report
 - C. August 2019 Bill List
 - D. Police report August 2019

E. August 2019 BCO & Zoning report. Mike-yes, Joan-yes, Harold-yes, Patrice-yes, Jen-yes, & Bill-yes. Motion carried.

9. Standing Committees –

A. Finance – Jennifer

- Annette-FirstNet reimbursement- this is how Jen does most of her communication with Annette and how Annette communicates with streets department. Joan made the motion to reimburse Annette the same amount Mike gets for his cell reimbursement. Mike seconded the motion. Mike-yes, Joan-yes, Harold-yes, Patrice-yes, Jen-yes, & Bill-yes. Motion carried.
- Jen made the motion to reimburse the following for Act 172 Reimbursements

a) Ricky Smith	2018 EIT	\$250.00
b) Osville Paules	2019 RE	\$206.25
c) David Stankovic	2019 RE	\$228.38.

Joan seconded the motion. Mike-yes, Joan-yes, Harold-yes, Patrice-yes, Jen-yes, & Bill-yes. Motion carried.
- d) Bryce Greene- 2018 EIT -not complete file \$250.00-APPEAL - Mike made the motion to approve Bryce Greene reimbursement with the appeal that was filed. Joan seconded the motion. Mike-yes, Joan-yes, Harold-abstain, Patrice-yes, Jen-yes, & Bill-yes. Motion carried.

B. Law – Michael & Harold –

- Mike made the motion to activate the civil service to start the process of hiring a full-time police officer since one of our officers will be leaving at the end of September. Jen seconded the motion. Mike-yes, Joan-yes, Harold-yes, Patrice-yes, Jen-yes, & Bill-yes. Motion carried.
- Will need executive session

C. Streets –David & Harold –

- Quotes/estimates
 - a) Harold made the motion to purchase tar for crack sealing \$2,120.00. Jen seconded the motion. Mike-yes, Joan-yes, Harold-yes, Patrice-yes, Jen-yes, & Bill-yes. Motion carried.
 - b) Harold made the motion to approve the replacement of the spreader on the F550 from EM Kutz for \$3,855.00 with putting the current on up on minicibid. Joan seconded the motion. Mike-yes, Joan-yes, Harold-yes, Patrice-yes, Jen-yes, & Bill-yes. Motion carried.
 - c) Mike made the motion to approve the paving at the sink hole Dirt Works-Lehigh Gap/Carbon St \$3,559.00. Harold seconded the motion. Mike-yes, Joan-yes, Harold-yes, Patrice-yes, Jen-yes, & Bill-yes. Motion carried.

D. Recreation – Jennifer-

- Walnutport Recreation Board-Jennifer- we have 7 trees so far.
- NL Recreation Authority-Patrice next month will have information

- WPA/WCA-Patrice/Joan- nothing

E. Ordinance – Harold -nothing

F. Personnel – David & Michael – need executive session

G. Secretary/Treasurer-Annette Lacko

- a) Garbage bills will go out first week of October
- b) Complaints
- c) Received an invoice from Cogle's in April. We will have to pay for it since it was garbage in the recycling. Our solicitor looked into it.
- d) The canal association sent a letter requesting the following for the canal festival on October 20th
 - ✓ Motion to allow fire police to control traffic from 12-5 made by Patrice. Mike seconded the motion. Mike-yes, Joan-yes, Harold-yes, Patrice-yes, Jen-yes, & Bill-yes. Motion carried.
 - ✓ Joan made the motion to make N Railroad St one way heading south from noon -5:00, N Canal St one way heading North from noon-5:00, S Canal Street closed from Main Street to Washington St and all vehicles moved from street by 8:00am, & Lehigh Street open only to residents and Festival participants. Jen seconded the motion. Mike-yes, Joan-yes, Harold-yes, Patrice-yes, Jen-yes, & Bill-yes. Motion carried.

H. Engineer's Report –

- GREEN STREET ORDINANCE -We are preparing the exhibits needed for the new agreement.
- LOCK 23 RETAINING WALL AND REPAIRS
FEMA is evaluating the cost difference between the existing timber wall and our proposal for a new concrete wall.
- LINCOLN AVE CDBG PROJECT Since the Borough has been awarded money for the next phase of Lincoln Ave., we recommend rejecting the bids. A larger project will be bid for next year. We received bids on 6/7. Two bids were received. The apparent bidder is Bellview Pump with a bid price of \$251,938. The bids are valid for 60 days unless we need to seek funding, then they are valid for 120 days. Once enacted by Council, we will send a letter to the bidders regarding the rejection of the bids. Jen made the motion to reject the bids. Mike seconded the motion. Mike-yes, Joan-yes, Harold-yes, Patrice-yes, Jen-yes, & Bill-yes. Motion carried.
- Need brief executive session.

I. Solicitor's Report – all executive session

10. New Business

- A. Marsh wants to medal detect on timberline property. - Mike made the motion to deny him his request. Joan seconded the motion. Mike-yes, Joan-yes, Harold-yes, Patrice-yes, Jen-yes, & Bill-yes. Motion carried.
- B. Solar project is still in the incubator process. There are too many unknowns at this time. They will be getting up more numbers. We may be looking at a different property. We will keep council informed as we learn more. We will be getting in touch with the broker that Walnutport Authority uses for their electricity rate.

11. Unfinished Business/Reminders/work in process-

- A. Volleyball court –
- B. 2018-03 Green Street
- C. Twin Alley Storm water issue
- D. Spotted lanternfly Quarantine- PA Department of Agriculture – Patrice will take care of it.
- E. Water issue at lock
- F. Right of way issue on Washington Street (WCA)
- G. Alcohol at pavilion – Wayne has a call into the association of mayors. What he has learned is he can make an exception if two things are followed. 1) a special permit is gotten for that day (from the LCB) & 2) waiver of insurance is gotten. Those are from the person/group renting the pavilion. The borough or canal can not get those items or they accept the liability. Once he receives a return call from the Assoc of Mayors he will pass that information along.
- H. No hunting on borough property-letters sent
- I. Camper on Route 145- letters sent

Borough council entered into an executive session from 8:40-9:40 pm to discuss personnel matters, contractual matter, & possible litigation matters.

Jen made the motion to remove the internet from the borough garage effective immediately. Mike seconded the motion. Mike-yes, Joan-yes, Harold-yes, Patrice-yes, Jen-yes, & Bill-yes. Motion carried. Annette will call RCN in the am.

12. Mayor's Announcements – none

13. Adjournment – Joan made the motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:45 pm. Harold seconded the motion. Mike-yes, Joan-yes, Harold-yes, Patrice-yes, Jen-yes, & Bill-yes. Motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted by,

Annette S. Lacko
Secretary/Treasurer