



# Borough of Walnutport

## Workshop Meeting Minutes

### Thursday, December 1, 2011

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 November 3, 2011 workshop meeting of the Borough Council to order at 7:02 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; Michael Gaston, Vice-President; Joan Rehrig, Councilwoman; Harold Greene, Councilman; Matthew Newhard, Councilman; Lamar Lauer, Councilman; David Stankovic, Councilman; Henry Kline, Mayor; Michael Wentz, Grant Coordinator; and Annette Lacko, Secretary/Treasurer.
3. Jason Breidinger and Joe Solderidge from NOVA asked council to consider a small donation instead of being cut out totally.
4. Opportunity for Residents to be Heard
  - A. Bob Treskot asked questions about items that are on the already.
5. Standing Committees –
  - A. Finance – Michael Gaston asked Mike Wentz about grant money from casino. There is still about \$800,000.00 available. Mike Wentz will look into what he can apply for, generator, police car, fire truck, etc. He will go down and present his case to the board after he submits his request.
  - B. Law – Harold Greene – needs a short executive session
  - C. Streets – Lamar Lauer – leaf collection is complete. They guys did a great job picking up the leaves.
  - D. Solid Waste – Matthew Newhard no report
  - E. Recreation – Michael Gaston no meeting till march 2012
  - F. Ordinance Review – David Stankovic
    - For fire company to bill insurance companies
  - G. Personnel –Matthew Newhard no report
  - H. Grants-Michael Wentz
    - Grant for canal...they have been contacting Mike for updates and more details/explanations
    - Lighting...waiting for details from PPL
    - Sands Casino...will look into what we can apply for
  - I. Centennial Committee—Matt Newhard – no report
  - J. Secretary/Treasurer-
    - Meeting dates for 2012. We won't advertise for WCA or WPA to save the money
    - Solicitor is working on a Resolution from Treskot to be able to charge for NSF checks
    - \$25.00 per unit (new ordinance) .Solicitor is advertising to update the mercantile tax/business license fees to be the same as the residential rental license. Will be ready for next week

- Per capita...ordinance needed to increase per capita to \$15.00. Solicitor will have ready for next week's meeting.
- Complaint letter—Matt made the motion to accept the complaint letter into the minutes. Joan seconded the motion. Motion carried. They have no idea how the borough runs and that we are in litigation with the owner of this property. The letter reads as follows...

**Walnutport Borough Manager**

**Dear Sir:**

**645 Lehigh Gap Street!!**

***An embarrassment to the community. In blatant violation of borough ordinances with 4 UNREGISTERED cars on the property and a barn that is about to fall down. In blatant violation of the State of PA with a car with Tennessee license plates for the last eight years that I have lived in Walnutport How can this be??? Is he one of the "good ole boys" too? How does he get away with this?***

***I am remaining anonymous as I know how this borough works. I don't need any tickets, thank you. Please be a better man and do something about this eyesore. You are an elected official. Act like it.***

***Believe me, I speak for many of my neighbors.***

***Thank you.***

***A concerned citizen of Walnutport.***

***Cc: Julie Harhart***

6. Unfinished Business –
  - A. Codification- waiting on general code
  - B. ZHB Solicitor—Matt made the motion to accept Cheng Law Offices, P.C. as the new ZHB Solicitor effective 1-1-2012. Dave seconded the motion. Motion carried.
7. New Business –
  - A. Motion to exonerate the list of per capita for 2011 (attached from Mr. Treskot) made by Lamar. Joan seconded the motion. Motion carried.
  - B. Matt made the motion to allow Neff National Bank to do a press release about our refinancing of our loans for a better rate. Harold seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Mayor left at 8:10 pm

8. Borough council went into an executive session for about 15 minutes to discuss a personnel issue. No action taken.
9. Adjournment – Joan made the motion at 8:30 pm to adjourn the meeting. Matt seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted by,

Annette S. Lacko, Secretary/Treasurer