

Borough of Walnutport
Regular Borough Meeting Minutes
Thursday September 10, 2020 7:00 pm
at-110 Main Street-Diamond Fire Comp Social Hall

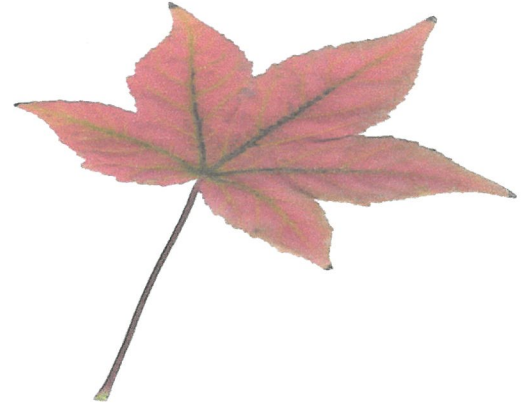


The public is advised that the Borough of Walnutport Public meeting is being recorded for transcription purposes only and is intended only for the use of a Borough Secretary in transcribing the official meeting minutes. The tape is made solely for the employees own personal use and does not have an official purpose.

August's Meetings were cancelled due to COVID-19 pandemic.

1. William Turk President called the September 10, 2020 regular meeting of the Borough Council to order at 7:00 pm in the Diamond Fire Company Social Hall 110 Main Street, Walnutport, PA 18088. Mr. Turk led the Pledge of allegiance.
2. Roll Call: William Turk, President; Harold Greene, Councilman; Iris Blum, Councilwoman; Michael Gaston, Councilman; David Stankovic, Councilman; Jennifer Wentz, Vice-President; Patrice Hunsicker, Councilwoman; Wayne Weidner, Mayor; Michael Corriere, Solicitor; Jason Newhard, Engineer; Michael Wentz, Grant Coordinator; and Annette S. Lacko, Secretary/Treasurer.
3. Present from the Public-Jeremy Bellois, David Edwards, Ron Bauer, Rod Hatcher, Lindsay Taylor, Larry Wittig, Terry Ahner, Don Eckhart, Robert Kuhns, Brian Gasda, Mr. & Mrs. Smith (Green Street), Jonas Kreitzer, Darren Heckman-KCE, Earl Snyder, & Brian Thomas.
4. Lindsay-NL Recreation Authority-gave update on NL Recreation Authority with statistics.
5. Opportunity for Residents & taxpayers to be Heard –
 - A. David Edwards “went off again about Mike Wentz’s CDL driver’s license” Michael Corriere told Mr. Edwards several times to talk to his lawyer. Mr. Edwards asked several times to speak up...he can’t hear him. President Turk called next person on list to speak
 - B. Ron Bauer asked council not to sign new contract with Tamaqua Transfer if they are lower bidder. He is tired of all the garbage, glass on the street. He has filled so many complaints over the years.
 - C. Don Eckhart wants update on volleyball court-Mike Gaston informed everything has been closed down with COVID-19. Places are just starting to open back up. He will be able to order poles next week. Once those are here, we can install pole and then put stone and sand in.
 - D. Rod Hatcher wanted council to know he also does not want council to sign with Tamaqua Transfer again. His property has been run over and damaged by the garbage truck a total of 10 times. They are no longer making good for fixing what they are damaging. He would also like an update on Green Street.

6. Motion to approve A-H by general consent made by Jen. Harold seconded the motion. Mike-yes, Iris-yes, Harold-yes, Patrice-yes, Jen-yes, David-yes, & Bill-yes. Motion carried.
- A. Minutes from July 9, 2020 meetings
 - B. July & August 2020 Profit & Loss Report
 - C. July & August 2020 Bill List
 - D. Police report July & August 2020
 - E. July 2020 Tax Collector Report
 - F. June, July, & August 2020 Zoning permit report
 - G. YTD as of August 2020 UCC permit report
 - H. Code Enforcement Officers July & August 2020 report



7. Standing Committees –

A. Finance – Jennifer

7:20 pm David Edwards got up from meeting, walked towards door and said “I’ll be back”. At this point the Mayor stated he didn’t have his cell phone-he asked Annette to call county and have officer on duty come to meeting.

- Jen made the motion to purchase 100 yards playground mulch (this was previously approved in spring but due to COVID-19 were not able to due & insurance company was here and said it needs to be done). Mike seconded the motion. Mike-yes, Iris-yes, Harold-yes, Patrice-yes, Jen-yes, David-yes, & Bill-yes. Motion carried
- Newsletter articles deadline to Annette tomorrow in word format
- garbage contract Bids- 2021-2024-Jen opened the 2 bids received
 - I. County Waste of Pennsylvania, LLC Total price \$695,640.00
 - II. Tamaqua Transfer & Recycling Inc. Total price \$717,820.00

Council entered into an executive session to discuss contractual matter.

- III. Jen made the motion to conditionally award the lowest bidder, County Waste, pending review of document by the borough solicitor. Iris seconded the motion. Mike-yes, Iris-yes, Harold-yes, Patrice-yes, Jen-yes, David-yes, & Bill-yes. Motion carried

B. Law – Michael– The Chief has not gotten back to him on the firework ordinance and the curb paintings

C. Streets –David–

Patrice walked out of building

- Dave read Mike’s reports July & August



- Dave made the motion to accept letter of resignation from Dennis Green from streets department. Jen seconded the motion. Mike-yes, Iris-yes, Harold-yes, Patrice-absent, Jen-yes, David-yes, & Bill-yes. Motion carried
- Dave made the motion to approve Asphalt Maintenance Solutions invoice #5100 \$36,198.11 from Liquid Fuels. Harold seconded the motion. Mike-yes, Iris-yes, Harold-yes, Patrice-absent, Jen-yes, David-yes, & Bill-yes. Motion carried

Patrice walked back into the building

- Dave made the motion to have the garage roof at 100 Carbon Street inspected and looked into by SSM group. Jen seconded the motion. Mike-yes, Iris-yes, Harold-yes, Patrice-yes, Jen-yes, David-yes, & Bill-yes. Motion carried
- Mike made the motion to sell 1999 Elgin Street Sweeper for \$17,500.00 to East Allen Township. Harold seconded the motion. Mike-yes, Iris-yes, Harold-yes, Patrice-yes, Jen-yes, David-yes, & Bill-yes. Motion carried
- Mike made the motion to sell old lawn tractor with plow and snow blower (minicibid). Dave seconded the motion. Mike-yes, Iris-yes, Harold-yes, Patrice-yes, Jen-yes, David-yes, & Bill-yes. Motion carried
- Mike made the motion to purchase John Deere tractor with plow & snow blower for 2021 budget (@\$4,800). Dave seconded the motion. Mike-yes, Iris-yes, Harold-yes, Patrice-yes, Jen-yes, David-yes, & Bill-yes. Motion carried
- Harold made the motion to purchase salt spreader for '03 freightliner (was in 2020 budget @ \$3,800). Dave seconded the motion. Mike-yes, Iris-yes, Harold-yes, Patrice-yes, Jen-yes, David-yes, & Bill-yes. Motion carried
- Jen made the motion to approve DDR concrete to complete all work at monument (curb, handicap, pattern concrete, install flag poles @ \$4,500). Iris seconded the motion. Mike-yes, Iris-yes, Harold-yes, Patrice-no, Jen-yes, David-yes, & Bill-yes. Motion carried. Patrice said she doesn't think we should pay for things twice. Mike Wentz explained the contractor guarantees this will be done by Veteran's Day.
- New leaf collection schedule is out. Please not there are day changes in there.

D. Recreation – Jennifer-

- Walnutport Recreation Board-Jennifer
 - Tree lighting will be held Saturday December 5th. Applications are available on our website, our Facebook page, at borough office or you can call secretary and she can mail one to you.
- NL Recreation Authority-Patrice – Lindsay covered everything
- WPA/WCA-Iris explained the signs keep disappearing so she is going to have a little article in the newsletter. They will put more signs up.

E. Ordinance – Harold

- Permit for poles-PA1 calls-Solicitor will help Code Enforcement officer with directions on how to enforce this with PPL

F. Personnel – Bill – need brief executive session

G. Secretary/Treasurer’s report-Annette Lacko

- Mike made the motion to approve 2021 financial requirement and mmo for police and borough pension plan (totals will be in budget). Harold seconded the motion. Mike-yes, Iris-yes, Harold-yes, Patrice-yes, Jen-yes, David-yes, & Bill-yes. Motion carried

H. Engineer’s Report –

- 223 S. Canal St. – Minor Lot Line Adjustment between adjoining residential lots. Planning Commission recommended conditional approval at the July 16, 2020 meeting. Conditions were meeting all comments in SSM letter dated June 3, 2020. (Attached) David made the motion to grant conditional approval that all comments in the SSM letter dated June 3, 2020 are met. Jen seconded the motion. Mike-yes, Iris-yes, Harold-yes, Patrice-yes, Jen-yes, David-yes, & Bill-yes. Motion carried
- SKA Holdings LLC Land Development – 12,000 SF building for seamless gutter business on vacant lot north of the former Terrace Restaurant. Planning Commission recommended conditional approval at the July 16, 2020 meeting. Conditions were meeting all comments in SSM letter dated July 9, 2020. (Attached) Also PC recommend granting waiver from SALDO Section 395-17.78(b) requiring a Traffic Impact Study. The PC felt that the driveway location was established and the proposed use would not generate enough traffic trips trip per day to merit a study.
 - a) Jen made the motion to approve waiver from SALDO Section 395-17.78(b) requiring Traffic Impact Study. Mike seconded the motion. Mike-yes, Iris-yes, Harold-yes, Patrice-yes, Jen-yes, David-yes, & Bill-yes. Motion carried
 - b) Harold made the motion to grant conditional approval with conditions being met from SSM letter dated July 9, 2020. Dave seconded the motion. Mike-yes, Iris-yes, Harold-yes, Patrice-yes, Jen-yes, David-yes, & Bill-yes. Motion carried

I. Solicitor’s Report – need brief executive session for litigation.

8. New Business

- A.** Letter from Walnutport Authority-accepting Dennis Green’s resignation and appointing Dennis Rehrig to board-along with adjusting terms made by Mike. Harold seconded the motion. Mike-yes, Iris-yes, Harold-yes, Patrice-yes, Jen-yes, David-yes, & Bill-yes. Motion carried
- B.** New police car has arrived

C. Motion to approve \$.25/ hour raise to pt police secretary effective July 9th made by Jen. Mike seconded the motion. Mike-yes, Iris-yes, Harold-yes, Patrice-yes, Jen-yes, David-yes, & Bill-yes. Motion carried

9. Unfinished Business-

A. dilapidated properties- Mike will talk to Code Enforcement Officer.

B. Volley Ball Court – due to COVID-19 a lot of the suppliers were closed. They just reopened so we are finally able to order what we need to.

10. Mayor's Announcements – trick or treat will be Wednesday October 28th from 6:00-8:00 pm. Please keep social distancing and wear face covering. If you are not comfortable with anyone coming to your house set candy out on a table or don't turn a light on to participate.

11. Council entered into executive session to discuss a personnel matter and ongoing litigation. No action taken.

12. Adjournment- Motion to adjourn the meeting made by Iris at 9:30 pm. Harold seconded the motion. Mike-yes, Iris-yes, Harold-yes, Patrice-yes, Jen-yes, David-yes, & Bill-yes. Motion carried

