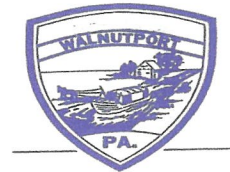


Borough of Walnutport

Workshop/Regular Meeting Minutes



Thursday May 13, 2021 7:00 pm

Meeting held at 110 Main Street-Diamond Fire Company Social Hall

Due to COVID-19 and CDC guidelines

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 May 13, 2021 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, Vice-President(absent); Iris Blum, Councilwoman; Michael Gaston, Councilman(absent); David Stankovic, Councilman; Jennifer Wentz, Councilwoman; Patrice Hunsicker, Councilwoman; Wayne Weidner, Mayor; Michael Corriere, Solicitor; Jason Newhard, Engineer; Chief Peter Wayda; Mike Wentz, Grant Coordinator; and Annette S. Lacko Secretary/Treasurer.
3. Present from the Public- Jess Mack, Christine Leslie, Bob Treskot, Brian Filchner, & Terry Ahner-Times News
4. Northern Lehigh Swimming Pool-Jess Mack & Christine Leslie discussed what is going on with the NL swimming pool and why it will not be opening. They are applying for grants with the support of Pat Brown, & Zach Mako. They are hoping for support from Slatington, Walnutport, & Washington Township. A go fund me has been set up. Council asked Annette to send a letter of support from the Borough of Walnutport.
5. Lehigh Canal Japanese Knotweed Removal-Watershed Coalition of the Lehigh Valley (attachment) – Their representative did not show up. Mike Wentz explained the phone calls he received from them and what was explained and now what the letter states. After a brief discussion Dave made the motion not to allow the Watershed Coalition of the Lehigh Valley to do any work on the canal of removing the knotweed. We cut them down every year. Jen seconded the motion. Iris-yes, Patrice-yes, Jen-yes, David-yes, & Bill-yes. Motion carried.
6. Opportunity for Residents & taxpayers to be Heard –
 - A. Brian Filchner from the Walnutport Playground Association
 - Waivers for softball handed to Annette
 - Asking if they can use pavilion for carnival. Council agreed they can use it for just the basket social, one way in, one way out. No bingo. No sitting at picnic tables.
 - Bandshell, do we have one? Annette called to find out. She was told they didn't get the approval on any rentals because of COVID. Since we need an answer, he said tell them yes, we have it. Annette asked if council wants her to send the money now or wait till, we get the official approval. Council told her to send the check.

7. Jen made the motion to approve A-H without E. Patrice seconded the motion.
- A. April 8, 2021 regular meetings minutes
 - B. April 2021 Profit & Loss Report
 - C. April 2021 Bill List
 - D. April 2021 Police report
 - E.
 - F. April 2021 Zoning permit report
 - G. April 2021 UCC permit report
 - H. April 2021 Code Enforcement Officers report. Iris-yes, Patrice-yes, Jen-yes, David-yes, & Bill-yes. Motion carried.
8. Standing Committees –
- A. Finance – Jennifer
 - Thank you letter from
 - a) NOVA
 - b) Slatington Library
 - B. Law – Chief Wayda
 - Jen made the motion to accept letter of resignation from Richard Compton effective April 21, 2021. Dave seconded the motion. Iris-yes, Patrice-yes, Jen-yes, David-yes, & Bill-yes. Motion carried.
 - Patrice made the motion to hire Tyler Seeley as PT police officer. Dave seconded the motion. Iris-yes, Patrice-yes, Jen-yes, David-yes, & Bill-yes. Motion carried.
 - Chief Wayda read a statement to council about bringing issues/complaints about the police department to mayor before they are brought up at a public meeting. Bill apologized how things were handled at last month's meeting.
 - C. Streets –David
 - David read April's report
 - Storm pipe replacement S. Canal Street – RR track – Canal Jen made the motion to approve up to \$15,000.00 in material for fixing the storm pipe replacement that is collapsing on S. Canal Street. Patrice seconded the motion. Iris-yes, Patrice-yes, Jen-yes, David-yes, & Bill-yes. Motion carried. Jen made the motion to approve up to \$20,000.00 for labor & equipment. Iris seconded the motion. Iris-yes, Patrice-yes, Jen-yes, David-abstain, & Bill-yes. Motion carried.
 - Patch work for 2021 Save made the motion to approve patch work for 2021 that was included in the budget for \$5,000.00. Jen seconded the motion. Iris-yes, Patrice-yes, Jen-yes, David-yes, & Bill-yes. Motion carried.
 - Water leak @ 417 Lincoln Ave-Mike Wentz filled council in on the water leak in the day care section of the building. Borough insurance has made decision to replace all tile and carpet in affected areas. They should be sending money to borough with agreed upon price.

D. Recreation – Jennifer-

- Walnutport Recreation Board-Jennifer
 - a) Letter of interest to become member-Jen will reach out to her and hopefully be able to bring her on board for help
 - b) Letter from NL Rec Authority about Walnutport canal -they will be using canal- Dave made motion to allow NL Rec Authority to use the Walnutport Canal on Sunday June 13th. Patrice seconded the motion. Iris-yes, Patrice-yes, Jen-yes, David-yes, & Bill-yes. Motion carried.
 - c) There was vandalism the first weekend in May at the recreation building. Pete is looking into a price for more cameras with better quality to be able to see everything up there.
- WPA/WCA-Iris –
 - a) Iris made the motion to finish, preparing & hydro seeding volleyball area \$800.00 (hydro seeding donation). Jen seconded the motion. Iris-yes, Patrice-yes, Jen-yes, David-yes, & Bill-yes. Motion carried.
 - b) Iris made the motion to finish, preparing & hydro seeding memorial \$1,200.00 (hydro seeding donation). Jen seconded the motion. Iris-yes, Patrice-yes, Jen-yes, David-yes, & Bill-yes. Motion carried.
 - c) Letter from WPA requesting the following...-Patrice made the motion to approve i. & iii. Jen seconded the motion. Iris-yes, Patrice-yes, Jen-yes, David-yes, & Bill-yes. Motion carried.
 - i. Permission to have fireworks
 - ii. Extra police coverage-Dave made the motion to have 2 extra police officers each night for the carnival. Patrice seconded the motion. Iris-yes, Patrice-yes, Jen-yes, David-yes, & Bill-yes. Motion carried.
 - iii. Permission to have carnival

E. Ordinance – nothing

F. Personnel – Bill – nothing

G. Secretary/Treasurer's report- Annette

- E-recycling event Wednesday May 19, 2021
- Dave made the motion to close memorial account. Jen seconded the motion. Iris-yes, Patrice-yes, Jen-yes, David-yes, & Bill-yes. Motion carried.
- Dave made the motion to close the following escrow accounts.
 - a) Royal Development
 - b) Lehigh Traders
 - c) Walnutport Investors (Taco Bell)
 - d) Retail Business Service (Giant)
 - e) Hazel Holding (dunkin donuts)
 - f) Ricky Herring (hot dog shop). Jen seconded the motion. Iris-yes, Patrice-yes, Jen-yes, David-yes, & Bill-yes. Motion carried.

- Meeting dates 2021 reminder-just reminder of advertised dates for the rest of the year. Annette asked if anyone thought anything should be changed/adjusted. No changes needed.

- Bandshell update-covered earlier

H. EMA-Mike Wentz

- Mask mandate was lifted-cdc is thinking by August we should be at @ 70% vaccinated and there will be more mandates lifted.

I. Engineer's Report –

- See report-no action needed

J. Solicitor's Report –

- Sent letters for cell tower, Kmart, Giant. Haven't heard anything.

9. New Business-

- A.** Letter from Ron Bauer about garbage & Times News article-asked that council hears his words-Solicitor will follow up with garbage hauler

- B.** Patrice made the motion to allow Northern Lehigh Graduating Class of 2021 to hold a rolling parade June 10th through the Borough of Walnutport. Dave seconded the motion. Iris-yes, Patrice-yes, Jen-yes, David-yes, & Bill-yes. Motion carried.

10. Unfinished Business - nothing

- 11. Mayor's Announcements –** Wayne gave a little update on the 125th celebration for the Diamond Fire Company. Jen made the motion to have police coverage the day of the parade. Dave seconded the motion. Iris-yes, Patrice-yes, Jen-yes, David-yes, & Bill-yes. Motion carried. Dave made the motion to allow the fire police cover events in Palmerton Borough on May 31st and June 5th. Patrice seconded the motion. Iris-yes, Patrice-yes, Jen-yes, David-yes, & Bill-yes. Motion carried.

- 12. Adjournment –** Iris made the motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:33 pm. Jen seconded the motion. Iris-yes, Patrice-yes, Jen-yes, David-yes, & Bill-yes. Motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted by

Annette S. Lacko,
Secretary/Treasurer