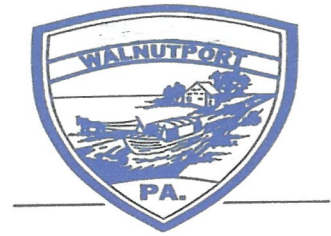


Borough of Walnutport
Workshop/Regular Meeting Minutes
Thursday January 14, 2021 7:00 pm
Meeting held at 110 Main Street-Diamond



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 January 14, 202 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 (absent), Vice-President; Iris Blum, 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/Emergency Management Director; Scott Ledo, Code Enforcement Officer; and Annette S. Lacko, Secretary/Treasurer.
3. Present from the Public- Don Eckhart, Leslie Dixon, & Terry Ahner-Times News.
4. Opportunity for Residents & taxpayers to be Heard –
 - A. Leslie Dixon-asked borough council if anything was done about her request for pedestrian signage at the crosswalk on Main Street by the Dollar General & BB&T Bank. There was a discussion with council, Solicitor, Engineer, Road Foreman and Ms. Dixon. Borough Solicitor advised everyone we did receive a response from PennDOT. The letter states “Please have this crosswalk removed immediately.” Mike already contacted several companies for prices. The lowest was about \$400 with Mike and Brian doing traffic control. They will have this done as soon as it can be scheduled. Jen will help Annette with a posting to inform the public of the decision.
5. Annual appointments
 - A. Motion Borough Engineer: The SSM Group
 - B. Motion Borough Solicitor: Corriere & Andres, LLC- Mike made the motion to approve A & B. Jen seconded the motion. Mike-yes, Iris-yes, Patrice-yes, Jen-yes, David-yes, & Bill-yes. Motion carried.
 - C. Mike made the motion to retain Scott Ledo to serve as Code Enforcement officer for the Borough. Dave seconded the motion. Mike-yes, Iris-yes, Patrice-yes, Jen-yes, David-yes, & Bill-yes. Motion carried.

- D. Mike made the motion to retain Michael Wentz to serve as Grant Coordinator for the Borough. Dave seconded the motion. Mike-yes, Iris-yes, Patrice-yes, Jen-abstain, David-yes, & Bill-yes. Motion carried.
- E. Mike made the motion to retain Sean Corey to serve as Zoning Officer/BCO. Dave seconded the motion. Mike-yes, Iris-yes, Patrice-yes, Jen-yes, David-yes, & Bill-yes. Motion carried.
- F. Motion to confirm Fire Police for the Diamond Fire Company and the Borough of Walnutport for the year 2021:
- 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 2021—Mike made the motion to approve F & G. Jen seconded the motion. Mike-yes, Iris-yes, Patrice-yes, Jen-yes, David-yes, & Bill-yes. Motion carried.
- H. Mike made the motion to reappoint Earl Snyder, Michael Newhard, and Kevin Rex to the Planning Commission Board. Iris seconded the motion. Mike-yes, Iris-yes, Patrice-yes, Jen-yes, David-yes, & Bill-yes. Motion carried.
- 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, Joseph Rudolf from Clark Hill—Mike made the motion to approve I-J-K. Dave seconded the motion. Mike-yes, Iris-yes, Patrice-yes, Jen-yes, David-yes, & Bill-yes. Motion carried.
- 6. Motion to approve A-H by general consent made by Patrice. Jen seconded the motion. Mike-yes, Iris-yes, Patrice-yes, Jen-yes, David-yes, & Bill-yes. Motion carried.
 - A. December 17, 2020 regular meetings minutes
 - B. December 2020 Profit & Loss Report
 - C. December 2020 Bill List
 - D. December 2020 Police report
 - E. December 2020 Tax Collector Report
 - F. December 2020 Zoning permit report
 - G. December 2020 UCC permit report
 - H. December 2020 Code Enforcement Officers report

7. Standing Committees –

A. Finance – Jennifer – Jen brought up the press release by NL Community Center and all of the inaccuracy. It makes Walnutport look like we killed the community center when in November the Director of the NL Recreation Authority already told Walnutport they made the decision not to take on the community center. Jen would like to contact Mr. Paul Gass the President of the NL Community Center and ask him to correct and release the correct synopsis. She would also like to release a press release from the Borough of Walnutport about why we are not financially supporting the NL Recreation Authority and the time line of what happened. Jen has the support of council. Wayne asked if he could put his hat on as President of the Fire Company and say a few words. He expressed that the fire company will be reaching out to the NL Recreation Authority about their press release stating that Walnutport residence will have to pay the nonresident rate. The fire company will be waiving their fee to use hall for exercise class if they don't charge extra fee.

B. Law – Michael - nothing

C. Streets –David

- David read December's report provided by Road Foreman-Mike Wentz

D. Recreation – Jennifer-

- Walnutport Recreation Board-Jennifer-trees will be down by Tuesday. They have to be undecorated by Monday. A lady is getting some to feed to her goats. Annette put a message out to see if anyone else wanted any to feed their animals...if not they will be recycled like all the other years.
- WPA/WCA-Iris- waiting on both associations to sign their leases-The WPA hasn't made a decision on carnival as of yet but if they do have one this year it will be July 13-17th.

E. Ordinance – Harold (absent)- no report

F. Personnel – Bill- nothing

G. Secretary/Treasurer's report- Annette

- Annette handed out meeting dates for 2021
- W-2's were included in council's packets
- Delinquent taxes-Mike made a motion to send delinquent Real Estate taxes in the amount of \$37,575.24 to county for collection and delinquent per capita tax in the amount of \$3,377.00 to Berkheimer for collection. Jen seconded the motion. Mike-yes, Iris-yes, Patrice-yes, Jen-yes, David-yes, & Bill-yes. Motion carried.

H. Emergency Management Coordinator-Mike Wentz discussed COVID-19 vaccine. If council is interested in getting a vaccine, let him know. Since they are a borough official, they can get on the list to get a vaccine through county soon. Dave shared his personal story in support of the vaccine.

I. Engineer's Report –

- See report-no action

J. Solicitor's Report –

- BRC Franchise-will have everything ready for February meeting
- Need brief executive session
- Had discussion with ZHB solicitor about fees. Jen made a motion to increase the appeal fee for residential to \$1,000.00. Iris seconded the motion. Mike-yes, Iris-yes, Patrice-yes, Jen-yes, David-yes, & Bill-yes. Motion carried. Council will look at nonresidential rates in February.

8. New Business

A. Mike made the motion to appoint Hali Kuntz to 3-year term on Slatington Public Library Board of Directors. Iris seconded the motion. Mike-yes, Iris-yes, Patrice-yes, Jen-yes, David-yes, & Bill-yes. Motion carried.

9. Unfinished Business- nothing

10. Council entered into an executive session from 8:00-8:15 pm to discuss potential litigation-no action taken.

11. Mayor's Announcements –nothing

12. Adjournment-Motion to adjourn the meeting made by Iris at 8:20 pm. Jen seconded the motion. Mike-yes, Iris-yes, Patrice-yes, Jen-yes, David-yes, & Bill-yes. Motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted by,

Annette S. Lacko, Secretary/Treasurer