

Borough of Walnutport

Workshop/Regular Meeting Minutes

Thursday November 4, 2021 7:00 pm

417 Lincoln Avenue; Walnutport, PA 18088



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 4, 2021 regular meeting of the Borough Council to order at 7:04 pm in the Walnutport Borough Hall 417 Lincoln Avenue; 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 (7:20); Jason Newhard, Engineer; Mike Wentz, Grant Coordinator; Chief Peter Wayda; Scott Ledo, Code Enforcement Officer(absent); and Annette Lacko, Secretary/Treasurer.
3. Present from the Public-Don Eckhart & Mel Frohnheiser.
4. Opportunity for Residents & taxpayers to be Heard -none
5. Jen made motion to approve A-D & E-H (there isn't a E). Patrice seconded the motion. Mike-yes, Iris-yes, Harold-yes, Jen-yes, David-yes, Patrice-yes, & Bill-yes. Motion carried.
 - A. October 7, 2021 workshop meeting & October 14, 2021 regular meetings minutes
 - B. October 2021 Profit & Loss Report
 - C. October 2021 Bill List
 - D. October 2021 Police report
 - E. October 2021 Tax Collector Report
 - F. October 2021 Zoning permit report
 - G. October 2021 UCC permit report
 - H. October 2021 Code Enforcement Officer Report
6. Standing Committees –
 - A. Finance – Jennifer
 - 2022 budget was discussed.
 - Jen made the motion to advertise tax milage at 19.75 for 2022. Iris seconded the motion. Mike-yes, Iris-yes, Harold-yes, Jen-yes, David-yes, Patrice-NO, & Bill-yes. Motion carried. Jen reminded everyone we need to advertise a worst-case scenario. If everything holds out, we will not need to raise taxes.
 - Mike made the motion to advertise the preliminary 2022 budget for public review from November 15 through December 9, 2021. Harold seconded the motion. Mike-yes, Iris-yes, Harold-yes, Jen-yes, David-yes, Patrice-yes, & Bill-yes. Motion carried.

- Jen made the motion to accept the balanced budget with the tax increase as approved to be advertised. Dave seconded the motion. Mike-yes, Iris-yes, Harold-yes, Jen-yes, David-yes, Patrice-NO, & Bill-yes. Motion carried.
- Patrice made the motion to close centennial account. Harold seconded the motion. Mike-yes, Iris-yes, Harold-yes, Jen-yes, David-yes, Patrice-yes, & Bill-yes. Motion carried.

B. Law – Mike & Chief Wayda –

- Mike made the motion to accept letter of resignation from Kyle Watson effective November 1, 2021. Patrice seconded the motion. Mike-yes, Iris-yes, Harold-yes, Jen-yes, David-yes, Patrice-yes, & Bill-yes. Motion carried. Mike asked Pete to thank him for working here
- Blight property-Solicitor is looking into options
- Cell tower-maintenance-Mike made the motion to open the agenda to add a motion. Dave seconded the motion. Mike-yes, Iris-yes, Harold-yes, Jen-yes, David-yes, Patrice-yes, & Bill-yes. Motion carried.
- Mike made the motion to accept a price of \$1,000.00 to have cell tower site cleaned up and have Solicitor send invoice. Dave seconded the motion. Mike-yes, Iris-yes, Harold-yes, Jen-yes, David-yes, Patrice-yes, & Bill-yes. Motion carried.

C. Streets –David

- October report –
- Christmas decorations are 22 years old. The wreaths are in bad shape. We need to look at options to replace them.

D. Recreation – Jennifer-

- Walnutport Recreation Board-Jennifer –
 - a) getting everything together for tree lighting.
 - b) Senior parents asked about using pavilion on Fridays while they are in playoffs. Jen will open and close.
- WPA/WCA-Iris
 - a) WPA had their meeting. November 12th will be their last practice. No more carnival. They will look at other types of fundraisers
 - b) WCA had a really nice turn out for their festival. They wanted to thank council for all of their help and support

E. Ordinance – Harold

- 2021-03 grass clippings advertised for December 9, 2021 meeting
- 2021-04 No Parking advertised for December 9, 2021 meeting

F. Secretary/Treasurer-Annette Lacko

- Mike made the motion to approve Resolution 2021-07 police pension (yearly motion). Harold seconded the motion. Mike-yes, Iris-yes, Harold-yes, Jen-yes, David-yes, Patrice-yes, & Bill-yes. Motion carried.
- Mike made the motion to sign agreement with Kirk, Summa & Com LLP to begin 2021 audit. Jen seconded the motion. Mike-yes, Iris-yes, Harold-yes, Jen-yes, David-yes, Patrice-yes, & Bill-yes. Motion carried.
- Meeting for 2022 were discussed. We will only have 1 meeting a month. Council helped picked dates for entire year. Once advertisement is prepared, Annette will give everyone a copy.

G. Grants/EMA Director-Mike Wentz - Mike updated everyone on status of grants. We CAN NOT use “old dump” property for yard waste recycling. DEP closed that property to public years ago.

H. Code Enforcement Officer, Scott Ledo- needs executive session-645 Lehigh Gap Street-possible litigation issue-Scott was absent from meeting

I. Engineer’s Report –

- See report-
- Patrice made the motion to release security from escrow account for Dusty Keyser (203/205 S Canal Street) in the amount of \$11,479.93 per SSM letter dated October 27, 2021. Jen seconded the motion. Mike-yes, Iris-yes, Harold-yes, Jen-yes, David-yes, Patrice-yes, & Bill-yes. Motion carried.
- Dave made the motion to approve change order 001 for Lincoln Ave CDBG project (extension & additional money). Mike seconded the motion. Mike-yes, Iris-yes, Harold-yes, Jen-yes, David-yes, Patrice-yes, & Bill-yes. Motion carried.

J. Solicitor’s Report –

- Executive session needed-litigation Gogel matter along with Code Enforcement officer information.

7. New Business-

- A.** Mike made the motion to approve last payment to Stellar Construction for \$3,074.81 for water damage to day care area of 417 Lincoln Avenue. Harold seconded the motion. Mike-yes, Iris-yes, Harold-yes, Jen-yes, David-yes, Patrice-yes, & Bill-yes. Motion carried.
- B.** Mike made the motion to approve invoice #5849 for \$64,785.66 to Asphalt Maintenance Solutions, LLC from Liquid Fuels (possible split from reserve) for street work. Dave seconded the motion. Mike-yes, Iris-yes, Harold-yes, Jen-yes, David-yes, Patrice-yes, & Bill-yes. Motion carried.

8. Unfinished Business –
 - A. Geese permit- no news
 - B. Hire pt for streets -next month-we received one application
 - C. Weekly recycling? Solicitor did not hear from them yet. There was another discussion about garbage complaints and issues. Everyone is having problems with help. If office doesn't know of specific complaints, they cannot be addressed.
9. Council entered into an executive session for litigation issue 8:25-9:14
Council asked Mike Wentz to look into the cost of cleaning out Gogel property.
10. Upcoming events
 - A. December 4, 2021- 5th annual tree lighting/adopt a tree
11. Mayor's Announcements – no report
12. Adjournment – Iris made the motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:16. Jen seconded the motion. Mike-yes, Iris-yes, Harold-yes, Jen-yes, David-yes, Patrice-yes, & Bill-yes. Motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted by,

Annette S. Lacko
Secretary/Treasurer