



# Borough of Walnutport

## Regular Meeting Minutes

### Thursday November 14, 7:00 pm

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 14, 2019 regular meeting of the Borough Council to order at 7:00 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; Harold Greene, Vice-President; Joan Rehrig, 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; Pete Wayda, Chief of Police and Deborah Paules, Asst. Secretary.
3. Present from the Public-Terry Ahner-Times News, Kristie Wilk & Jason Breidinger, NOVA, Al Acker, Ron Bauer, Bob Treskot, Stephen Enders, Michaela Chidiac, Jody Wellington, Ricky Smith.
4. NOVA: Kristie Wilk and Jason Breidinger attended this week's meeting to respond to questions regarding ambulance service from service. Kristie gave a report showing some numbers and explained how ambulances are staged and response times. Jason talked about the cost of the ambulance service and again asked if the Borough could see its way to provide more money in the coming year. He was hoping that the Per Capita to the ambulance could be raised to \$4.00.
5. Opportunity for Residents & taxpayers to be Heard –
  - A. Steve Enders asked questions regarding the painting of curbs in the Borough. A discussion was had regarding the curbing. They will continue to paint in the spring. The Mayor and Chief Wayda agreed to look into the situation and try to make things better when painting resumes next spring. Mr. Enders also brought up the fact that when weeds are sprayed in his alley, they overspray and kill part of his lawn. He was asking if they could be more careful or not spray at all. Ms. Michaela Chidiac and Mr. Ricky Smith were also part of this conversation.
  - B. Ricky Smith also brought up the article in the Times News saying that is was very negative regarding the matter of painting lines from the Workshop Meeting.
  - C. Mr. Wellington complained about the water in the alley behind his home. He also told Council that the work that has been done has created a ridge that he must drive over. He was assured by the Engineer that the project is being worked on and will be resolved.
6. Joan made the motion to approve A-E by general consent. David seconded the motion. Mike-yes, Joan-yes, Harold-yes, Patrice-yes, Jen-yes, David-yes, & Bill-yes. Motion carried.
  - A. Minutes of the workshop meeting Oct. 3, & regular meeting October 10, 2019
  - B. October 2019 Profit & Loss Report
  - C. October 2019 Bill List
  - D. Police report October 2019



E. Tax Collector Oct. 2019 Report

7. Standing Committees –

A. Finance – Jennifer

- Jen reported that there was a request from Tree of Heaven to be permitted to come into the Borough and treat for spotted Lantern Flies. There would be no expense to the Borough. Mike Gaston made the motion. Harold Seconded the Motion. Jen-yes, David –Yes, Patrice-Yes, Mike-Yes, Joan-Yes, Harold-Yes, Bill-Yes. Motion Carried.
- Jen presented the Budget for 2020. Because the Budget must be advertised meeting nights for December have been to Workshop Dec. 12, Regular – Dec. 19, 2019. Motion to change meeting dates for December was made by Jen. Motion was Seconded by Joan. Mike –yes, Joan-yes, Harold-yes, Patrice-yes, Jen-yes, David-yes. Motion carried.
- Jen also proposed a one mill increase. Motion to add a mill increase to the proposed 2020 budget was made by Mike Gaston. Motion was seconded by Joan. Mike-yes, Joan-yes, Harold-yes, Patrice-NO, Jen-yes, David-yes, & Bill-yes. Motion carried.

B. Law – Michael & Harold – NOTHING TO REPORT

C. Streets –David & Harold –

- Minicibid for spreader – Mike Wentz reported that he had an offer of \$1,000. After a short discussion a Motion was made by Mike G. to sell for that price. Motion was seconded by David. Mike-yes, Joan- yes, Harold-yes, Patrice-yes, Jen-yes, David-yes, & Bill-yes. Motion carried.

D. Recreation – Jennifer-

- Walnutport Recreation Board-Jennifer – trees and donations are still coming in.
- NL Recreation Authority-Patrice – reminded everybody about the Candy Cane Hunt.
- WPA/WCA-Patrice/Joan - none

E. Ordinance – Harold – An ordinance is needed for offset between trenches that Jason talked about. Jason said he would draft the ordinance.

F. Personnel – David & Michael –

- A Motion was made by Mike G. to hire Scott Ledo for the Code Enforcement Office at the current salary. Motion was seconded by David. Mike-yes, Joan-yes, Harold-yes, Patrice-yes, Jen-yes, David-yes and Bill-yes. Motion Carried.
- A Motion was made by Mike to authorize verbal negotiations of Teamsters Contract renewal for 2021-2015. A discussion was held and Mike rescinded his motion. Called for executive before proceeding.

G. Engineer's Report – Jason said he had nothing new to report.

- MEMORIAL PARK PROJECT – He stated that he will be working on closing the Grant for the Memorial project. A motion was made by Mike to have Jason move ahead with the work needed to close out the Grant. Motion was seconded by Joan. Mike-yes, Joan –yes, Harold-yes, Patrice-yes, Jen-yes, David-yes and Bill-yes. Motion carried.
- Jason also handed in a report at this time.

H. Solicitor's Report –

- Green Street-had a site visit and there are still some questions needing answers.
- Lock 25-letters have been sent.

8. New Business –None

9. Unfinished Business - Camper on Route 145. Property still has articles on site. This should be brought to the Code Enforcement Officer.

10.Upcoming events

- A. Leaf collection November 4<sup>th</sup> – November 21<sup>st</sup> – unless needed earlier and/or later.
- B. December 7<sup>th</sup> - 3<sup>rd</sup> annual tree lighting at the Walnutport Park (Walnutport Recreation Board)
- C. December 14<sup>th</sup> – Candy Cane Hunt at Walnutport Park (NL Recreation Authority)
- D. May 20, 2020 – E Recycling event held in borough parking lot

11.Council entered executive session to discuss Employ Contract Issue and Gogel: 8:40-9:05 pm.

- A. Mike Gaston made the motion to accept the adjustments and conditions of the contract. Seconded by Joan. Mike-yes, Joan-yes, Harold-yes, Patrice-yes, David-yes, & Bill-yes. Jen –abstained. Motion carried.
- B. Council informed of Pending litigation on Gogel.

12.Mayor's Announcements –

- A. Mayor had a request from Lehighon to provide Fire Police services for 12/7/19 for a walk/run. Motion was made by Mike to approve. Seconded by Joan. Mike-yes, Joan-yes, Harold-yes, Patrice-yes, Jen-yes, David- yes and Bill Yes. Motion Carried.

13.Adjournment- Motion to adjourn the meeting made by Joan. Mike seconded the motion.

Respectfully Submitted by,

Deborah Paules, Asst. Secretary