



## Borough of Walnutport

### Workshop Meeting Minutes

Thursday November 7, 2019 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 7, 2019 workshop 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; Jennifer Wentz, Councilwoman; David Stankovic, Councilman; Patrice Hunsicker, Councilwoman; Michael Wentz, Grant Coordinator; Wayne Weidner, Mayor; Sargent Jason Nothstein; and Annette Lacko, Secretary/Treasurer.
3. Present from the public- Ed Zeigler, Don Eckert, Todd Andrews, Ron Bauer, Ricky A Smith, Deb Paules, Tim Dennis, & Terry Ahner-Times News.
4. Opportunity for Residents & taxpayers to be Heard:
  - A. Ricky A Smith
    - Brought up concerns about response time from the ambulance. Are they staffing their rigs enough or enough rigs? They ask for more money but we aren't getting our service. Harold will ask Kristie to come to next weeks meeting to discuss more specifically.
    - What's going on with the memorial? Jen explained it is on the agenda. There was a meeting. we had to redo the budget and waiting for approval so we can close it out. We will finish everything up in spring when the weather is better.
    - Twin Alley- it is worse than before. David explained we had an excavating company there. We are waiting on their price and plan on what should be done to fix correctly.
    - Yellow lines painted- there was a long discussion on parking and the yellow lines. Sargent Jason Nothstein explained that it is law, Annette handed out the section, about parking by alleys, driveways etc. The discussion was it is law if it is painted or not. The Mayor, Sargent and the Road Foremen will review the problem areas in town and come up with a plan.
5. Standing Committees –
  - A. Finance – Jen
    - Budget-review your budget.
    - Memorial grant-discussed earlier
    - Will need a short executive session

B. Law – Mike & Harold –

- Harold made the motion to approve police contract for 1/1/2020-12/31/2023. Patrice seconded the motion. Mike-yes, Joan-yes, Harold-yes, Patrice-yes, Jen-yes, David-yes, & Bill-yes. Motion carried.

C. Streets - David & Harold –

- Mike Wentz gave David a report. David read it off about what they accomplished over the past month.
- Quote for front door at shop. It is rotting. Motion to purchase and have installed by Walnutport Door for \$2,975.00 made by Jen. David seconded the motion. Mike-yes, Joan-yes, Harold-yes, Patrice-yes, Jen-yes, David-yes, & Bill-yes. Motion carried.
- David asked Mike how are we on salt. Mike wants to get some ordered next week off the state purchasing contract.

D. Recreation – Jennifer-

- Walnutport Recreation Board – Jennifer - we have about 30 trees. have until November 18<sup>th</sup> to adopt on.
- NL Recreation Authority-Patrice – they are starting their funding campaign
- WPA/WCA-Patrice/Joan – nothing

E. Ordinance Review – Harold – nothing

F. Personnel –Michael & David –

- hire/appoint Code Enforcement Officer-we need to do a job description. Table till next week
- Mike made the motion to promote Mike Wentz to Road Foreman effective August 16, 2019 with retro pay. David seconded the motion. Mike-yes, Joan-yes, Harold-yes, Patrice-no, Jen-abstain, David-yes, & Bill-yes. Motion carried.
- Bill, David, & Mike thanked Mike Wentz for stepping up and getting things done when they needed to be. They have had more communication these past few months then in a long time.

G. Secretary/Treasurer – Annette Lacko

- PA Spotted Lantern Fly Cooperative Eradication Program- release form Solicitor will discuss next week
- Certificate of recognitions from the Northern Tier
- Working on 2020 dates

H. Grants-Michael Wentz –

- Jason Newhard will have an ordinance that should be redone about opening the street when there is a new development
- Mike gave an update. Applying for band shell this week

6. New Business –nothing

7. Unfinished Business/Reminders/work in process nothing

8. Upcoming events

- A. December 7th - 3rd annual tree lighting at the Walnutport Park (Walnutport Recreation Board)
  - B. December 14th – Candy Cane Hunt at Walnutport Park (NL Recreation Authority)
  - C. May 20, 2020 – E Recycling event held in borough parking lot
9. Mayor’s Announcements – Wayne asked for permission for fire police to help out in Palmerton on November 28, 2019 for their turkey run. Mike made that motion. Jen seconded the motion. Mike-yes, Joan-yes, Harold-yes, Patrice-yes, Jen-yes, David-yes, & Bill-yes. Motion carried.
10. Council entered into a brief executive session to discuss a personnel matter.
- A. Jen made motion to reinstate the motion from October 10<sup>th</sup> meeting to terminate Eric C Strohl’s employment with the Borough of Walnutport. David seconded the motion. Mike-yes, Joan-yes, Harold-yes, Patrice-yes, Jen-yes, David-yes, & Bill-yes. Motion carried.
  - B. Jen made the motion to accept Eric C Strohl’s retirement effective October 29, 2019. Joan seconded the motion. Mike-yes, Joan-yes, Harold-yes, Patrice-yes, Jen-yes, David-yes, & Bill-yes. Motion carried.
11. Adjournment – Motion to adjourn the meeting made by Joan at 8:50 pm. Mike seconded the motion. Mike-yes, Joan-yes, Harold-yes, Patrice-yes, Jen-yes, David-yes, & Bill-yes. Motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted by,

Annette S. Lacko  
Secretary/Treasurer