

Borough of Walnutport

Regular Meeting Minutes

Thursday December 8, 2022 7:00 pm

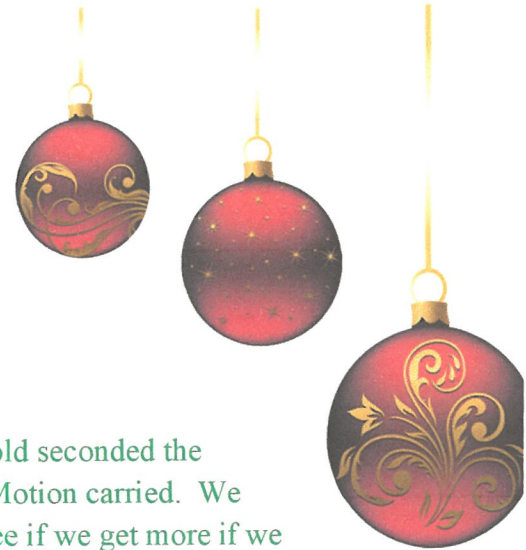
417 Lincoln Avenue; Walnutport, PA 18088



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.

Merry Christmas

1. Jennifer Wentz, Vice-President called the December 8, 2022 regular meeting of the Borough Council to order at 7:00 pm in the Walnutport Borough Hall 417 Lincoln Avenue; Walnutport, PA 18088. Mrs. Wentz led the Pledge of allegiance. A moment of silence was held in honor of the 2 firefighters from a neighboring community that lost their lives battling a fire.
2. Roll Call: William Turk, President (Absent); Harold Greene, Councilman; Iris Blum, Councilwoman (Absent); Michael Gaston, Councilman; David Stankovic, Councilman; Jennifer Wentz, Vice-President; Patrice Hunsicker, Councilwoman; Wayne Weidner, Mayor; Michael Corriere, Solicitor; 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- Mike Kovach, Dusty Keyser, Mark Bradberry, Tim Dennis, & Terry Ahner-Times News.
4. Opportunity for Residents & taxpayers to be Heard- none
5. Dusty Keyser & Mark Bradberry wanted to discuss the plans for Lehigh Gap Street before they submit their official plans. They agreed to work with the road foreman, & engineer to come up with a plan. Council agreed they will not waive any of the requirements for curbing and sidewalks. Undecided on road widening and how much till after engineer reviews.
6. Motion to approve A-H by general consent made by Mike. Harold seconded the motion. Mike-yes, Harold-yes, Jen-yes, David-yes, & Patrice-yes. Motion carried.
7. November 10, 2022 regular meetings minutes
 - A. November 2022 Profit & Loss Report
 - B. November 2022 Bill List/transaction by vendor
 - C. November 2022 Police report
 - D. November 2022 tax Collector Report
 - E. November 2022 Zoning permit report
 - F. November 2022 UCC permit report
 - G. November 2022 Code Enforcement Officer Report
8. Standing Committees –
 - A. Personnel- Jen
 - Motion to re-advertise for PT Asst. Secretary made by Patrice. Harold seconded the motion. Mike-yes, Harold-yes, Jen-yes, David-yes, & Patrice-yes. Motion carried. We didn't get many resumes. We will keep what we have but want to see if we get more if we include customer service in the advertisement.
 - B. Finance – Jennifer
 - Weekly recycling- with Annette's due diligence we finally got an answer. We will not be doing weekly recycling since they want to charge extra for that.
 - General ledger- Mike made the motion to approve the below General ledger transfer. Patrice seconded the motion. Mike-yes, Harold-yes, Jen-yes, David-yes, & Patrice-yes. Motion carried.



a) 393.140-430.245 \$\$82,058.77 Canal Street coming out of COVID

- 2023 budget hearing – public hearing was held. There was no comment. No council comments. Harold made the motion to close the public hearing. Mike seconded the motion. Mike-yes, Harold-yes, Jen-yes, David-yes, & Patrice-yes. Motion carried.
- Mike made the motion to approve milage rate Ordinance 2022-05 at 19.25, no tax increase again this year. Dave seconded the motion. Mike-yes, Harold-yes, Jen-yes, David-yes, & Patrice-yes. Motion carried.
- Mike made the motion to adopt 2023 budget as presented with adjustments. Harold seconded the motion. Mike-yes, Harold-yes, Jen-yes, David-yes, & Patrice-yes. Motion carried.

C. Public Safety (formerly law) – Mike & Harold –

- Mike made the motion to accept the letter of resignation of employee PTS01LW. Harold seconded the motion. Mike-yes, Harold-yes, Jen-yes, David-yes, & Patrice-yes. Motion carried.
- Mike made the motion to hire replacement PT police secretary Julie Niebell. Harold seconded the motion. Mike-yes, Harold-yes, Jen-yes, David-yes, & Patrice-yes. Motion carried.
- Fire inspector-duties & possibly appointment-there was another discussion between council, engineer, & BCO. Action to be taken next month.
- Blight property
- Cell tower-maintenance

D. Streets –David

- Report was read by David.

E. Recreation – Jennifer-

- Walnutport Recreation Board-Jennifer gave an update on the successful tree lighting. 2 food trucks showed up, the barista, Balloons by Robin, Whispering Springs Horse farm gave horse ride, Santa Claus was there, Diamond Fire Company held the candy cane hunt- 2,000 candy canes...we are already looking forward with ideas for next year's event. Jen thanked the Streets department for all the work putting up the trees and running the electric, plugging everything in.
- WPA/WCA-Iris send a message of apologies for not being able to attend. She also wanted the article that Walnutport Playground Association wrote up for the newsletter to be heard. For some reason the printers omitted their article. That will be addressed with the printer in spring.

F. Ordinance – Patrice - nothing

G. Secretary/Treasurer-Annette Lacko

- Meeting dates for 2023 as discussed last month and advertised were handed out
- Garbage complaints-getting complaints about garbage cans being thrown up driveways-then getting broken, and a lot of recycling bins getting broken. Annette will send a nice email to hauler to make them aware of the complaints. A suggestion of putting something in the newsletter about the correct direction a can should be placed the curb to prevent them from getting broken.
- Mike made the motion to close former Kmart escrow account. Harold seconded the motion. Mike-yes, Harold-yes, Jen-yes, David-yes, & Patrice-yes. Motion carried.
- Mike made the motion to close Frey escrow account. Harold seconded the motion. Mike-yes, Harold-yes, Jen-yes, David-yes, & Patrice-yes. Motion carried.
- Mike made the motion to close LOMO escrow account. Harold seconded the motion. Mike-yes, Harold-yes, Jen-yes, David-yes, & Patrice-yes. Motion carried.
- Mike made the motion to close Blue Ridge escrow account. Harold seconded the motion. Mike-yes, Harold-yes, Jen-yes, David-yes, & Patrice-yes. Motion carried.

- H. Grants/EMA Director-Mike Wentz – nothing
- I. Code Enforcement Officer, Scott Ledo- nothing
- J. Engineer's Report – Jason Newhard
 - See report- nothing else to report
 - Green Street
 - Spadt Alley
- K. Solicitor's Report – nothing
- 9. New Business-
 - A. Patrice questioned about putting a dumpster on a residential property if you have a business. Sean Corey answered that there are zoning requirements that need to be followed.
- 10. Unfinished Business –
 - A. Matt from Lehigh Valley Sierra Club proposed project Bertsch Creek- tabled till January
 - B. Geese permit
 - C. WPA-dug out issue
- 11. Upcoming events
- 12. Council entered into an executive session from 8:00-8:10 pm to discuss potential contractual litigation. No action taken at this time.
- 13. Mayor's Announcements – Have a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to everyone!!!
- 14. Adjournment – Motion to adjourn the meeting made by. Motion seconded by.



Respectfully Submitted by,

Annette S. Lacko, Secretary/Treasurer