

Borough of Walnutport

Regular Meeting Minutes

Thursday July 13, 2023 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. Mike Gaston, President called the July 13, 2023 regular meeting of the Borough Council to order at 7:04 pm in the Walnutport Borough Hall 417 Lincoln Avenue: Walnutport, PA 18088. Mr. Gaston led the Pledge of allegiance.
2. Roll Call: Michael Gaston, President; Jennifer Wentz, Vice-President; Harold Greene, Councilman; Iris Blum, Councilwoman; Samuel Hartman, Councilman; David Stankovic, Councilman; ~~Patrice Hunsicker, Councilwoman~~; Wayne Weidner, Mayor; Michael Corriere, Solicitor; Jason Newhard, Engineer; Mike Wentz, Grant Coordinator; Chief Peter Wayda; ~~Scott Ledo, Code Enforcement Officer~~; and Annette Lacko, Secretary/Treasurer.
3. Present from the Public- Terry Ahner from Times News, Emily Dougherty, TV13, & Don Eckhart.
4. Opportunity for Residents & taxpayers to be Heard –Don Eckhart wanted to apologize for his behavior and questioning everything in the past meetings with the sand on the volleyball court. He also questioned if the dumpster across from him is a public dumpster. No, it isn't. It is part of the businesses that is located over there.
5. Jen made the motion to approve A-D & F & G. Harold seconded the motion. Sam-yes, Iris-yes, Harold-yes, Dave-yes, Jen-yes, & Mike -yes. Motion carried.
 - A. June 8, 2023, regular meetings minutes
 - B. June 2023 Profit & Loss Report
 - C. June 2023 Bill List/transaction by vendor
 - D. June 2023 Police report
 - ~~E. June 2023 Tax Collector Report~~
 - F. June 2023 Zoning permit report
 - G. June 2023 UCC permit report
 - ~~H. June 2023 Code Enforcement Officers report~~
6. Standing Committees –
 - A. Finance – Jennifer
 - 1) ¼ midget racetrack lease agreement update-table till next month
 - 2) Insurance issue-executive session needed and possible action taken
 - 3) Garbage complaint with possible action-council discussed-no action taken
 - B. Public Safety – Harold
 - 1) Jen made the motion to approve \$870.00 education for Officer Nick Hartman for schooling. Dave seconded the motion. Sam-yes, Iris-yes, Harold-yes, Dave-yes, Jen-yes, & Mike -yes. Motion carried. This is to become a certified instructor in Defensive Tactic. He will use some of Chief Wayda's education expense since Chief will not renew his Defensive Tactic training.

- 2) Parking 600-700 block Williams Ave & Birch Street-discussed last year never followed through-Sam made the motion to allow Solicitor and engineer to prepare ordinance for no parking on parts of Williams Ave. Jen seconded the motion. Sam-yes, Iris-yes, Harold-yes, Dave-yes, Jen-yes, & Mike -yes. Motion carried. Keep Birch Street on agenda for next month
- C. Bill Turk Memorial project-working on frame. Should be done for next month. Will let everyone know if it is a definite for dedication at 6:30
- D. Streets –David
 - 1) June’s report
 - 2) Why isn’t PennDOT held accountable for cutting their own grass on Route 145? Mike Gaston is going to call Senator Miller. Representative Mako is aware of it already.
 - 3) Mike Wentz said AMS had a truck down so they will update when they will be able to finish work.
 - 4) Rotette Motors called. They have a trade show in September and want to take our F350 that we bought from them. Mike made a deal with them. Council is fine with them using it to show off at next trade show.
- E. Recreation
 - 1) Walnutport Recreation Board-Jennifer-tree lighting will be December 2nd
 - 2) WPA-Iris—busy playing ball
 - 3) WCA-Iris-working on fall festival
- F. Ordinance – Patrice
 - 1) Marijuana – medical – dispensary Ordinance/zoning update
 - 2) Rental licenses – rental vs family member
- G. Secretary/Treasurer’s report- Annette
 - 1) Bond – both per auditors recommendation
- H. Grant/Emergency Management Coordinator-Mike Wentz
 - 1) LSA opens Monday- police car
 - 2) County opens 24th -police car
 - 3) We were awarded almost \$200K for the 902 grant, the 904 we received \$27K, & LSA we received \$100K. All of that is for the equipment for brush recycling.
- ~~I. Code Enforcement—Scott Lede~~
- J. Engineer’s Report –
 - 1) See report
 - 2) Blight property-Lehigh Gap Street-possible action to be taken-Solicitor needs executive session
- K. Solicitor’s Report –
 - 1) Gogel matter-waiting on bankruptcy court
7. New Business
 - A. 2023 Halloween Parade-Jen made the motion to approve NL Events committee-parade request for Saturday October 28, 2023 with rain date of Sunday October 29th with the exception we will not allow road to be closed before 6:00 pm pending they submit a new

letter including the police and fire police. Harold seconded the motion. Sam-yes, Iris-yes, Harold-yes, Dave-yes, Jen-yes, & Mike -yes. Motion carried.

- B.** Harold made the motion to approve trapping permit for Ronald Prutzman. Iris seconded the motion. Sam-yes, Iris-yes, Harold-yes, Dave-yes, Jen-yes, & Mike -yes. Motion carried.
- C.** Dave made the motion to accept 902 Development & Implementation of Municipal Recycling Program Grant \$191,336.00. total cost of project \$212,596.00. Jen seconded the motion. Sam-yes, Iris-yes, Harold-yes, Dave-yes, Jen-yes, & Mike -yes. Motion carried.
- D.** Sam made the motion to order equipment, truck & equipment that was included in the 902 grant. Harold seconded the motion. Sam-yes, Iris-yes, Harold-yes, Dave-yes, Jen-yes, & Mike -yes. Motion carried.

8:10-8:32 pm council entered into an executive session to discuss contractual litigation- no action taken.

8. Unfinished Business –

- A.** Geese permit- waiting on permit.
- B.** Pickle ball/basketball court-pickle ball court done- basketball court will be done Friday or Monday.
- C.** WPA discussion
 - 1)** 215 building-Mike asked Iris to look into a date to meet with them

9. Walnutport canal-knotweed-all taken care of

10.Upcoming events

- A.** Fall e-recycling & shredding event September 20th
- B.** Walnutport Canal Festival Sunday October 15th
- C.** Trick or Treat Wednesday October 25th 6-8 pm

11.Opened seats yet

- A.** Planning Commission-1
- B.** Zoning Hearing Board-alternate needed
- C.** UCC Appeal Board-3
- D.** Civil Service Commission-1-
- E.** Recreation Board
- F.** Vacancy Board-1

12.Mayor's Announcements – have a wonderful summer

13.Adjournment – Iris made the motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:36 pm. Harold seconded the motion. Sam-yes, Iris-yes, Harold-yes, Dave-yes, Jen-yes, & Mike -yes. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted by,

Annette S. Lacko, Secretary/Treasurer