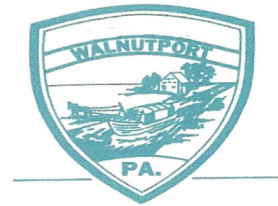


Borough of Walnutport

Regular Meeting Minutes

Thursday May 11, 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. Jennifer Wentz, Vice-President called the May 11, 2023 regular meeting of the Borough Council to order at 7:02 pm in the Walnutport Borough Hall 417 Lincoln Avenue: Walnutport, PA 18088. Mrs. Wentz led the Pledge of allegiance.
2. Roll Call: 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; 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- Bob & Nancy Treskot, Terry Ahner-Times News, Samuel Hartman & Ronald Marsteller.
4. A moment of silence for the passing of William Turk was held. Jennifer Wentz gave a brief announcement about Bill serving council from the late 1980's to present day and his passion for the borough.
5. Motion to fill vacant seat with application submitted to borough office Resolution 2023-02
 - A. There are 2 applicants for the vacancy. Council heard from Samuel Hartman and Nancy Treskot.
Patrice nominated Nancy-Iris seconded
Mike nominated Sam-Harold seconded
Mike made the motion to close the nominations. Iris seconded the motion. Mike-yes, Iris-yes, Harold-yes, Jen-yes, David-yes, & Patrice-yes. Motion carried.
There was a roll call vote-

Gaston-Hartman	Blum-Treskot
Greene-Hartman	Hunsicker-Treskot
Stankovic-Hartman	Wentz-Hartman

4-2 vote for Hartman
Harold made the motion to approve Resolution 2023-02. Mike seconded the motion. Mike-yes, Iris-yes, Harold-yes, Jen-yes, David-yes, & Patrice-yes. Motion carried.
Mayor Wayne Weidner sworn in Mr. Samuel Hartman since he has his affidavit of residency
6. Opportunity for Residents & taxpayers to be Heard –none
7. Discussion & possible action taken with the passing of Mr. Turk his vacant seat. Harold made the motion to declare the seat vacant due to the passing of Mr. Turk. Iris seconded that motion. Mike-yes, Sam-yes, Iris-yes, Harold-yes, Jen-yes, David-yes, & Patrice-yes. Motion carried.
8. Election of President and any other necessary seats vacant

- A. Harold made the motion to open nomination for president. Iris seconded the motion. Mike-yes, Sam-yes, Iris-yes, Harold-yes, Jen-yes, David-yes, & Patrice-yes. Motion carried.
- B. Dave Nominated Jen-She said no thank you. She does not have the extra time right now to give it the time it deserves.
- C. Iris nominated Mike Gaston. Sam seconded that nomination. Dave made the motion to close nominations. Harold seconded that motion. Mike-yes, Sam-yes, Iris-yes, Harold-yes, Jen-yes, David-yes, & Patrice-yes. Motion carried.
- D. Iris made the motion to appoint Mike Gaston to President of Borough Council. Sam seconded that motion. Mike-yes, Sam-yes, Iris-yes, Harold-yes, Jen-yes, David-yes, & Patrice-yes. Motion carried.

Mr. Michael Gaston -new president took over meeting

- 9. Patrice made the motion to approve A-H by general consent. Dave seconded the motion. Mike-yes, Sam-yes, Iris-yes, Harold-yes, Jen-yes, David-yes, & Patrice-yes. Motion carried.
 - A. April 13, 2023, regular meetings minutes
 - B. April 2023 Profit & Loss Report
 - C. April 2023 Bill List/transaction by vendor
 - D. April 2023 Police report
 - E. April 2023 Tax Collector Report
 - F. April 2023 Zoning permit report
 - G. April 2023 UCC permit report
 - H. April 2023 Code Enforcement Officers report

10. Standing Committees –

A. Finance – Jennifer

- 1) Motion to payout police unused holiday from 2022-will need brief execution session whenever
- 2) Pt asst secretary-waiting on 2 calls back for interviews to be scheduled
- 3) Harold made the motion to approve yearly budgeted donations

a) Fire Police Donation	\$2,000.00
b) Diamond Fire Company Donation	\$28,000.00
c) NOVA Donation	\$5,000.00
d) Recreation Board Donation	\$1,000.00
e) Slatington Public Library Donation	<u>\$3,000.00</u>

\$39,000.00. Dave seconded the motion. Mike-yes, Sam-yes, Iris-yes, Harold-yes, Jen-yes, David-yes, & Patrice-yes. Motion carried.

B. Public Safety – Michael

- 1) Blight property-Lehigh Gap Street
- 2) Fire alarm upgrade-there is an issue and needs an upgrade. Jen made the motion up to \$5,000.00. Dave seconded the motion. Mike-yes, Sam-yes, Iris-yes, Harold-yes, Jen-yes, David-yes, & Patrice-yes. Motion carried.

C. Streets –David

- 1) April's report Dave read the report.
- ~~2) Motion to advertise hiring pt street employee and discussion hiring pt street employee~~
- 3) Street work will be done 5/31 & 6/1-mill work

D. Recreation – Jennifer-

- 1) Walnutport Recreation Board-Jennifer
- 2) WPA-Iris-egg hunt went well maybe 275-300 kids, senior night went really well
- 3) WCA-Iris-Vince's cheesesteak fundraiser will be 6/7, 6/11 will be the spring breakfast

E. Ordinance – Patrice

- 1) Ordinance 2023-01 -Harold made the motion to advertise Ordinance 2023-01 Fire Code Fire inspector. Sam seconded the motion. Sam-yes, Iris-yes, Harold-yes, Patrice-yes, Dave-yes, Jen-yes, & Mike -yes. Motion carried.
- 2) Marijuana – medical – dispensary?? With the proposal in Lehigh Township, there was a discussion again with council. They decided to make a zoning update to define dispensary in gc and growing in ind. Jen made the motion to allow engineer and solicitor to work on updates. Harold seconded the motion. Sam-yes, Iris-yes, Harold-yes, Patrice-yes, Dave-yes, Jen-yes, & Mike -yes. Motion carried.

F. Secretary/Treasurer's report- Annette -nothing

G. Grant/Emergency Management Coordinator-Mike Wentz- a lot in pending status yet.
Waiting on DCNR to open up.

~~**H. Code Enforcement – Scott Ledo**~~

I. Engineer's Report –

- 1) See report
- 2) Need to meet with a street committee until next meeting to discuss issues

J. Solicitor's Report –

- 1) Gogel matter
- 2) Blight property-met with Northampton County-Brank Brooks should meet with Mike Wentz and Engineer to discuss options for blight property options with grants etc.
- 3) Business license issues-Annette will send solicitor issues

11.New Business

A. Discussion of possible memorial for Mr. Turk (Pete Wayda asked to be discussed)-after a brief discussion council decided they will form a committee. Who would like to be on this committee, Pete, Mike Gaston, Mike Wentz, Annette

- 1) Jen made the motion to approve application for use of facilities Walnutport Playground Association May 7, 2023 – Picture Day. Sam seconded the motion. Sam-yes, Iris-yes, Harold-yes, Patrice-yes, Dave-yes, Jen-yes, & Mike -yes. Motion carried.

B. Harold made the motion to close the escrow account for 203 S Canal Street per engineer approval. Dave seconded the motion. Sam-yes, Iris-yes, Harold-yes, Patrice-yes, Dave-yes, Jen-yes, & Mike -yes. Motion carried.

C. Harold made the motion to allow Fire police to help in the Borough of Palmerton on Saturday May 13, 2023 & Monday May 29, 2023 if they have volunteers available. Dave seconded the

motion. Sam-yes, Iris-yes, Harold-yes, Patrice-yes, Dave-yes, Jen-yes, & Mike -yes. Motion carried.

- D. Lehigh Tax Collection Committee Delegates updates- Annette should find out more information, then ask Kristie if she is interested-put on unfinished business for next month

12.Unfinished Business –

- A. Donald Bruinig's complaint about street/water
- B. Geese permit-reapplied
- C. WPA-back stop issue-end of season
- D. Pickle ball- Washington township is putting one in as well as Eagles Nest. A resident said Parkland just put one in.

13.Upcoming events

- A. E-recycling and shredding event May 17th 4-6 pm

14.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. Adding vacancy board-next month to appoint Jen Wentz

15.Mayor's Announcements – nothing other than Happy Mother's Day

16.Council entered into an executive session from 8:40-9:00 to discuss a personnel matter.

- A. Jen made the motion to payout the 2022 police unused holiday time. Patrice seconded the motion. Sam-yes, Iris-yes, Harold-yes, Patrice-yes, Dave-yes, Jen-yes, & Mike -yes. Motion carried.

17.Adjournment – Iris made the motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:02 pm. Harold seconded the motion. Sam-yes, Iris-yes, Harold-yes, Patrice-yes, Dave-yes, Jen-yes, & Mike -yes. Motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted by

Annette S. Lacko, Secretary/Treasurer