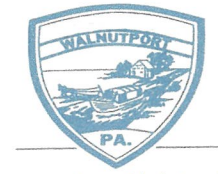


Borough of Walnutport

Regular Meeting Minutes

Thursday July 11, 2024, 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 July 11, 2024, 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.
2. Roll Call: Michael Gaston, President(absent); Jennifer Wentz, Vice-President; Harold Greene, Councilman; Iris Blum, Councilwoman; David Wentling, Councilman (absent); David Stankovic, Councilman; Patrice Hunsicker, Councilwoman; Wayne Weidner, Mayor; Michael Corriere, Solicitor; Jason Newhard, Engineer; Mike Wentz, Grant Coordinator; ~~Scott Lede, Code Enforcement Officer~~; Sergeant Jason Nothstein (officer in charge); and Annette S. Lacko, Secretary/Treasurer.
3. Present from the Public-Rebecca Hayden, Peggy Shannon, Rod Hatcher, Matt Hutchins, Drew Snowberger-TV13, William Miller III, Terry Ahner-Times News, & Eric Cochman-TV13.
4. Rebecca Hayden president of the watershed coalition of the Lehigh Valley and Peggy Shannon discussed the new signs they would like to hang along the canal for the plants they planted. They also gifted the borough a sign for the watershed. Council will discuss the signs next month and get back with their decision.
5. Opportunity for Residents & taxpayers to be Heard –
 - A. Rod Hatcher asked for update on Green Street. Solicitor will have petition for next meeting
6. Patrice made the motion to approve A-H by general consent. Iris seconded the motion. Iris-yes, Harold-yes, David S.-yes, Jen-yes, & Patrice-yes. Motion carried.
 - A. June 13, 2024, Regular Meeting Minutes
 - B. June 2024 Profit & Loss Report
 - C. June 2024 Bill List/transaction by vendor
 - D. June 2024 Police report
 - E. June 2024 Tax Collector Report
 - F. June 2024 Zoning permit report
 - G. June 2024 UCC permit report
 - H. June 2024 Code Enforcement Officer Report
7. Standing Committees –
 - A. Finance – Jennifer – executive session needed with possible action being taken-
 - ¼ midget racetrack lease agreement update-table
 - Insurance issue-equipment lease agreement possible action to be taken-working on
 - Day Care Lease-ends 2024-start taking a look at it
 - Start working on 2025 budget

B. Public Safety – Harold & Jason

- Police personnel (Requested by Jason)
- Patrice made the motion to hire pt police officer Matthew Hutchins. Harold seconded the motion. Iris-yes, Harold-yes, David S.-yes, Jen-yes, & Patrice-yes. Motion carried.
- Dave made the motion to advertise for full time police officer. Harold seconded the motion. Iris-yes, Harold-yes, David S.-yes, Jen-yes, & Patrice-yes. Motion carried.
- NOVA-Harold, Wayne, & Mike will be reaching out to NOVA for a meeting to discuss what is going on. Their response time has been long, or they haven't been responding and other companies have been responding to the borough. They will keep council posted.

C. Streets –David S.

- June 2024 report
- Pickle ball court-several complaints about day care kids climbing on net stretching it. Jen will compile a letter to the day care.
- Green Street-discussed earlier
- Dave made the motion to purchase new gas tank up to \$2,000; ran out of gas again. Iris seconded the motion. Iris-yes, Harold-yes, David S.-yes, Jen-yes, & Patrice-yes. Motion carried.

D. Recreation

- Walnutport Recreation Board-Jennifer forms are out for adopt a tree if anyone is interested already. We are still looking for food truck. Slide on By is confirmed.
- WPA-Iris gave a brief update
- WCA-Iris gave a brief update
- ~~Chamber of Commerce David W.~~
- ~~Veteran's Flag Committee David W.~~

E. Ordinance – Patrice nothing

F. Sanitation/Garbage-David Wentling-since Dave wasn't here Jen & Michael Corriere updated everyone

- new contract-ends 2024
 - a) Harold made the motion to advertise for sealed bids to be received by 3:00 on August 8, 2024. Dave seconded the motion. Iris-yes, Harold-yes, David S.-yes, Jen-yes, & Patrice-yes. Motion carried.

G. Secretary/Treasurer's Report- Annette Lacko

- Newsletter-need to send information to printers by noon tomorrow, will add trees under code enforcement yet

H. Grant/Emergency Management Coordinator-Mike Wentz gave a brief update

~~I. Code Enforcement – Scott Lede~~

J. Engineer's Report – Jason Newhard

- See report

- Lock 23 retaining wall-Discussion and Possible Motion for storm piping change order
- Patrice made the motion to approve 42” storm pipe change order. Dave seconded the motion. Iris-yes, Harold-yes, David S.-yes, Jen-yes, & Patrice-yes. Motion carried.

K. Solicitor’s Report – Michael Corriere

- Gogel matter-paperwork filed for tax exemption
- Blight property-645 Lehigh Gap Street-hearing scheduled 8/5/2024

L. Lehigh Tax Collection Committee-Kristie Wentling

8. New Business –

A. Discuss yard waste site

- No grass
- Residential only! No commercial. If you have someone cutting your trees/bushes they cannot bring that trimming to the site.
- If you have a full truck load you can make an appointment to go directly to Washington Township
- Spring/Fall opened-every other weekend-will verify driver’s license
- Dring week as needed basis-gate will remain locked
- Streets department will go around and pick up Christmas trees on specific date

9. Unfinished Business – nothing

10.Upcoming events

- A. September 18, 2024-E-recycling event & shredding**
- B. October 19 & 20 Walnutport Canal Festival 10-6**
- C. October 30, 2024-Trick or Treat rain or shine**
- D. December 7, 2024- tree lighting 5:00; Food Trucks 2:00; candy cane hunt 3:00**

11.Opened seats

- A. UCC Appeal Board-3**
- B. Recreation Board**
- C. Vacancy Board-1**

10.Council entered into an executive session from 8:10- 8:45 pm to discuss personnel matters. No action was taken.

11.Mayor’s Announcements – nothing

12.Adjournment – Iris made the motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:46 pm. Patrice seconded the motion. David W-yes, Iris-yes, Harold-yes, David S.-yes, Jen-yes, & Patrice-yes. Motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted by.

Annette S. Lacko, Secretary/Treasurer