

June 22, 2015

The regular meeting of Lehighon Borough Council was held in the municipal building on Monday, June 22, 2015. The meeting was called to order at 7 PM by Pres. Grant Hunsicker. Members in attendance were: Helen Torok, Joe Flickinger, John Kreitz, Darryl Arner and Scott Rehrig. Late: Bessie Bauchspies.

Officials in attendance were: Solicitor James Nanovic, Borough Manager Nicole Beckett, Borough Secretary Brenda Koons, Borough Engineer Bruce Steigerwalt, Mayor Tom Mase, Police Chief Brian Biechy, and Fire Chief Patrick Mriss.

Pledge of Allegiance

HEARING OF PERSONS PRESENT

Tom Boyko of 117 Railroad Street was present to ask to have his lease reinstated. He now has a tenant leasing one garage. Mr. Boyko said he is cleaning up the property and having the roof replaced. He would like council to reinstate his lease as he is taking care of the issues that lost him the lease.

Councilor Rehrig asked Mr. Boyko if he would be interested in a 3 year lease and was told yes, definitely. The borough manager was directed to research the lease and report back to council.

Theresa Chapman of 239 South 7th Street was present to ask if there was any progress with the speeding problem on South 7th Street. Chief Biechy said his department is doing what they can. He will keep on it as time and manpower are available.

Tim Snyder of 264 South 3rd Street had questions about the Quality of Life Officer. Mr. Snyder had a pipe break on a Sunday. He had a friend come to help him clean it up and put the ruined items out for garbage. On Thursday he received a fine for construction materials on property. Mr. Snyder spoke to Greg who voided the ticket but feels Greg is going a little overboard with the tickets. Maybe council needs to sit down with Greg and go over what he is giving tickets out for.

Councilor Flickinger said we need to get with Greg and go over complaints. He is going overboard. Two houses down from Councilor Flickinger's house is still an issue and Tim knows it. Councilor Kreitz said tires were stored on the side of his neighbor's house in bags and they were cited until the tire recycle event. Nicole said she will look at the ordinance again and talk to Greg.

Councilor Rehrig said the ordinance is working though. Chief Biechy said the ordinance needs to be broad enough to live with but effective enough to clean up properties. Nicole said June 10 there was a public hearing and only 7 people showed up.

Jenny Carrigan of 253 South 3rd Street said she was cited for pallets piled up by her garage. She said she uses them for crafts. She stated she was also cited for her neighbor's weeds. Ms. Carrigan said Tim Dow was rude to her on the phone when he told her they were construction debris and she pointed out that Lowe's sells the 4 for \$25. She said Tim

Dow also told her it was a fire hazard and gave her a hard time when she told him her property ends at the overhang of her garage and the weeds are past that on her neighbor's property that the bank is responsible for. She believes she does a good job taking care of her property and thinks they are going a little overboard.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Regular Meeting of May 18, 2015

No minutes were submitted.

NEW BUSINESS

Motion to approve Crusade for the Homeless 5K Run/Walk July 18, 2015

Councilors Flickinger/Arner made the motions to approve and all were in favor with no questions or objections.

Motion to approve Zombie Zoom 5K Run or Stalk to benefit Shull David 4th graders

Councilors Bauchspies/Flickinger made the motions to approve and all were in favor with no questions or objections.

Motion to appoint Keith Schnell to the Police Civil Service Commission

Councilors Rehrig/Kreitz made the motions to appoint and all were in favor with no questions or objections. The borough secretary said Chris Schnell submitted a letter today to be appointed to the Planning Commission. Councilors Rehrig/Torok made the motions to appoint and all were in favor with no questions or objections.

Motion to adopt Resolution R-006-2015 request for grant funding through Greenways, Trails & Recreation program for \$250,000

Councilor Rehrig/Flickinger made the motions to adopt the resolution and all were in favor with no questions or objections.

Motion to approve the funding commitment letter in the amount of \$18,000 and letter supporting the project

Councilors Rehrig/Bauchspies made the motions to approve the funding commitment and all were in favor with no questions or objections.

Motion to hire Dawn McCabe, Alyssa Matika and Michael Pados as pool staff for the 2015 season (Pre-hiring processes have been completed)

Councilors Flickinger/Torok made the motions to hire and all were in favor with no questions or objections.

Discussion/Action on applying for funding to update the zoning ordinance/SALDO

Councilors Rehrig/Kreitz made the motions to apply for funding and all were in favor with no questions or objections.

Request from Lehighon Ambulance Association to release budget allocation of \$5,000 for the LifePak 15 Cardiac monitors

Councilors Arner/Torok made the motions to release the funds and all were in favor with no questions or objections.

Motion to award 2015 Street Project as reviewed/recommended by Borough Engineer and Borough Manager

Nicole reported that no bids were received. It must be re-advertised. Bruce emailed John Davis for clarification on re-advertising.

Bruce said Nicole called 1 contractor and was told they couldn't do the project by the deadline and 2 others said they don't do tar and chip any longer. Bruce needs to ask John Davis a few questions. Bruce needs to know if we can do 2 contracts and if it needs to be PennDOT prequalified or not. If not Bruce thinks we might get bids and bituminous seal coat can only be done until September 15.

Councilors Rehrig/Kreitz made the motions to re-advertise after Bruce gets confirmation from Mr. Davis and all were in favor with no questions or objections.

Motion to approve the Land Development Improvement Agreement for the "Stadium Improvements - Lehigh Area School District"

Councilor Rehrig asked the borough engineer if all was in order and Bruce said yes; the plans can now be signed.

Councilor Rehrig/Kreitz made the motions to approve the agreement and all were in favor with no questions or objections.

Councilor Rehrig also said that starting in October there will be a Jr. Councilor - Addison Howland.

Unfinished Business

Discussion/Action on the AutoZone Development Agreement

They provided a \$5,000 escrow check, bid bond and the signed development agreement. There were 5 conditions - electrical service, utility HOPs, approved development agreement, vacation of streets and condition easement.

Solicitor Nanovic said council can approve the developer's agreement but it can't be signed. Councilors Rehrig/Flickinger made the motions to approve the developer's agreement and all were in favor with no questions or objections.

Discussion on proposed sidewalk ordinance

The solicitor said the draft ordinance is done. He added that sidewalks must be installed at time of sale. Councilor Arner said that hurts the elderly who are going into assisted living. It hurts the amount they receive to live on when the house is sold. The mayor disagreed. He said it isn't hurting anyone if done at the time of sale. He also pointed out that the houses on Bankway are on a hill and they have sidewalks. The mayor feels we need to get out of the horse and buggy days and put safety first by getting residents out of the street and onto sidewalks. President Hunsicker said he always sees people walking/running in the street where there are sidewalks to be on. The solicitor said they are in the street because there are no sidewalks.

Addendum

Motion to advertise the ordinance to vacate Third Avenue and Parkway

Councilors Rehrig/Flickinger made the motions to advertise the ordinance. Bessie abstained from voting. 6 councilors voted to advertise. Motion carried.

Officials Reports

Borough Manager

Nicole asked for questions on her report. She did ask for a motion to approve a letter of support for the Jim Thorpe River Adventure's Greenway, Trails & Recreation Program application. Councilors Rehrig/Bauchspies made the motions to send the letter and all were in favor with no questions or objections.

Borough Engineer

Nothing.

Police

Chief Biechy said Nicole put a great deal of effort into their COPs grant. Car #6 is getting decaded and the new computer is ordered.

Mayor

Mayor Mase said speeding arrests have gone up along with other arrests.

Fire Chief

Nothing.

President of Council

Solicitor

Attorney Nanovic said the Sewer Use Ordinance will be back on the agenda in the next few months.

Treasurer

Additional list of bills totaling \$4785.51.

Committee Reports

Finance and Administration – Nothing.

Streets, Buildings and Codes – Nothing.

Police, Fire and Safety – Councilor Rehrig asked if there has been any progress with the bay. Brian said there has been no discussion to date. Scott then asked Brian to get with Public Works and make a list of sight distance intersections and get them fixed.

Light & Power Committee – Councilors Torok and Flickinger have set up a meeting with Light & Power to go over projects. Rehrig requested that we install privacy shields on fencing at L&P garage.

Sewer Committee – nothing.

Public Works & Recreation – Councilor Kreitz talked to Al today about Gypsy Hill Road. It will be worked on in 2 weeks. Franklin Twp. will use their milling machine and smooth the road. Our milling machine can't do it so there is a request for a new smaller skid steer that Caterpillar makes and it has attachments you can rent for different jobs.

Councilor Rehrig said he is not opposed to getting it if it is used and doesn't sit in the garage. Grant said to sell the old machine if it's not being used. Brian said they can practice with the machine in his parking lot.

Kreitz also asked for the daily attendance log. There doesn't seem to be enough people to get the work done.

Scott said we should advertise for 2 part-time employees.

Nicole wanted to discuss the alleys in need of paving. She said there is \$5,000. Bruce is looking to see the cost of each one so we can decide which ones to do.

Scott also said the lines need to be painted in the borough. They are atrocious. Nicole and Brenda thought more lines were painted this year than in the past years.

Acceptance of Officials Reports

Councilors Rehrig/Flickinger made the motions to accept the official's reports as presented and all were in favor with no questions or objections.

Acceptance of Accounts Payable

Councilors Arner/Rehrig made the motions to accept the accounts payable as presented and addition list of bills and all were in favor with no questions were objections.

Motion to go into Executive Session for Personnel

Councilors Rehrig/Arner made the motions to go in at 7:55 p.m.

Motion to go back into Regular Session

Councilors Flickinger/Rehrig made the motions to go back in at 8:35 p.m.

Action on items from Executive Session

Councilors Rehrig/Kreitz made the motions to advertise for full-time and part-time Public Works employees and all were in favor with no questions or objections.

Motion to Adjourn the Meeting

Councilors Rehrig/Flickinger made the motions to adjourn the meeting at 8:06 PM and all were in favor. Meeting adjourned.

Brenda L. Koons
Borough Secretary