

June 20, 2016

The regular meeting of Lehighon Borough Council was held in the municipal building on Monday, June 20, 2016. The meeting was called to order at 7 PM by Pres. Grant Hunsicker. Members in attendance were: Lisa Perry, Joe Flickinger, Jared McEvoy, Helen Torok, Darryl Arner, Scott Rehrig and Jr. Councilor Addison Howland.

Officials in attendance were: Borough Manager Nicole Beckett, Borough Secretary Brenda Koons, Solicitor James Nanovic, 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, owner of Checkered Flag on Sgt. Stanley Hoffman Blvd. wanted to know if council gave any further thought to renewing his lease. There is also a piece of borough property in front of his business he is interested in purchasing and he is willing to pay for the appraisal if council is interested in selling it. He would like to pave the roadway in front of his business but prefers to wait until he knows if council is willing to sell the property. He is going to try and fill the potholes currently there with millings to make it look nicer.

Nicole told Mr. Boyko that if the property appraises at over \$1,500 it must go out for bid. President Hunsicker asked if this will affect what is going on along the bypass and Nicole said to a point yes it will.

Councilor Arner asked to discuss the matter further in executive session under real estate.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

GUESR SPEAKER: Dennis Demara, Delaware & Lehigh National Heritage Corridor

He addressed council regarding the Intergovernmental Agreement for the Connectivity Project. He presented the agreement that is a DCNR requirement for the county grant. The County is the grantee; Lehighon Sewer Authority, East Penn Twp. Lehighon and Jim Thorpe Boroughs need to enter into a long term maintenance agreement for the short loop behind Red Castle. The D&L are hoping to go out for bid next week.

Regular Meeting of April 25 & May 23, 2016

Councilor Flickinger said there was one error in the April minutes. He said that the grant was for \$1 million not \$100,000.00

Councilors Flickinger/Perry made the motions to approve the April minutes with the correction and the May minutes and all were in favor with no questions or objections.

NEW BUSINESS

Motion to approve the Subdivision/Boundary Line Adjustment for the Lehighon Sewage Authority with any revisions necessary after Carbon County Planning Review

Minutes from the Lehighon Planning Commission were included in council packets. The Borough Engineer said Note #5 has been corrected. A lot is to be created for purchase by RJ Walker to eliminate the easement granted by LSA for Mr. Bennett for use behind the Walker building. Through the negotiations with this easement Walker expressed his interest in the purchase of the property. The title for the Castle Grill property is not clear causing another issue in the connectivity

project. An easement will need to be created to allow the trail to be built for the Weissport connection to straighten out this issue.

Bruce said the Carbon County Planning Commission meets tomorrow and this is on their agenda. This should clear up the ownership issue.

Councilors Flickinger/McEvoy made the motions to grant conditional approval and all were in favor with no questions or objections.

Motion to approve Change Order #5 in the amount of \$7,000 to apply sealer to the bluestone pavers

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

Motion to advertise and ordinance to adopt trust agreements of Municipal Risk

Councilors Rehrig/Arner made the motions to advertise the ordinance and all were in favor with no questions or objections.

Motion to hire Hilbert Haas as a substitute crossing guard pending pre-employment physical and screenings

Councilor Arner/Rehrig made a motion to hire pending physical and screening and all were in favor with no questions or objections.

Motion to approve Lehighon Takedown Clubs Annual Car Show around the Lower Park Sunday, August 21, 2016 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

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

Discussion/Action on proposal provided by Dalton Lorah for the 4th & Bridge Street Sewer Project in the amount of \$10,200 with the borough purchasing materials

Nicole said an EDU was approved 2 years ago for the new building at the cemetery. Bruce said he and Lorah worked together and figured out the best way to go about the hook up. The borough will supply the materials and Lorah will complete the work before July 5, 2016.

Councilors Rehrig/Flickinger made the motions to approve the work be done and all were in favor with no questions or objections.

Discussion/Action on purchase and financing of Mack Granite Axle Back Chassis for Dump/Plow in the amount of \$176,334.59

Kris provided in the agenda packets a list of things wrong with the old truck. Nicole said the funds would not come out of Liquid Fuels but out of the General Fund or Sewer Fund. It will be \$38,000 a year for 5 years.

Councilors Rehrig/Torok made the motions to purchase with a 3 year lease through Community Leasing Partners with the stipulation that when the new truck arrive the old one goes to the junk yard and all were in favor with no questions or objections.

Discussion/Action on the purchase of a 2016 Versalift Material Loading Bucket Truck in the amount of \$205,148

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

Discussion/Action on purchase of tablets for Council

Nicole said interest has been expressed to have tablets purchased for councilors. This will save copying agenda packets and council would have them for use with borough business as well as being provided with a borough email.

There is a special going on through Verizon for iPads. \$250 off the purchase and \$40/month which includes the data usage.

Councilor Flickinger prefers to let each councilor purchase their own. He also mentioned that a form was sent out from the COG pertaining to a municipal auction they wish to hold at the East Penn Social Hall.

Bruce asked the cost to each member and was told each member would keep 75 – 80% and the rest would go to the COG to defray membership fees and the other money would go towards advertising. Councilor Flickinger said the buyer pays the auctioneer fee and you can bring anything you want to get rid of. The items must be declared surplus property of the borough. The form must be submitted by June 27th and the auction will be in August. Nicole said she will talk to Public Works and Light & Power to see if they have anything and then submit the form if necessary.

Unfinished Business

Continued Discussion/Action on Matt Bender or another officer attending Camp Cadet

Councilors Rehrig/Flickinger made the motions to approve Officer Bender attending the camp and all were in favor with no questions or objections.

Officials Reports

Borough Manager

Nicole said the Lower Park dedication will be this Friday, June 24 at 11 am. She said she and Bruce will be attending an MS4 seminar. She has a request from Kobalt for payment upon Bruce's approval. She presented Scott and Grant PSAB awards for years of service.

Borough Engineer

He met with John Davis of PennDOT regarding the bypass. He will follow up on the leads Mr. Davis provided.

Police

Chief Biechy said the Civil Service testing list is ready. Officer Villanueva has taken a full time position in Whitehall. He has returned all his equipment. Chief Biechy is just waiting for him to turn in his letter of resignation.

Mayor

He has received complaints from residents after last week's ceremony about people not cleaning up after their animals in the Lower Park. Animals are not allowed in the park.

Fire Chief

He invited council to their Strategic Planning meeting July 16th at 9 a.m. The department received a state grant for new hydrant adapters. They received just under \$14,000. They just finished hose testing saving about \$10,000 a year by doing it themselves.

President of Council

Nothing.

Solicitor

Nothing.

Treasurer

Additional bills totaling \$9,618.02 and the Kobalt payment request in the amount of \$45,000.

Committee Reports

Finance and Administration – nothing.

Streets, Buildings and Codes – nothing.

Police, Fire and Safety – they met with the police and plan to meet with the fire chief and assistant fire chief next.

Light & Power Committee – nothing.

Sewer Committee – nothing. Nicole said she attended this month's LSA meeting. They would like the I & I to go out for proposals and she is moving forward with it. Nicole told Councilor Perry she is more than welcome to attend the meetings to learn more about her committee.

Public Works & Recreation – Jared would like to revisit the grant for the basketball courts proposed for Baer Memorial. He feels it's a good idea to go for the grant. The more we provide for the kids to do constructively the better.

Councilors Rehrig/McEvoy made the motions to go after the grant for the basketball courts and all were not in favor. A roll call vote was taken with Councilor Flickinger voting no and Councilors Rehrig, Arner, Torok, McEvoy and Hunsicker voting yes. Motion carried.

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 Rehrig/Arner made the motions to accept the accounts payable plus the additional list of bills and the Kobalt payment request as presented and all were in favor with no questions or objections.

Motion to go into Executive Session for Personnel

Councilors Rehrig/Flickinger requested to go into executive session for personnel and real estate at 7:58 p.m.

Motion to go back into Regular Session

Councilors Rehrig/McEvoy made the motions to back into regular session at 8:26 p.m.

Action on Items from Executive Session

Motion to hire John Rupell as a full-time employee for Public Works

Councilor Flickinger recused himself from the vote due to being related to Mr. Rupell. Councilors Rehrig/McEvoy made the motions to hire and all were in favor with no questions or objections.

Motion to hire Ryan Heckman as a full-time employee for Public Works

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

Motion to approve 3 month probation extension for Anthony Krum

Councilors Arner/Flickinger made the motions to extend the probation period 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 8:30 PM and all were in favor. Meeting adjourned.

Brenda L. Koons
Borough Secretary