

**BOROUGH OF ST. LAWRENCE
MEETING MINUTES
THURSDAY, AUGUST 13, 2015**

ATTENDANCE:

Mr. Robert J. May, Council President
Mr. David W. Eggert, Council Vice President
Rev. D. Michael Bennethum, Councilman
Mrs. Joan Eshelman, Councilwoman
Mr. Warren Lubenow, Councilman
Mr. Cary G. Whitman, Councilman

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE:

Ms. Joan London, Borough Solicitor
Ms. Allison Leinbach, Borough Manager
Mrs. Susan Eggert, Borough Secretary
Mr. Michael Fritz, Borough Mayor
Mr. Steve Geibel, Resident/Representative for Exeter Fire Co
Mrs. Denise Godek, Borough Resident
Ms. Kristy Godek, Borough Resident
Ms. Deb Dreisbach, No Nonsense Neutering
Ms. Leann Quire, No Nonsense Neutering
Ms. Aimee Adams, No Nonsense Neutering

ABSENT:

Mr. Rick Davidson, Councilman

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting of the St. Lawrence Borough Council was called to order by Council President, Mr. Robert J. May, at 7:20 PM. Mr. May immediately turned the meeting over to Ms. London for the purpose of a Conditional Use Hearing for the property owned by Mr. Brian Scott Landis at 3300 Oley Turnpike Road, Reading, PA 19606.

CONDITIONAL USE HEARING: The hearing was held and a court reporter was present. The Council went into executive session at 8:12 PM. Council came out of executive session and rendered a decision. Ms. London indicated that the written decision will be done within the next 30 days and presented to Council for approval.

REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING: The regular monthly meeting followed the Conditional Use Hearing.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES: The minutes the meeting of July 9, 2015 were presented to Council for review. There were no questions, corrections or clarifications to the minutes. **MOTION:** Mr. David Eggert made the motion to approve the minutes as presented; seconded by Mrs. Joan Eshelman; all were in favor and the motion carried. The minutes from the public meeting regarding stormwater was presented to Council for review. There were no questions, corrections or clarifications to the minutes. **MOTION:** Mrs. Eshelman made the motion to approve the minutes of the public stormwater meeting; seconded by Mr. Eggert; all were in favor and the motion carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT: The treasurer's report was presented to Council for review. There were no questions, corrections or clarifications to the report. Ms. Leinbach indicated that the treasurer's report could be approved as presented and filed for audit. **MOTION:** Mr. Eggert made the motion to approve the treasurer's report was presented and file it for audit; seconded by Mr. Cary Whitman; all were in favor and the motion carried.

GENERAL: \$330,016.42 **SEWER:** \$231,769.84 **RESERVES:** \$48,721.00 **LIQUID FUELS:** \$136,807.21

APPROVAL AND PAYMENT OF BILLS: Bills requiring payment and ratification from both the general fund and sewer fund were presented to Council for review. There were no questions, corrections or clarifications to the bills that were presented. Bills requiring payment and ratification from the general fund total \$62,144.40. Bills requiring payment from the sewer fund total \$77,328.61. **MOTION:** Mr. Eggert made the motion authorizing payment and ratification of all bills presented; seconded by Mrs. Eshelman; all were in favor and the motion carried.

CENTRAL BERKS POLICE DEPARTMENT - SGT. JUSTIN JOHNSON

Sgt. Johnson presented this evening to answer any questions that Council may have of the police department at this time. There were no questions. Sgt. Johnson indicated that the National Night Out went very well and thanked the Borough for contributing to the evening. Mrs. Eggert thanked the police for coming to the playground for the Cops Vs. Kids Bombardment game; the kids talked about it for days.

PUBLIC HEARING AND PETITIONS:

NO NONSENSE NEUTERS - Deb Dreisbach, Leann Quire and Aimee Adams presented before Council to discuss the TRN program for Ferrell cats. Ms. Dreisbach indicated that they have been contacted by a resident of the Borough to help with the trapping, neutering and releasing of cats. The program was explained in detail to Council and how they can be of help to control the Ferrell cat population and the good that they serve the community. Council offered to give \$500 for the program where the Borough would pay \$25 and the resident would pay \$10 to trap, neuter and release cats back to the community. The ladies were greatly appreciative for the time and cooperation of the Borough. **MOTION:** Mrs. Eshelman made the motion to contribute \$500 to the No Nonsense Neuters program for the TNR of Ferrell cats where the Borough would contribute \$25 and the resident \$10 per cat; seconded by Mr. Eggert; all were in favor and the motion carried.

KRISTY GODEK – 215 ELM STREET - Ms. Godek introduced herself to Council. She indicated that she was served with a notice of violation for her shed. She asked why she was served and not contacted. The Zoning Officer, Ms. Leinbach, indicated that she was sent notice by regular mail and certified mail which was never picked up and this was the next means of communication with her through the process. She was very upset that she was never contacted by phone. It was explained to her that all responses are done by mail so that there can be a paper trail. She indicated that she did drop off a zoning permit application on 3/4/15 and never heard anything back so she proceeded with the placement of her shed. The mailing indicated that this application was incomplete and more information was needed which was never received. Mrs. Denise Godek, who is also a resident of the Borough and the mother of Ms. Godek indicated that she called the Borough office in November and was told that a zoning permit was required so that the Borough would know what is being done and that there was no fee for the zoning permit and felt that they were given incorrect information. It was explained to them that things changed on 1/1/15 and therefore there was more information required of them. After lengthy discussion, Mr. May told them that they need to submit the proper zoning permit with all of the information required and that this could be revisited at the September meeting but that Council cannot give a waiver on zoning and they would have to go before the Zoning Hearing Board if that was what is being requested.

REPORT OF THE CODE ENFORCEMENT OFFICER

Mr. Daniels was not in attendance this evening.

REPORT OF THE BOROUGH ENGINEER - PAMELA STEVENS

Ms. Stevens was not in attendance this evening however her written report was reviewed and discussed in detail.

REPORT OF THE BOROUGH SOLICITOR - JOAN LONDON, KOZLOFF STOUTD

POLICE SERVICES AGREEMENT - The police service contract expires at the end of this calendar year. Last month Ms. London was given some preliminary numbers. The numbers actually reflect a 4% increase in the first year and between approximately 3-3.5% increase each year after that. This would actually be a 5-year contract running

from 2016 through 2020. The Police Commission will send a copy of the new Collective Bargaining Agreement once it is finalized so that the new agreement can be adopted. Ms. London has asked that the Borough be listed as an additional insured on the liability insurance coverage. Details are enclosed. **MOTION:** Mr. Lubenow made the motion to adopt the new Police Services Agreement that will run from 1/1/16 through until 12/31/ 2020; seconded by Mrs. Eshelman; all were in favor and the motion carried. This will be put on September's agenda.

ORDINANCE 433- Ordinance 433 prohibits the keeping of chickens, bees and livestock in the Borough as well as wild animals. The Ordinance is enclosed for details. **MOTION:** Mr. Eggert made the motion to adopt Ordinance 433; seconded by Rev. Bennethum; all were in favor and the motion carried.

ORDINANCE 434 - Ordinance 434 revises the street opening permit fees and penalties. Details of the Ordinance are enclosed. **MOTION:** Mr. Whitman made the motion to adopt Ordinance 434; seconded by Mr. Eggert; all were in favor and the motion carried.

REPORT OF THE BOROUGH MAYOR - MICHAEL FRITZ

The police report was available for review.

STREETS & LIGHTS

SNOW PLOWING - Ms. Leinbach indicated that there were a few issues last year with the insurance audit and the fact that they questioned workman's compensation insurance. We may have to do a request for proposal for snow plowing due to this potential problem. Ms. Leinbach will start working on a proposal.

RECREATION - DAVID EGGERT

The playground is over and was a very successful year. We now have had a lot of younger children attending the playground.

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT COORDINATOR - ROBERT MAY

Mr. May will begin to work on a request for proposal for fire protection and EMS.

MUNICIPAL LANDS

Mr. Lubenow indicated that he has spoken to a forestry person about what we the Borough can do for harvesting. At this time Mr. Lubenow was not sure if it was worth doing anything other than setting up a spraying program. More discussion will be had in the future.

NEWSLETTER

The next newsletter will most likely go out the end of August or beginning of September.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: Mr. May asked that Council go into executive session with regard to personnel matters.

MOTION: Mr. Whitman made the motion to go into executive session with regard to personnel matters; seconded by Mr. Eggert; all were in favor and the motion carried. Council went into executive session at 9:24 PM. Council came out of executive session at 9:28 PM.

ACTION: MOTION: Mr. Eggert made the motion to increase Mr. Derrek Rhoads to \$14.00 per hour from this time forward as well as retroactive from the beginning of the summer for the stormwater/GIS work that he has done; seconded by Mrs. Eshelman; all were in favor and the motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT: MOTION: Mr. Eggert made the motion to adjourn; seconded by Mrs. Eshelman; all were in favor and the motion carried. The meeting of the St. Lawrence Borough Council adjourned at 9:29 PM.

Respectfully submitted,



Susan D. Eggert

Borough Secretary

ST. LAWRENCE BOROUGH COUNCIL

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