

**BOROUGH OF ST. LAWRENCE
MEETING MINUTES
THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 2021**

ATTENDANCE: Mr. Robert J. May, Council President
Mr. David W. Eggert, Council Vice President
Rev. D. Michael Bennethum, Councilman
Mr. Steve Geibel, Councilman
Mr. Warren Lubenow, Councilman
Mr. Gregory Zawilla, Councilman (Attending via Zoom)

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE: Ms. Allison Leinbach, Borough Manager
Mr. Derrek Rhoads, Borough Road Master
Mr. Barrie C. Kinsey, Borough Mayor
Mrs. Susan D. Eggert, Borough Secretary
Mr. Ty Leinnewebber, SDE, Borough Engineer
Ms. Joan London, Kozloff Stoudt, Borough Solicitor

ABSENT: Mr. Michael Fritz, Councilman

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting of the St. Lawrence Borough Council was called to order by Council President, Mr. Robert J. May, at 7:30 PM.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES: The minutes from the January 14, 2021, meeting were distributed to the members of Council prior to the meeting 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 Mr. Warren Lubenow; all were in favor and the motion carried.

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

GENERAL: \$224,440.38 **RESERVE:** \$76,509.30 **FIRE TAX:** \$3,430.16 **SEWER:** \$324,028.73 **LIQUID FUELS:** \$269,752.89

APPROVAL AND PAYMENT OF THE BILLS: All bills requiring payment and ratification were distributed to the members of Council prior to the meeting for review. Bills requiring payment and ratification from the general fund totaled \$109,898.15. Bills requiring payment and ratification from the sewer fund totaled \$90,607.54. Bills requiring payment and ratification from the liquid fuels fund totaled \$6,694.01. Bills requiring payment and ratification from the fire tax fund totaled \$2,750.00. There were no questions or clarifications to the bills presented. **MOTION:** Mr. Eggert made the motion authorizing approval and payment as well as ratification of all bills presented from all funds; seconded by Rev. Bennethum; all were in favor and the motion carried.

REPORT OF THE BOROUGH ENGINEER - TY LEINNEWEBER, SDE

READING REAL ESTATE - Mr. Leinneweber has reviewed a new plan submitted by Reading Real Estate. This is the fifth review being done for this property and the review letter is nine pages long. There are still outstanding line items to be addressed including proper lighting in the area of the "new parking spaces" that are shown on the plan. This review letter was gone through for Council and is in the minutes for review. In the area of the new parking spaces lighting is requested as this was not shown on the original plan and not included in the variance from the Zoning Hearing Board. The engineer is also requesting a guide rail in this area. It was also noted that with the potential uses that are being proposed this parking plan is still seven spaces short. The issue of the sidewalks was also discussed. Originally Council was willing to give the owner three years from plan approval to construct the sidewalks however there have been problems with this being completed in other locations so more thought is going to have to go into whether or not to allow the waiting period. Council took no action on this plan this evening.

REPORT OF THE CODE ENFORCEMENT/ZONING OFFICER - ALLISON LEINBACH

Ms. Leinbach indicated that courtesy letters were sent to all residents on Elm Street with regard to the snow blowing and shoveling of snow into the street. Elm Street was a disaster from this happening. Ms. Leinbach indicated that if this continues her recommendation would be to make both sides of Elm Street snow emergency routes. A written report was available for review.

REPORT OF THE BOROUGH MAYOR - BARRIE KINSEY

Mayor Kinsey wanted to thank Mr. Rhoads and his crew for a job well done on the streets in the Borough during the huge snow fall. The police report was available for review.

STREETS & LIGHTS

SOLAR LIGHT ON ORCHARD COURT - Mr. Rhoads indicated that the solar light on Orchard Court is working again. Mr. Rhoads reported there was a huge wasp nest in the light which was cleaned out and the light is working again. The street light on Levan Street has a problem most likely with the transformer and a ticket has been put in to MetEd with regard this problem.

PLANNING COMMISSION

Ms. London indicated that she was notified earlier today about a potential property owner wanting to come to the Planning Commission to discuss the property at 500 Parkview Road. There is an agreement of sale for the property however the two-week timeframe has passed for filing anything for a Commission meeting and nothing was received to review. Mrs. Eggert indicated that she would reach out to the Commission members to see if she can get a quorum for the February 24th meeting.

SANITARY SEWER

Request from Phoebe Ministries was received about possibly waiving the late fees on the sewer bill. They are claiming that it took three weeks for the check to be deposited from the date it was mailed. Council asked Ms. Leinbach to reach out to Mt. Penn Water Authority for more information about the date of the check and the deposit and report back to Council in March.

INSURANCE

The Telco claim has been settled and the reimbursement was received from the insurance company.

LIBRARY LIAISON - REV BENNETHUM

Rev. Bennethum indicated that the library is still offering curbside pickup.

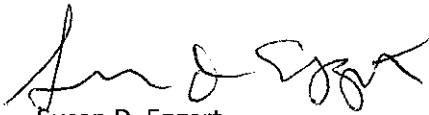
UNFINISHED BUSINESS

WAR MEMORIAL PLAQUE - Potential locations were marked out by Mr. Rhoads. Council discussed and would like to place the plaque on the wall at the first landing on the stairwell. The emergency light box will be raised and a LED light fixture installed to shine down on the plaque. **MOTION:** Mr. Eggert made the motion to hang the war memorial plaque at the first landing on the stairwell; seconded by Rev. Bennethum; all were in favor and the motion carried.

FIRE FIGHTER TAX RELIEF - Deputy Jordan came to Council a few months back with regards to the fire fighters tax relief amendment from the state which now allows for 100% tax relief. This now allows school tax for relief as well. He has approached the school but no vote has been taken. Exeter Township has apparently decided to up their tax relief to 50%. Mr. Geibel indicated that he was under the impression that the Borough was going to follow in Exeter Township's footsteps with regard to the relief. There was a discussion and Council would like to see the ordinance that is being adopted by Exeter Township and also an answer from the school district with regard to the relief that they would be offering before moving forward. Ms. Leinbach was instructed to ask Exeter for a copy of the ordinance that they are adopting to present to Council at their March meeting. A motion was made but then tabled until that information is received for further review.

ADJOURNMENT: MOTION: Rev. Bennethum made the motion to adjourn; seconded by Mr. Eggert; all were in favor and the motion carried. The meeting of the St. Lawrence Borough Council adjourned at 8:21 PM.

Respectfully submitted,



Susan D. Eggert
Borough Secretary