

Borough Council Meeting Minutes

Feb 4, 2014

Present: Dennis Seldomridge, Jim Niethammer, Gary Moyer, Larry Hartman, John Mueller, Travis Randler, Mayor Ray Shanaman, Solicitor Tom Harlan

Absent: Chris Strause

Vice President Dennis Seldomridge called the meeting to order in the absence of our ill president, Chris Strause. We pledged Allegiance to the Flag.

Dennis asked for a motion to accept the minutes from last month's council meeting. John Mueller made the motion; Jim Niethammer seconded the motion. Motion passed with all present members voting yes.

Citizens Comments:

Sally Schaeffer brought up the recycling issue. She can't understand why the council doesn't make a decision to add another \$30 onto the individual citizens' refuse bills for the year. Discussion followed. It was suggested that we put a notice in with the next sewer/water bill, to the citizens, asking them for their vote, yes or no, to add a recycling cost to their annual refuse bill. The council instructed Tom Harlan to investigate whether or not it is legal to add on the recycling to a public 3 year contract bid that was awarded without recycling attached to it. He will report back to council at the next meeting.

Jeff Earhart questioned why the waterline repair done this past week, on Main Street, was done by A H Moyer rather than our two borough employees. Dwight Belleman answered because we do not have enough man power as we must have flagmen, etc., when digging up a street.

Holly Mulhern, representing the Recreation Board, asked when the borough is going to consider erecting a shed for them to store their stage, luminaries and various other equipment. She was informed that council is looking into using part of the playground building as a storage area but the rec board members stated that would not work during the summer months when they have playground open. Holly also asked what the council requires from them as a Rec Board. Perri Shanaman, Borough Secretary, stated the council needs a list of their officers, their monthly meeting minutes and their schedule of events for the year to have on file in the Borough Office. Holly then asked Ray Shanaman, from the Beautification Committee, if the Beautification Committee would take care of the Tree Lighting Ceremony and Mr. Shanaman stated yes. Holly went on to say they are having a Breakfast with the Easter Bunny in April, a Roast Beef Dinner Fund Raiser in May, will be involved in the Community Days Touch a Truck in May and a Breakfast with Santa in December. She also inquired about the drinking fountain for the playground, which is presently not working. Dwight and John both informed the group, that because of legal issues with having a public drinking fountain, the drinking fountain will not be

repaired. They are to use bottled water. There is a water spigot in the playground building that is working so they will have access to water but we can no longer provide a public drinking fountain for their use.

Michelle Voydik submitted two signed contracts from contractors for the repairs to be done at the home of Bruce Steiner on North Race Street.

It was also brought up that one of the caps on the water for North Race Street is off. Dwight stated he hit it with the snow plow and hasn't had time to replace it yet.

Bill Behney complimented the borough employees on the great job they have done with the snow plowing this winter. Everyone who attended the meeting agreed.

Dan Culhane informed the group the recycling meeting for Lebanon County is held the same night as the monthly Borough Council Meeting. He asked if anyone would like to take his place.

Communications

We received a quote from Choice Communications for \$3357 for a CCTV Surveillance System to be installed at the Borough Office. It would include 2 indoor cameras and 2 outdoor cameras, with room to expand to a total of 8 cameras. After discussion, Jim Niethammer made a motion to accept the quote and Gary Moyer seconded the motion. Motion was passed with all members voting yes.

There will be a Sherriff Sale April 8 at 10:00 AM for the Evan Saylor property located at 37 W Main Street in Richland. The Sherriff Sale is held at the courthouse in Lebanon.

Perri and some of the members of Borough Council met with an ELCO student, who is in their Web Design Class, Wade Mauger. He is willing to work with us in getting our web site up and running. He gave us several options. The council wants Perri to contact ELCO Computers to determine which option they would recommend since they are the professionals and none of us really have major computer experience. The council questioned Tom Harlan regarding the \$750 that was given to a previous person to design our website. They asked Tom if the money could be recovered and he said at least part of it could. They instructed Tom to "go after him" to try to get the money back.

Perri was also instructed to contact the mortgage company that holds the mortgage for 1 West Main Street (Troy Shanaman's old property) regarding past due trash, sewer and water bills, along with sidewalk clearing and lawn mowing, until the property is sold.

Financial Report

Jim Niethammer made a motion to accept the Financial Report submitted by Gift Associates; Gary Moyer seconded the motion. Motion was carried with all members voting yes.

Committee Reports

Water Committee – nothing

Highway Committee – Larry Hartman mentioned the need for a new small dump truck as the one we have now badly needs replaced. The council felt Dwight and John could make some inquiries on the purchase of a new dump truck since they know what specs would be needed. Larry also stated he feels the current building is too small to house all of the borough's equipment and we should look into adding on to the building, using wider and higher doors. He suggested the council may want to get an idea what the cost of a project, such as this, before putting it out on a formal bid.

Public Safety – No Report

Finance – No Report

Supervisor's Report – Larry Hartman made a motion to accept the report; Travis Randler seconded the report. Motion was carried with all members voting yes.

New Business

John Mueller made a motion to pass Resolution #260, which enters into a contract with Jeff Arnold as our Code Enforcement Officer for the enforcement of the International Property Maintenance Code, adopted by the Borough of Richland, at the rate of \$14.00 per hour. Jim Niethammer seconded the motion. Motion was carried with all members voting yes.

Travis Randler reported on the ambulance issue in our borough at the present time. Presently the borough is split by the railroad tracks. The citizens on the east side of the tracks, who dial 911, are served by the Newmanstown Ambulance. Those citizens on the west side of the tracts are served by the Myerstown Ambulance. We are having issues with the Newmanstown Ambulance responding; therefore, after a designated time frame, the Myerstown Ambulance is called as a back-up. Travis feels we need to choose a primary responder. The decision was tabled, temporarily, and Travis was instructed to contact the Myerstown Ambulance Association to inquire if they would have a problem with us choosing them as our primary responder. He will report back to the council at the next meeting when a decision will be made.

The council then went into Executive Session and no minutes were taken.

Council came out of Executive session at 8:03 PM.

VP Dennis Seldomridge announced that Bruce Steiner's hearing, to be held in February, would be postponed until May, due to inclement weather making repairs unrealistic. However, if the repairs are not complete by May 17, borough council will move forward with the hearing in May.

Jim Niethammer made a motion to accept the Office Report, submitted by Borough Secretary, Perri Shanaman; Travis Randler seconded the motion. Motion was carried by all members voting yes.

Gary Moyer informed the group of a scholarship fund being started for an ELCO senior, who will attend Penn State majoring in education, in honor of Noel Hertzog who taught at ELCO for 35 years before his death. He has been asked to reach out to the surrounding boroughs,

townships and municipalities for donations to this scholarship. The Borough Council was unsure, because of being a government entity, if they are allowed to make such a donation. Because our solicitor had to leave earlier, Perri was instructed to contact our solicitor to inquire if such a donation would be allowed. Therefore, the decision was temporarily tabled.

Jim Niethammer made a motion to adjourn the meeting; Gary Moyer seconded the motion; motion was carried by all members voting yes.

Minutes respectfully submitted by

Perri Shanaman

Borough Secretary