

BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

MARCH 4 2014

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

Absent: Dennis Seldomridge

President Chris Strause opened the meeting at 7 PM with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

He asked for a motion to approve the February 4 Meeting Minutes. Jim Niethammer made the motion; Gary Moyer seconded it; Chris Strause abstained from the vote as he was absent at the last meeting; motion was carried with all other council members voting yes.

Citizens Comments:

Bill Behney brought up the recycling effort. He spoke to Dan Culhane, present borough representative for Lebanon Refuse Authority, and would like to be the alternate representative for Richland. He and Dan would rotate between Richland Borough Council Meeting and Lebanon Refuse Authority Meeting, which are held the same night. President Strause informed Mr Behney that appointment would have to come from council and he's not sure if we can have an alternate. Mr. Behney then passed out paperwork, along with a quarterly report, notifying the public the Lebanon Refuse is ready to open Pad 7 and expressed urgency with the borough agreeing to recycling. Discussion followed.

Michelle Voydik expressed concern with the upcoming delayed hearing for her uncle, Bruce Steiner, in May. She stated, because of the severe winter we have had, he has been unable to complete the improvements to date. Attorney Harlan stated he had better get busy. She commented it is in the hands of the contractor now.

Colleen Marks submitted the yearly report for the Neptune Fire Company.

Attorney Harlan stated he had done some research on adding recycling to our present refuse contract. Because of the amount of money involved, we could get two additional phone quotes (we presently have one from Lebanon Farms Disposal) rather than having to put out a formal bid advertised in the paper. He further stated, to add recycling to the present contract, it would require an ordinance. Discussion followed. There were concerns with the cost of an ordinance being \$1000 – why not wait until the contract ends and when the next bid is advertised include the recycling cost then? Attorney Harlan further commented he would have to check if Bill Behney can be an alternate representative with the Lebanon Refuse Authority.

Josh Webber, of Steckbeck Engineering, then introduced himself and stated he needs a motion this evening to approve the first phase of Richland View. The first phase accounts for 26 or 27 lots, with the condition the developer includes conditions for the improvement of the borough

water system. The borough would also need to accept the additional right of way along Millbach Road. Discussion followed. Gary Moyer made a motion to approve Resolution 261 and 262 for acceptance of additional right-of-way, along Millbach Road, and approve the Phase I Final Plans for Richland View with the condition the developer accept and execute a Developer's Agreement, which includes conditions for the improvement of the borough water system, which will include the off-site water extension as recommended by the borough engineer and a PAX mixer in the borough's water storage tank, and any other items deemed necessary by the solicitor and approved by the Council. Larry Hartman seconded the motion; motion passed with all members voting yes.

Tom Harlan then gave his Solicitor Report.

The recycling effort was, again, discussed. Could a questionnaire be sent out to the citizens of the community or could they have a community meeting with Amy, from Lebanon Refuse Authority, in attendance? It was also discussed if flyers could be walked and placed door to door.

Chris Strause asked for a motion to approve the submitted invoices for payment. Jim Niethammer made the motion; Larry Hartman seconded the motion; motion was passed with all members voting yes.

Communications:

A new Carbon Monoxide Law went into effect December 18, 2013 for all residential properties having fossil burning heaters, appliances, fireplaces and/or attached garages. Carbon monoxide detectors must be in place within 18 months of the date the law went into effect.

May 12 and May 13 will be the first of the street sweeping, by Martin Paving, in the Borough. This was the earliest date we could schedule with Martin Paving.

Prescott Fire Co is celebrating an anniversary and invited borough council members to attend.

PA Liquid Control Board collected \$250 in fees for the borough.

DCNR has grant money available for parks.

Committees:

Water - need to have a meeting with Steckbeck regarding Richland View

Highway – Nothing

Property – Nothing

Finance – Nothing

Safety – Nothing

Road Supervisor's Report – Larry Hartman made a motion to accept the Road Supervisor's Report; John Mueller seconded it; motion was carried with all members voting yes.

President Strause asked for a motion to approve the Office Report. Jim Niethammer made a motion to approve the Office Report; Gary Moyer seconded it; motion was carried with all members voting yes.

John Enck has agreed to be the solicitor for our Zoning Hearing Board. President Strause asked for a motion. Gary Moyer made a motion to approve John Enck to serve as the solicitor for our Zoning Hearing Board; Travis Randler seconded the motion; motion was carried with all members voting yes. The next Zoning Hearing Meeting will be held at the Richland Borough Office April 15 at 7:30 PM.

The pension was discussed. Chris Strause stated R J Hall is presently taking \$20,000 a year, in administrative fees, to manage our existing pensions. Chris asked the council for permission to have a representative from PMRS – PA Municipal Retirement Fund – to come down and speak to us about moving the existing pensions to PMRS. It would eliminate these large fees being taken out of the present retirement funds. Jim Niethammer made a motion to have a representative from PMRS meet with council members regarding the employees' pension; John Mueller seconded the motion; motion was carried with all members voting yes.

The Recreation Board had a shed donated to them and inquired if they can place it where the old shed was, that was torn down; if not, where they can have it placed? President Strause told them they have to go to Lebanon County Planning and Zoning Department and ask for specifics where they can place the shed – just like any other citizen would have to do. He also stated there was a resolution made in 2007 creating the Recreation Board with 5-9 members. Members are to be appointed by the Borough Council and this has not been happening. Council is to have a list of members and we do not have one. We asked for one at last meeting and, to date, one has not been submitted. A rec board member stated the current secretary is working on the list.

President Strause stated the borough council received a verbal request, from Carol Snyder, asking if the borough would be willing to plow the Richland Cemetery, owned by Grace UCC, in the event of a funeral scheduled during a time of a significant snowfall. Kelly Bricker, a member of Grace UCC Council, stated she doesn't understand why council received such a request because a neighbor, Mr. Horning, will do it for the church and doesn't charge them anything. Grace UCC is having council meeting soon and she will check with the council and get back to the borough.

We had another discussion on whether or not the borough council would agree to a recycling meeting or inserting mailers into the sewer and water bills. Maybelle Morgan stated she is willing to insert them in the billing envelope, as long as they get them to her in time for her mailing.

Chris Strause introduced Jeff Arnold – our new Code Enforcement Officer. Jeff had asked council if he could be paid mileage from his home to the borough when called to do any code enforcing in Richland. Gary Moyer made a motion to pay Jeff for mileage for his home to Richland, as well as any other miles incurred during his code enforcement duties; John Mueller seconded the motion; motion was carried with all members voting yes.

Dwight Belleman asked permission to estimate water meter readings for homes where he and John Johnson are unable to get to the meters because of ice and snow. Maybelle Morgan said she is able to give an estimate with the program she has for the water billing. Dwight and John will do their best to get a water meter reading, but in the event they can't, an estimate will be billed and it will state "estimate" on the bill.

Dwight Belleman asked the borough council how we want to order our salt for next year. He suggested ordering 200 Tons from Co Stars and 50 Tons from Ocean Port. We must take 60% of what is ordered from Co-Stars and 100% of what we order from Ocean Port. We can store 300 Tons. After discussion, Travis Randler made a motion to order 200 Tons from Co Stars and 50 Tons from Ocean Port; Larry Hartman seconded the motion; motion was carried with all members voting yes.

The borough's Source Water Protection has been updated and sent to DEP, as reported by John Johnson.

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

Meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted by,

Perri Shanaman

Borough Secretary