

Green Lane Borough  
Green Lane, Montgomery County, Pennsylvania  
Borough Council Meeting  
April 14, 2022  
Minutes

The Borough Council met on the above date in the Borough Office in the Green Lane Fire Company building. The meeting was called to order by President Brian Carpenter at 7 p.m., and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

**COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT:** President Brian Carpenter and Council Members Jack Findley, Gerald Godshall, Darren Landis and Jonathan Guntz.

**COUNCIL MEMBERS ABSENT:** None.

**OTHER OFFICIALS PRESENT:** Mayor Lynn Wolfe, Code Enforcement and Zoning Officer John Membrino, Solicitor Loren D. Szczesny, Engineer Joe Carlin and Secretary/Treasurer Mary T. Garber.

**OFFICIALS ABSENT:** None.

**MOTION ON MINUTES:** A motion was made by Gerald Godshall to accept the minutes of the March 10, 2022, Council meeting. Seconded by Jack Findley. Motion passed.

**MAYOR'S REPORT:**

- The Mayor thanked Jack and Jerry for spearheading the cleanup of Isaac Smith Park and for installing mulch throughout the park. She also acknowledged the help provided by Councilman Guntz, the Perkiomen Valley Brewery and neighbors who brought a Kubota.
- An Easter Egg Hunt will be hosted in the park by the Green Lane-Marlboro Lions Club on Saturday, April 16, 2022, at 1 p.m.
- Fire Police were asked to participate in the funeral of State Police Trooper Branden Sisca on April 2, 2022, and provide traffic cones to assist the Perkiomen Valley Brewery when it hosts the Cousins Lobster Truck on May 1, 2022. Councilman Godshall made a motion to approve participation of the Green Lane Fire Company Fire Police in these events. Second by Councilman Guntz. Motion approved and so ordered.

**PUBLIC SAFETY/EMERGENCY REPORTS:** Fire company report on file.

**VISITORS:** Residents Neil and Sandra Schwoyer of 135 Gravel Pike; Linda Blimegger, 123 Gravel Pike; M. Kathleen and Michael Fisher-Glass, 201 Main St.; Kelly Weiss, owner of the Perkiomen Valley Brewery at 101 Walnut St.; Allison Louis, director of the Upper Perk Chamber of Commerce.

- The Schwoyers and Ms. Blimegger expressed concerns about the upcoming sidewalk installation project on Route 29. Engineer Joe Carlin offered to visit each residence and explain just how the project will impact their property. Mr. Carlin provided business cards to residents and said his contact information was also on the letters sent to the

property owners. Mrs. Blimegger asked if she would be responsible for maintaining the sidewalk and why the sidewalks are necessary. Mr. Carlin and Mr. Carpenter both explained that the sidewalks have become necessary due to increased foot traffic in the Borough and the need for pedestrian safety. They also explained that there will be no cost to the property owners for the sidewalk because the Borough was able to secure grant funding from the County and a donation to provide the matching 20 percent. They said the Borough code allows Council to vote to install sidewalks and could even require the homeowners to pay for the installation. President Carpenter said they did not want to make residents pay for the sidewalks and were fortunate enough to obtain the grant and donation funds. Mr. Carlin said the property owners would be responsible for maintaining the sidewalks after installation, but he would look at the design with Mrs. Blimegger to see if there is a way to prevent trucks from damaging it.

- The Fisher-Glasses asked if they would be responsible for damages to the sidewalk on the corner of their property done by trucks turning off Main Street to go into Cook's. President Carpenter said he would contact Cook's about the problem, and he suggested the property owners also contact the management at Cook's.
- Ms. Fisher-Glass asked what the procedure was for submitted building permits to the County to trigger a reassessment. President Carpenter said there is not currently a process in place, and the Borough receives very few requests for building permits. He said the County completes the assessments but hasn't done that in many years. Mr. Szczesny said there has not been a county-wide assessment since 1998.
- Ms. Fisher-Glass also asked the process for posting the meeting minutes on the Borough website. Mr. Carpenter said there is no process in place, but the minutes cannot be posted until after they are approved at the next meeting after they are recorded, which normally takes more than a month from the recorded meeting.
- Ms. Fisher-Glass also asked if any plans were being made for the Borough's 150th anniversary. She said she would like to help with the planning effort.
- Ms. Fisher-Glass also expressed concern about the condition of the streets in the Borough. Mr. Carlin reported that he has inspected the streets and is putting together a plan for repairs.
- Mrs. Louis gave a report on activities of the Chamber of Commerce, PerkUP and the Hometown Heroes Banner program. She said more information is available on the chamber's website at <https://www.upvchamber.org>.

**SOLICITOR'S REPORT:** Loren D. Szczesny, attending the meeting in place of David Comer, gave updates on several current legal issues.

- A hearing was held before Judge Coggins in Magisterial District Court on March 1, 2022, regarding violations that had been filed against the owner of 120 Gravel Pike (Rockwell's). The next hearing has been scheduled for May 24, 2022.
- Regarding 750 Lumber Street, a civil complaint has been filed with the Magisterial District Court against the property owner for zoning violations. The next hearing has been scheduled for May 24, 2022.

- Mr. Szczesny is reviewing the sidewalk project documents.

**CODE ENFORCEMENT OFFICER REPORT: (report on file)**

- One permit was issued to the Goschenhoppen Historians for construction of concrete retaining wall.
- Additional violations have been filed against the owner of 2963 Real Estate/120 Gravel Pike/Rockwell's. A hearing is set for May 24 with the District Magistrate.
- A hearing is also scheduled before the District Magistrate on May 24, 2022, for violations against McCuskins Properties, 750 Lumber St.
- He informed the owner of a car up on blocks and being worked on in the street in the 200 block of Walnut St. that this was a safety hazard.

**ENGINEER'S REPORT:**

- The Hazard Mitigation Program Grant home buyout application was submitted on time.
- Montco 2040 Grant - Route 29 Sidewalk project plans are under review by PennDOT. Certified letters were sent out two weeks before this meeting to property owners notifying them of the project and inviting them to attend the meeting and ask questions.
- A grant application for the resurfacing of Green Street was submitted to the DCED (Horse Development and Gaming Act) Local Share Account Grant program.
- The engineer has completed a Borough-wide pavement evaluation that includes inspection of road conditions and ranking by condition. Cost estimates are pending.
- MS4 Permitting:
  - A new model stormwater management ordinance has been released by Montgomery County and is currently under review with edits suggested to the county. The new ordinance must be updated by September 30, 2022.
  - The Penn State Extension's "Rain Barrels: Uses and Benefits" was provided to the Borough as part of the public education requirement of the MS4 permit. It was posted on the Borough's website and Facebook page.

**REGIONAL PLANNING:**

Councilman Jack Findley shared some information about a new age-restricted development in Upper Hanover Township.

**SEWER AUTHORITY:**

Councilman Godshall reported that relining of sewer pipes is continuing and the authority is applying for a loan.

**ROAD COMMITTEE:** President Carpenter will meet with the Borough engineer to discuss road and storm inlet repairs.

**PARK COMMITTEE:** None.

**TREASURER'S REPORT:** Councilman Godshall made a motion to approve the Treasurer's report and pay all bills. Second by Councilman Findley. Motion approved.

Green Lane Borough Council Special Meeting  
Thursday, April 14, 2022

**CORRESPONDENCE:** None.

**OLD BUSINESS:** None.

**NEW BUSINESS:** None.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:** At 7:43 p.m., President Carpenter announced the need to hold an executive session to discuss potential litigation. The closed-door session lasted about five minutes before the regular meeting was reconvened and attendees invited to return.

**ADJOURNMENT:** There being no further business, a motion was made by Gerald Godshall to adjourn and seconded by Jack Findley. Motion passed and so ordered.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary T. Garber, Borough Secretary