

Green Lane Borough
Green Lane, Montgomery County, Pennsylvania
Borough Council Meeting
April 8, 2021
Minutes

The Borough Council met on the above date in the Pavilion of the Isaac Smith Park to allow for social distancing due to the COVID-19 virus pandemic. Signage was posted at the Borough Office and on the Borough's website to advise people that the meeting was being held in the Pavilion. Borough Council waited five minutes past the 7 p.m. starting time to allow people to walk from Borough office to the Pavilion. The meeting was called to order by President Brian Carpenter at 7:05 p.m., and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

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

COUNCIL MEMBERS ABSENT: Darren Landis.

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

OFFICIALS ABSENT: None.

MOTION ON MINUTES: A motion was made by Gerald Godshall to accept the minutes of the March 11, 2021, Council meeting. Seconded by Jonathan Guntz. Motion passed.

MAYOR'S REPORT:

- The County has opened up COVID-19 vaccine eligibility to municipal officials.

PUBLIC SAFETY/EMERGENCY REPORTS: (reports on file)

VISITORS: Green Lane Fire Company Chief Ryan Crouthamel and Deputy Chief Tom Huguenin, Jr.; Green Lane Fire Police Captain Scott Bergey; Tom Weiss, owner Perkiomen Valley Brewery; Kathy Fisher Glass of 201 Main St.; and Town and Country newspaper reporter Jennifer Frieze.

- Chief Crouthamel reported that the Company voted to approve leasing the Isaac Smith Park fields to the Upper Perkiomen Valley Youth Football and Cheerleading Association for eight weeks over the summer on Saturday mornings.
- Mr. Weiss showed videos of storm drains that are backing up during storms causing flooding at the intersection of Route 29 and Walnut Street. He said the storm drains need maintenance. The Brewery recruited a team of 26 people to assist with the April 10 creek cleanup coordinated by the Perkiomen Watershed Conservancy. Lastly, he presented checks to both the Borough and the Fire Company from proceeds of the first Makers Market held at the brewery. He said he hopes to combine efforts with Fire Company for future First Friday events.
- Ms. Glass said that a major run off problem on School Alley behind her house and that the potholes there are getting worse. She also said a tree was down on the Cooks property and asked about Cooks' maintenance of the required carbon filters on the wells. President Carpenter referred to DEP and Cooks for answers to these questions.

She asked John Membrino about permits for a fence of shed. He responded that she should contact the Borough office or John himself for permit applications.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT:

- A notice was published in the Town and Country that the codification ordinance has been adopted.
- Councilman Godshall made a motion to make a resolution to move forward with a timber management company marking trees and submitting a proposal to the Borough for the possible sale of lumber from Borough property. Second by Corey Guntz.

CODE ENFORCEMENT OFFICER: (report on file)

- Two enforcement Notices were sent to McCuskin Properties LLC on Lumber Street. One was for a sign and another was for a shed. There has been no action on the Notice for the sign. A permit for the shed was submitted, but it was denied due to it not meeting the requirements from the Floodplain Ordinance pertaining to the proposed shed not increasing the flood levels.
- A zoning permit application was submitted for the Sunday School property at 301 Main St. for an attached garage. The proposed garage does not meet the setback requirement and the applicant was directed to apply for a Variance from the Zoning Hearing Board.
- Councilman Godshall asked about the lights on the McCuskin property. President Carpenter said there is still a problem with that and the electrical work that was done on the property without permits.
- A new single-family home will be built at the corner of Upper Ridge Road and Main Street.

ENGINEER'S REPORT:

- Montco 2040 Grant Application- Route 29 Sidewalk: The County has been in contact with the Borough Secretary with follow up questions as they review the application.
- 124 Main Street Sidewalk: The owner anticipates that the sidewalk will be replaced by the week of April 19, 2021.
- Stormwater: Inspections were performed including beginning an investigation into some missing links on the current map. Some flow intrusion was found in a line, details pending. The Stormwater Management ordinance will require updating in 2022.

REGIONAL PLANNING: No Report.

SEWER AUTHORITY:

- Councilman Godshall confirmed that the Green Lane Marlborough Joint Authority has applied to the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection for a Hydraulic Capacity Rerate of its wastewater treatment facility.

ROAD COMMITTEE: No Report.

PARK COMMITTEE:

- The rental rate for the football association has been confirmed.

- Gerald Godshall has been completing work in the kitchen at the park.
- Sparkle Day in the park will be held on Saturday, April 17, which will include painting and pressure washing.
- There is still some firewood available in the park.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Councilman Findley made a motion to accept the treasurer's report and pay all bills. Second by Councilman Godshall. Motion passed and so moved.

- Councilman Godshall asked for the total spent on snow removal this year, which was \$18,778 for the 2020-2021 season.

OLD BUSINESS: None.

- The Borough Secretary gave an update on the first steering committee meeting for the TCDI planning project. Sixteen people attended the meeting. Some ideas presented included installing a bridge to connect to the Perkiomen Trail, recruiting a bike and paddle shop to the Borough, and adding a municipal parking lot.
- The next step will be a public meeting for all residents, business owners and stakeholders to attend and give their input.
- Ethics forms are due to the Borough Secretary by May 1.

President Carpenter asked all visitors to leave as he convened an executive session starting at 7:35 p.m. and ending at 7:48 p.m. to discuss pending legal action.

- Following the Executive Session, Gerald Godshall made a motion to withdraw the complaint against Rockwell's as the owner continues to work with the Borough to clean up his property. Second by Jack Findley. Motion carried and so ordered.

CORRESPONDENCE: None

NEW BUSINESS: None

PUBLIC COMMENT: None.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Mary T. Garber, Borough Secretary