

Green Lane Borough
Green Lane, Montgomery County, Pennsylvania
Borough Council Meeting
August 10, 2023
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, Vice President Gerald Godshall and Council Members Jack Findley and Jonathan Guntz.

COUNCIL MEMBERS ABSENT: Darren Landis.

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

OFFICIALS ABSENT: None.

MOTION ON MINUTES: A motion was made by Councilman Godshall to accept the minutes of the July 13, 2023, Council meeting. Second by Councilman Findley. Motion passed.

MAYOR'S REPORT:

- A community service volunteer finished painting the front door and railing at the entrance to the Borough office. He did a great job. Mayor Bergey thanked Willow House paints for donating the paint and other supplies needed for the project.
- The Mayor again expressed concern about the blue dumpsters stored at 750 Lumber Street.
- The Mayor asked for approval for the fire police to assist in the events listed below. Councilman Godshall made a motion to approve the events with a second by Councilman Findley. Motion approved. The events include:
 - East Greenville First Friday events on September 1, 2023, and October 6, 2023.
 - Upper Perk Valley Halloween Parade, Sunday, October 29, 2023, forming in Red Hill at 4 p.m., parade starts at 6 p.m.
 - Marlborough Township Police Department's National Night Out from 3 to 6 p.m. on Saturday, August 12, 2023, at St. John's Church in Sumneytown.
- Mayor Bergey shared some memories about longtime Borough resident Mary Fisher who recently passed away.
- Graffiti was painted on several buildings and surfaces in the Borough over the past few days. President Carpenter said the owners of the properties will be contacted.
- She also asked for an update on trailers stored on Rockwell's property that are in violation of the recent agreement made with the Borough.

PUBLIC SAFETY/EMERGENCY REPORTS: State police and ambulance reports on file.

VISITORS: Mary Kershner, reporting for the Town & Country newspaper; Chief Don Lynch of Freedom Valley Medical Rescue; Borough residents David Whetstone and Rick Stamper. Borough business owner Mike Knieriem.

- Chief Lynch gave an update on activities at the rescue services agency. He said five EMS employees were hired in July and three more so far in August.
- Mr. Stamper said he will be checking on the pavilion in Isaac Smith Park, and he said he was concerned about the graffiti.
- Mr. Knieriem said he came to the meeting to volunteer his time to cover up the graffiti in the Borough. He asked how he would get permission to go on the properties to cover the graffiti. He also expressed concern about the condition of the old Yoder's property now owned by APTCOR.
- Mr. Whetstone also expressed concern for the condition of the building owned by APTCOR. He also asked about the signs he requested to warn about low wires and "no access" for trucks on Fourth Street. President Carpenter said signs have been purchased and will be installed in the next few weeks.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT:

- President Carpenter has been in contact with the owners of the abandoned greenhouse properties. He said the owners have been notified about the issues at the property and have until August 18, 2023, to address the problems. President Carpenter directed Mr. Membrino to start citing the owner, 2nd Street Lawyers LLC, on August 19, 2023, if the violations have not been addressed.
- A hearing regarding the McCuskins properties was held on June 20, 2023, at the district court. The judge entered a judgment against the property owner in the amount of \$9,392.25. The property owner has appealed the judgment to the Montgomery County Court of Common Pleas. Now the Borough needs to file a complaint with the Montgomery County Court of Common Pleas in response to the appeal. Discussion followed concerning the next steps and possibly filing an injunction against the owner. Mr. Membrino was directed by President Carpenter to continue citing the property owners for every day they are in violation.
- Mr. Comer reviewed changes to the tort laws impacting municipality liability in incidents involving sexual abuse of minors. The Borough's insurance agency has advised the Borough that adding additional liability insurance would cost the Borough about \$3,000. Mr. Comer will review the new law and report back to Council.

CODE ENFORCEMENT OFFICER REPORT: (Report on file)

- One permit was issued to Daniel Macarro and Loune-Dana Brandt, 658 Macoby St., for a fence.
- Mr. Membrino had a lengthy phone call with the owner of the Blue Dumpsters operating a business on the McCuskins property at 750 Lumber St. The business owner said he intends to bring the property into compliance as soon as he is able.

Green Lane Borough Council Meeting
Thursday, August 10, 2023

ENGINEER'S REPORT: (Report on file)

REGIONAL PLANNING: None.

SEWER AUTHORITY:

- A loan application is in progress for funds to replace the Sumneytown pumping station.

ROAD COMMITTEE:

- One light still needs to be installed to complete the LED streetlight replacement project.
- The streetlight replacement loan application is progressing.

PARK COMMITTEE:

- Illegal dumping is still occurring in Isaac Smith Park.

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

CORRESPONDENCE: None.

OLD BUSINESS: None.

NEW BUSINESS: None.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None.

ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business, a motion was made by Councilman Godshall to adjourn. Second by Councilman Findley. Motion passed and so ordered.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary T. Garber, Borough Secretary