

Green Lane Borough
Green Lane, Montgomery County, Pennsylvania
Borough Council Meeting
August 8, 2024
Minutes

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

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

COUNCIL MEMBERS ABSENT: None.

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: Councilman Godshall made a motion to accept the minutes of the regular Council meeting held on July 11, 2024. Second by Councilman Findley. Motion passed.

MAYOR'S REPORT:

- Fire Police have been approved to participate in the following events:
 - National Night Out hosted by Marlborough Township Police at St. John's Church on Saturday, August 10, 2024;
 - Philadelphia Folk Festival, August 15-18, 2024;
 - Old Goshenhoppen Oyster Picnic in Upper Salford, Saturday, September 7, 2024;
 - WMGK Big Bad Bonfire, Spring Mountain, October 12, 2024.
- The Mayor had been contacted by the County to see if there were any remaining damages or remediation issues that needed to be addressed following Hurricane Ida. She said the County would be applying to CDBG on behalf of local governments for funding to address these issues. The County also informed the Borough that it now falls into the "low-to-moderate" income block. The information was relayed to the Green Lane Marlborough Joint Authority (GLMJA) who "took it and ran with it" and developed a grant application. The Mayor introduced Kimberly DeRosa and Joe Boldaz representing the GLMJA's engineering company, Hydraterra Professionals, who were seeking approval for a grant application to the Montgomery County Community Development Block Grant: Disaster Recovery program to complete repairs and restoration work at the GLMJA treatment plant in Green Lane Borough.
- Mayor Bergey also presented a letter from the Green Lane Fire Company supporting the grant request as the project will also include restoration of the dry hydrant access on Macoby Creek that has not been available since being damaged by Hurricane Ida.

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

VISITORS: Borough residents: David Whetstone and Rick Stamper. Kimberly DeRosa and Joe Boldaz representing the GLMJA’s engineering company, Hydraterra Professionals; GLMJA administrator David Garber; and Town & Country reporter Jennifer Frieze.

VISITORS COMMENTS:

- Mr. Boldaz shared an aerial photograph of the treatment plant and surrounding properties. He presented five different items that would be addressed in the grant application:
 1. Influent Pump Station structural repairs
 2. Televising, flushing, cleaning and point repairs to trunk sewer
 3. 200 feet of stream bank stabilization
 4. Electric service pole and cabinet repair
 5. Paving repair at the influent pump station

Ms. DeRosa said this application is considered “urgent” and is due on August 9, 2024, by 4:30 p.m. Following the presentation, Councilman Guntz moved as follows:

- “I make a motion for Green Lane Borough to apply to the Montgomery County Department of Health and Human Services for Community Development Block Grant-Disaster Recovery funding on behalf of Green Lane Marlborough Joint Authority. The application is for urgent repairs to the essential Green Lane Sewage Treatment Plant facility substantially damaged during Hurricane Ida. Repairs will include but not be limited to the structural reinforcement of influent pump station and wet well, surrounding streambank armament including power line and pole stabilization, and cleaning, televising, and point repair for sewer trunk line underneath Macoby Creek.”
- The motion was seconded by Councilman Godshall. Motion approved and so ordered.

SOLICITOR’S REPORT:

- A hearing is scheduled for August 13, 2024, regarding a bamboo citation involving the property at 115 Main Street.
- Legal representatives from Green Lane Borough, Marlborough Township and GLMJA reviewed the proposed new sewer ordinance regarding grinder pump regulations. The Borough’s position is that GLMJA would be responsible for enforcing any violations of the grinder pump ordinance. Mr. Comer will advise the GLMJA’s solicitor and the Marlborough Township solicitor of the Borough’s position and ask that the GLMJA solicitor finalize the draft so that he can present it at the September Council meeting.

CODE ENFORCEMENT OFFICER REPORT: (Report on file)

- A permit was issued to Trevor and Lauren Reed, 104 Green St., for a greenhouse.
- The bamboo violation hearing involving the property at 115 Main Street is scheduled for August 13, 2024.
- The hearing regarding violations at the greenhouse property owned by 2nd Street Lawyers LLC has been continued until September 10, 2024.

- The owner of 2963 Real Estate (Rockwell's) has been in contact with the code enforcement officer. He has denied operating a scrap business. Solicitor Comer will follow up with the district court to determine next steps.
- The property owner at 113 Main St. has removed the sign that was in violation, so they are currently in compliance.

ENGINEER'S REPORT: (Report on file)

- Bids were opened on July 10, 2024, for the Gravel Pike Sidewalk and lighting project with a reduced scope to install lights as Phase II. The apparent low bidder of the four submitted bids was NJS Concrete in the amount of \$307,658. Councilman Findley made a motion to accept the low bid and award the contract to NJS Concrete. Second by Councilman Godshall. Motion approved.
- An application for a DCED-MTF grant to complete the borough-wide paving project was submitted on July 31, 2024. Estimated project cost is \$463,077.
- Montco CDBG Grant for Walnut Street sidewalk links and ADA ramps was rejected.
- Montco 2040 Grant for Route 29 Sidewalk from the Perkiomen Trailhead North was rejected.
- Gilmore was directed to seek a Community Development Block Grant – Disaster Recovery (CDBG-DR) to hard pipe the existing swale from the Marlborough Business Park Stormwater Basin to the headwall located at Main Street in order to address the persistent blockage of the facility by debris in storm events, leading to flooding on Main Street. The project is estimated to have a total cost of \$267,283 including engineering, permitting and construction. A resolution to approve the grant application was presented for approval. Councilman Guntz made a motion to approve the resolution. Second by Councilman Godshall. Motion approved.
- Regarding DCED-MTF Grant awarded to the Borough for ADA ramp upgrades, the engineer is recommending moving forward with the survey of proposed locations, while removing the proposed areas which were to be located on state routes from the current scope due to project not being fully funded.
- The engineer performed a field visit at 658 Macoby Street regarding the condition of the driveway and found that the lawn area remains unstable and is causing washout of material to the roadway. Gilmore will review possible abatement measures and contact the homeowner and recommend a referral to the building inspector regarding unsupported excavation adjacent to the wall and beneath the entryway slab.

REGIONAL PLANNING: No meeting.

SEWER AUTHORITY: See Visitors.

ROAD COMMITTEE: None.

PARK COMMITTEE:

- Council President Carpenter expressed concern about the park finances and said the Borough may need to stop rentals if additional revenues cannot be generated.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

- Councilman Godshall made a motion to approve the Treasurer's report and pay all bills. Second by Councilman Findley. Motion approved.

CORRESPONDENCE: None.

OLD BUSINESS:

- In the FEMA/PEMA Hurricane Ida buyout program, two more settlements were completed in Project #1, and three remain. Project #2 has yet to be approved.
- The Borough's insurance company will be providing a policy manual regarding sexual abuse complaints that all Borough employees will need to read and sign.

NEW BUSINESS:

- Trees and shrubs need to be trimmed back at several intersections in the Borough.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Mr. Stamper recommended installing pickle ball courts in the park.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Mary T. Garber, Borough Secretary