

Green Lane Borough
Green Lane, Montgomery County, Pennsylvania
Borough Council Meeting
December 8, 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, Vice President Gerald Godshall and Council Members Darren Landis and Jonathan Guntz.

COUNCIL MEMBERS ABSENT: Jack Findley.

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

OFFICIALS ABSENT: None.

MOTION ON MINUTES: A motion was made by Gerald Godshall to accept the minutes of the November 10, 2022, Council meeting. Second by Jonathan Guntz. Motion passed.

MAYOR'S REPORT:

- The Mayor offered holiday greetings to all.

PUBLIC SAFETY/EMERGENCY REPORTS: (State police and fire company reports on file.)

VISITORS: Mary Kershner, reporting for the Town & Country newspaper; Borough residents Michael Glass, Mike Tierney and Kelsey Butt, and business owner Tom Weiss.

- Mr. Glass asked if he would need to apply for a permit to put gravel on his property to park a trailer. Mr. Membrino responded that it would not be necessary.
- Mr. Weiss presented a donation check to the Mayor for the Green Lane Fire Police and thanked them for assisting with the annual Christmas Market at the Goschenhoppen Historians. He also had questions about the clean-up process at Rockwell's. Mr. Comer said that the property owner had some issues with the gate of the new fence but was advised that the property would be resolving that shortly.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT:

- Mr. Tierney and Ms. Butt attended to see the results of the bidding process for sale of the empty lot at 303 Main St. next to their home. Following two notices to bid for the property, they were told that no bids were received other than Mr. Tierney's for the minimum bid of \$50,000. Councilman Guntz made a motion to accept Mr. Tierney's bid. Second by Councilman Godshall. Motion passed and so ordered. Mr. Comer will follow up with Mr. Tierney to finalize the agreement of sale.
- Mr. Comer distributed a draft ordinance regarding the growing of bamboo in the Borough. He asked Council to review it, and they will discuss it at next month's meeting.

- Notice of the proposed budget for 2023 was advertised in the Town & Country Newspaper on November 17, 2022. Councilman Guntz Made a motion to approve the proposed budget. Second by Councilman Godshall. Motion approved and so ordered.
- Notice of the tax ordinance for 2023 was advertised in the Town & Country Newspaper on November 17, 2022. A motion was made by Councilman Godshall to approve the ordinance to increase and set the tax rate for 2023 to 2.5 mils. Second by Councilman Guntz.
- The Pennsylvania State Legislature adopted a new law addressing fireworks in October of 2022, and it states that fireworks may not be discharged within 150 feet of a building or a vehicle. The solicitor investigated whether the state police will now enforce the new regulations. He said he has not been able to get a clear answer but will discuss with the state police representative.
- Mr. Comer said he would take care of advertising the list of official Borough meetings for 2023.
- The owner of McCuskins Properties at 750 Lumber Street has applied for a zoning hearing board meeting to appeal an enforcement notice they received from Mr. Membrino. The meeting will be held in the Borough office on Thursday, January 5, 2023, at 6:30 p.m.
- The Industrial Development Authority will meet on January 12, 2023, at 6:50 p.m., just before the regular Council meeting.

CODE ENFORCEMENT OFFICER REPORT: (Report on file)

- Mr. Membrino investigated the complaint of bright lights on School Alley but said the Borough does not have an ordinance regarding the lighting.

ENGINEER'S REPORT: (Report on file)

- There has been no word on the Hazard Mitigation Program Grant Application that was submitted by the Borough in January.
- Mr. Carlin responded to a request from the owner of 417 Walnut St. for more information on the stormwater improvements that they are required to make to the property.
- Gilmore & Associates is working on having the Borough exempted from MS4 requirements due to its size.
- Montco 2040 Grant - Route 29 Sidewalk: The Borough is working with PennDOT on alterations to the ADA ramp on Route 29 at the intersection with Route 63. Grant opportunities to fund pedestrian level street lighting as part of the project are also being pursued.
- There are no updates on the Green Street Repaving - DCED (Horse Development and Gaming Act) Local Share Account Grant.
- No updates have been received on the DCED-MTF Grant Application for road resurfacing throughout the Borough.

REGIONAL PLANNING: No Report.

SEWER AUTHORITY:

- Sewer rates will be increasing by five percent for 2023.

ROAD COMMITTEE:

- The LED streetlight replacement project is moving forward.
- President Carpenter said they believed that some of the deterioration of pipes under the intersection at Routes 29 and 63 may be the responsibility of the sewer authority, and he has asked them to investigate. He is waiting for the pipe-lining company to schedule the repairs.

PARK COMMITTEE:

- The Christmas tree in the park is dying and will need to be removed and replaced.
- Councilman Godshall said a leaf blower would be very helpful in the park and suggested purchasing one.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

- Councilman Guntz made a motion to approve the Treasurer's report and pay all bills. Second by Councilman Godshall. 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 Guntz. Motion passed and so ordered.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary T. Garber, Borough Secretary