

Green Lane Borough
Green Lane, Montgomery County, Pennsylvania
Borough Council Meeting
February 10, 2022
Final 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 and Jonathan Guntz.

COUNCIL MEMBERS ABSENT: Darren Landis.

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

OFFICIALS ABSENT: None.

MOTION ON MINUTES: A motion was made by Jonathan Guntz to accept the minutes of the January 20, 2022, special meeting. Seconded by Gerald Godshall. Motion passed.

MAYOR'S REPORT:

- The Mayor asked who was responsible for repairing the green fences on Route 29 just past the intersection with Main Street that have been damaged by accidents. President Carpenter said they are probably the homeowners' responsibility, but he will check with PennDOT.
- Grant applications through FEMA and PEMA are moving forward in response to Hurricane Ida.
- The streetlight replacement project is moving forward.
- The Geo drop system that will track cell phones for the 911 system is moving forward.

PUBLIC SAFETY/EMERGENCY REPORTS: Fire company and state police reports on file.

VISITORS: Ryan Crouthamel, Green Lane Fire Company Chief, and Tom Huguenin, deputy chief; Tom Weiss, owner of the Perkiomen Valley Brewery at 101 Walnut St.; Rick Stamper, resident; David Garber, consultant for Green Lane Marlborough Joint Authority.

- Mr. Weiss thanked the Borough for getting involved in the dispute between the brewery owners and the Green Lane Marlborough Joint Authority. He also showed photographs (on file) of the storm drains near the brewery after a recent rain showing that the water is not flowing into the drains. It is backing up into the street. He also asked for a contact person for the PECO gas line replacement project. He said construction vehicles are being parked in his parking lot. President Carpenter said he should contact PECO.

- President Carpenter said the construction workers are not allowed to be on the street after 3 p.m., and they are exceeding this on a regular basis. The crew has also been closing Walnut Street, which they are not permitted to do.
- Mr. Stamper said he sent an email to the Borough regarding a program to assist residents in paying their sewer bills. He thought this might possibly be applicable to collecting some of the delinquent payments. Mr. Garber, who was in attendance to address another issue involving the sewer authority, said that GLMJA had received the information and had applied for and been accepted into the program. He said GLMJA customers would be informed on how to apply to the program. If certain income requirements were met, their sewer bills would be paid in full.
- Mr. Stamper asked if he would be permitted to put cones out to widen the turning radiance for people turning onto Green Street to slow them down. He also asked about the icing problem near the intersection of Green Street and Route 29. President Carpenter said PennDOT is working on correcting the icing situation with the homeowner, and he would talk to the Borough engineer about the cones.
- President Carpenter asked Mr. Stamper if he had inspected the pavilion at Isaac Smith Park or had any recommendation for correcting the issue with it leaning. Mr. Stamper said he hadn't had a chance to check into it yet, but he would soon.
- Mr. Garber, representing the GLMJA, provided additional information (report on file) regarding the potential plan for the GLMJA to secure a \$5 million loan to do needed repairs to the entire wastewater treatment system of the GLMJA. He submitted a list of the capital projects included in the plan (on file). Approval of both the Borough and Marlborough Township is required for the GLMJA to obtain the loan. Following discussion, Councilman Godshall made a motion to approve the GLMJA moving forward with a potential loan for \$5 million to make system improvements and address existing debt. Second by Councilman Jack Findley. Councilman Jonathan Guntz abstained. Motion approved and so ordered.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT: Issues addressed in other reports.

CODE ENFORCEMENT OFFICER REPORT: (report on file)

- Snow and ice inspections were performed on January 8, 2022.
 - Violation letters were sent to: 444 Main St., Gehman/Halteman; 429 Main St., Theisen; 117 Gravel Pike, Thorpe; 432 Main St., Howenstein. A snow and ice inspection was performed on January 30, 2022 and compliance was very good.
- 2963 Real Estate/120 Gravel Pike/Rockwell's
 - The hearing for the seven citations previously issued will be on March 1, 2022. In addition, seven more citations have been subsequently issued. It has not been determined whether the property owner has plead guilty or not guilty on the second set of violations.

- **McCuskins Properties LLC** –Lumber St. vacant lot
 - An Enforcement Notice was sent this past week for failing to obtain the necessary permits for their current use of the property.

ENGINEER’S REPORT:

- **Post Ida Efforts**
 - Hazard Mitigation Program Grant application for the home acquisition program was submitted on time. No feedback to date.
 - The Engineer attended mandatory FEMA progress meeting via zoom on February 2, 2022, for RPA grant. He also did preliminary inspections for possible qualifying facilities for primarily inlet cleanouts and related pipe/road repair.
- **Montco 2040 Grant Application- Route 29 Sidewalk**
 - The Engineer updated plans to include the missing section on Walnut Street and ramp repair at Main Street.
 - He is waiting on a response from PennDOT regarding the ramp design they are installing at the western corner of Walnut Street to make sure it will all tie together.
 - The Engineer will bring a contract to the next meeting for the sidewalk project. The Solicitor asked if any easements are needed for the project. The Engineer said he was not aware of any. He also said letters will be sent from Gilmore & Associates to the property owners informing them of the project and inviting them to the April Council meeting to ask questions.
- **Street Light RLSP**
 - The Engineer attended a mandatory meeting on Tuesday February 7, for Phase 2 (Preliminary Design).
 - KLS is awaiting signed agreement from the Borough in order to move forward with the field inventory.
- **Green Street Resurfacing**
 - The deadline for application to the DCED (Horse Development and Gaming Act) Local Share Account Grant program is March 15, 2022.

REGIONAL PLANNING:

Councilman Jack Findley asked that everyone complete the Upper Perkiomen Valley Regional Planning Commission’s survey.

SEWER AUTHORITY:

Councilman Godshall emphasized the importance of approving the GLMJA loan outlined by Mr. Garber. (See **VISITORS**)

ROAD COMMITTEE:

Councilman Godshall asked that several stormwater inlets be inspected and repairs made. He said many of them had deteriorated to the point where they may give way if a truck drives over them. President Carpenter said he would have Schaeffer Sell check the storm inlets.

PARK COMMITTEE: None.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Councilman Godshall expressed concern about the charges from Schaeffer Sell for snow removal and salting. He said that he thinks the charges are excessive, and the company uses too much salt on the roads. Councilman Guntz made a motion to accept the Treasurer's report and pay all bills. Second by Councilman Godshall. Motion approved.

CORRESPONDENCE: None.

OLD BUSINESS: The Borough is waiting for notification from FEMA/PEMA as to the eligibility of the Borough's application to the home buyout program.

NEW BUSINESS: Councilman Guntz said he is concerned about cinder blocks on the road at Fourth Street and the alley. President Carpenter said he would take a look at it.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Mary T. Garber, Borough Secretary