

Green Lane Borough  
Green Lane, Montgomery County, Pennsylvania  
Borough Council Meeting  
Thursday, January 14, 2021  
Minutes

The regular meeting of the Borough Council was held on the above date in the Banquet Hall of the Green Lane Fire House to allow 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 Banquet Hall. Borough Council waited five minutes past the 7 p.m. starting time to allow people to walk from Borough office to the Banquet Hall. 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 December 10, 2020, Council meeting. Seconded by Jack Findley. Motion passed and so ordered.

**MAYOR'S REPORT:**

- Residents were advised to lock their cars and monitor their packages as there have been several thefts in the Borough.
- The Mayor welcomed Green Lane Fire Chief Ryan Crouthamel and Fire Police Captain Scott Bergey who provided their slate of officers and schedule of Fire Police activities for 2021. Gerald Godshall made a motion to approve the schedule of Fire Police activities for insurance coverage purposes and to also approve any additional activities that the Fire Police may add throughout the year as part of normal business, such as funerals, or special school events. Second by Jonathan Guntz. Motion approved and so ordered. The schedule of Fire Police activities is attached to these minutes and made a part of these minutes as part of the official record.

**PUBLIC SAFETY/EMERGENCY REPORTS:** (reports on file)

**VISITORS:** Green Lane Fire Chief Ryan Crouthamel and Fire Police Captain Scott Bergey; Borough residents Greta Buchart and Ron Hettrick of 754 Lumber St.

- The two Lumber Street residents had several concerns about a neighboring property. They said the lot has been covered with an asphalt substance and the owner said he would be storing repossessed cars on the property. They said he has installed underground wiring, bright lighting, fencing and a shed. They requested copies of the

Borough ordinances. President Carpenter said the Code Enforcement officer is currently addressing these concerns, and the specific ordinances are available upon request.

**SOLICITOR'S REPORT:**

- The annual meeting of the Green Lane Industrial Development Authority was held prior to the regular Council meeting.
- The Solicitor announced that although this is not a reorganization year for the Borough, several individuals needed to be reappointed to positions in Borough government as their terms were expiring if Borough Council was so inclined. They include Gerald Godshall to the Green Lane Marlborough Joint Authority; Walt Rich to the Zoning Hearing Board, and Jonathan Guntz to the Industrial Development Authority. Jonathan Guntz made a motion to reappoint the above individuals to the respective positions. Second by Gerald Godshall. Motion approved and so ordered.
- As required by the Borough Code, an ordinance to adopt the proposed codification update was introduced to Borough Council. A motion to publish notice of the code adoption ordinance was made by Gerald Godshall and seconded by Jonathan Guntz. Motion passed and so ordered. According to the Borough Code, official adoption of the codification ordinance would be able to be completed 30 days after tonight's introduction of the codification ordinance, which would take it to the March 11 Council Meeting. Council President Brian Carpenter asked for a special meeting on February 18, 2021, to discuss and potentially approve the codification ordinance so that it can be posted on the Borough website as soon as possible.
- Gerald Godshall made a motion to ratify the request made to the Industrial Development Authority by Borough Council for funds to pay for capital improvement of replacing the roofs on the kitchen and bathroom buildings in Isaac Smith Park. Jonathan Guntz Seconded. Motion approved and so ordered.

**CODE ENFORCEMENT OFFICER: (report on file)**

- A snow and ice inspection was performed on December 8, 2021, and no letters of violation were sent out. President Carpenter said that Newport Fabricators on Walnut Street had not cleared their sidewalk and should be notified that they need to comply.
- Regarding 2963 Real Estate/Michael Sheriden/Rockwell's property:
  - Brad Bollinger from Code Inspections Inc. has visited the site and instructed the owner that the patio roof was constructed without a permit and needs to be removed. President Carpenter said he also communicated to Mr. Sheridan that he needs to remove the roof. Council Member Jack Findley also visited the property and spoke to the owner.
  - The sign erected without a permit was removed, and a letter rescinding the Enforcement Notice was issued on December 28, 2020.
  - Mr. Sheridan said he has obtained antique license plates for two box trucks being used for storage which appears to satisfy the Ordinance requirements.
  - President Carpenter asked the Solicitor to research the legality of Mr. Sheridan operating a second business on the property.

- At the request of Mr. Sheriden, an inspection and meeting had been scheduled for December 28, 2020. Neither Mr. Sheriden nor his attorney were present for the meeting/inspection. It was determined that the property was not in compliance with Ordinance 2017-01 and one citation for one day of violation was filed with the District Magistrate. A hearing for the citation has been set up for February 24, 2021.
- McCuskin Properties LLC on Lumber St.:
  - The owners have been contacted and were informed of possible violations. Electrical circuits have been extended from the adjoining property and bright LED lights have been installed without any electrical permits. Brad Bollinger from Code Inspections is following up. The other violations are for the use of the property, a shed that was placed on the property, and a sign which was installed. Zoning and light glare issues were also noted. There also may be issues with the Flood Plain Ordinance depending on the use of the property, which requires inspections by the Borough's Flood Plain Administrator.
  - Jack Findley made a motion to officially appoint Gilmore & Associates as the borough's Flood Plain Administrator. Second by Jonathan Guntz. Motion approved and so ordered. Engineer Joe Carlin of Gilmore & Associates will follow up on the complaints.

**ENGINEER'S REPORT:** Engineer Joe Carlin reported the following: (report on file)

- The Borough was not awarded funding for the ARLE Grant application for maintenance repairs at Main Street and Gravel Pikes.
- Inlets at 179 and 183 Gravel Pike were inspected and appear to be largely clear of debris, but inlet grates should be considered for replacement. Both outfall pipes could use some minor excavation and repair work. President Carpenter said he would contact PennDOT to see if they will make the repairs.
- The owner of 124 Main Street has not responded to any communications regarding sidewalk violations.
- New Covenant Chapel has not responded to any communications regarding storm water violations. The Solicitor will review the Borough's options moving forward.

**REGIONAL PLANNING:** No Report

**SEWER AUTHORITY:**

- Councilman Godshall reported that sewer system maintenance and repairs continue.
- Mayor Lynn Wolfe commented that she received a sewer bill on Monday, January 11, 2021, that was mailed on December 26, 2020, and due on December 31, 2020. Councilman Guntz added that he received two identical sewer bills in separate envelopes.

**ROAD COMMITTEE:**

- President Carpenter responded to complaints of water running off from a property on Gravel Pike and freezing on the roadway creating a traffic hazard. He contacted PennDOT and was told they would take care of the problem.

**PARK COMMITTEE:**

- Roof replacement has been completed.
- Funds have been allocated to pay for the removal of seven trees in the park.
- There is a problem with dog litter in the park.
- Cones will be placed at park entrance to prevent cars from parking under the trees.
- Dale Bardman's new rates for park maintenance have been approved for 2021.

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

**OLD BUSINESS:** None.

- The TCDI Grant Request for Proposal was advertised on Thursday, January 14, 2021, in the Town & County Newspaper, and be again on January 21, 2021. Proposals are due at the office on February 2, 2021. The selected consultant will be announced at the February 11, 2021, Council Meeting.

**CORRESPONDENCE:**

- Pennsylvania State Association of Boroughs sent a letter to the Borough stating that municipal officials have been moved into the State's 1C category for COVID-19 vaccinations.
- PennDOT is requesting comments about robotic delivery devices in municipalities.

**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