

Green Lane Borough
Green Lane, Montgomery County, Pennsylvania
Borough Council Meeting
June 13, 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, Jonathan Guntz and Darren Landis.

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 Findley made a motion to accept the minutes of the regular Council meeting held on May 9, 2024. Second by Councilman Landis. Motion passed.

MAYOR'S REPORT:

- A thank you letter was received from Marlborough Township Police Chief for the proclamation issued by Green Lane recognizing his 25 years of service.
- The Mayor performed one wedding.
- Volunteers from St. Luke's University Health Network spent a day cleaning and spreading mulch at Isaac Smith Park on Friday, June 7. A thank you letter will be sent to the group.

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

VISITORS: Borough residents Harry Tucker and Rick Stamper and Town & Country reporter Mary Gibbs Kershner.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT:

- Solicitor Comer said he will have a conference call with the Green Lane Marlborough Joint Authority solicitor and Marlborough Township solicitor on July 16, 2024, to review the proposed new grinder pump ordinance and open items in connection with the proposed ordinance.
- President Carpenter said the owners of the greenhouse property want to meet with him. Solicitor Comer will participate in that meeting.

CODE ENFORCEMENT OFFICER REPORT: (Report on file)

- A sign permit was issued to the Green Lane Marlborough Joint Authority. The \$50 fee was waived by Council at the May meeting.

- Atlas Holdings LLC, owner of 115 Main St., has not responded to the letter sent regarding bamboo on their property, and they were cited at the district justice on May 19, 2024.
- 2nd St. Lawyers LLC (Greenhouse Property) was again cited on May 19, 2024, at the district justice for the unsafe condition of their property.
- 2963 Real Estate (Rockwell's) was again cited at the district justice on May 19, 2024, for creating a nuisance. The owner was also sent a notice of violation for violating the zoning ordinance by failing to abide by their agreement and operating a scrap and recycling operation in the Borough's commercial zoning district, where it is not a permitted use.
- A letter was sent to the property owner at 113 Main St. (Old Hoagie Shop) for failing to obtain a permit prior to erecting a sign. The Code Enforcement Officer contacted the property owner who promised to follow up with his tenant. An application was received from the tenant on June 12, 2024, which was immediately denied due to the size of the sign not being permitted in the zoning district.
- A pergola was erected at 101 Walnut St. (Perkiomen Valley Brewery) without a zoning or building permit. Mr. Membrino has been in touch with the owners, but there has been no compliance to date. The owner will be receiving a notice of violation.

ENGINEER'S REPORT: (Report on file)

- On May 7, 2024, five bids were opened for the Montco 2040 Grant - Route 29 Sidewalk and lighting project, and the lowest bid was \$477, 897, well over the \$420,372 that the Borough has raised for the project. At the May 13, 2024, meeting, the Council rejected all bids and authorized reducing the scope of the project. Subsequently, Councilman Godshall made a motion to rebid the project with the reduced scope with a bid opening tentatively scheduled for July 10, 2024. Second by Councilman Guntz. Motion passed.
- An application was submitted to the DCED Greenways, Trails and Recreation Program for \$79,770 to make up the funding shortfall above. A resolution was needed to complete the applications. Councilman Godshall made a motion to approve the resolution to apply for the GTRP Grant. Second by Councilman Guntz. Motion passed. The resolution will be transmitted to the Commonwealth Finance Authority to finalize the application.
- A CDBG grant application was submitted for remaining ADA ramps and installation of sidewalks. The total cost would be \$200,000 with \$185,000 coming from the grant.
- Montco 2040 Grant Application was submitted for sidewalk and curbing along Route 29 from the Perkiomen Trailhead North. A letter was received from the Montco 2040 Committee saying that the application was denied.
- An application is also being prepared for a DCED-MTF grant to complete the Borough Wide Paving project. The deadline is July 31, 2024. Gilmore & Associates is working on the road condition survey required for the application. Preliminary limits and costs, established at approximately \$300,000, will be prepared for discussion at the July Borough Council Meeting.

REGIONAL PLANNING: The Upper Perkiomen Valley School District taxes will increase.

SEWER AUTHORITY:

- Councilman Godshall said the Authority is reviewing the status of their engineering firm.
- The Authority is continuing to investigate the settling of the Green Lane pumphouse to determine the necessary remediation.

ROAD COMMITTEE:

- Traffic signs continue to be repaired or replaced throughout the Borough.

PARK COMMITTEE:

- The work completed by the volunteers from St. Luke's was recognized.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

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

CORRESPONDENCE: None.

OLD BUSINESS:

- In the FEMA/PEMA Hurricane Ida buyout program, no settlements were completed in the past month.
- The 2023 audit of the Borough's finances has been completed by Kimmel Lorah and Associates.
- Green Lane has been awarded \$10,000 through the PECO Green Region Grant program for use as a match in the Route 29 pedestrian lighting project.

NEW BUSINESS:

- The Borough Secretary has completed a newsletter to be distributed in the next few weeks.
- The Upper Perkiomen Valley Chamber of Commerce will be coordinating a valley-wide America 250 celebration. Details will be forthcoming.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Mary T. Garber, Borough Secretary