

Green Lane Borough  
Green Lane, Montgomery County, Pennsylvania  
Borough Council Meeting  
November 14, 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 Jonathan Guntz and Jack Findley.

**COUNCIL MEMBERS ABSENT:** Darren Landis.

**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 October 10, 2024, Council meeting. Second by Councilman Guntz. Motion passed.

**MAYOR'S REPORT:**

- Scott "Scotty" P. Mathias, 68 years old, passed away in October. He had been a Chief of the Green Lane Fire Company and a Fire Marshal for Marlborough Township.
- Former Borough resident Linda G. Eiss also passed away on September 19, 2024.
- The annual Tree Lighting will be held Sunday, December 1, at 5 p.m.
- The Mayor supervised a community service volunteer in completing 40 hours of work in the Borough, including planting tulip bulbs around the war memorial for Project Live and decorating the tree.
- Green Lane Borough Fire Police will assist with the annual Christmas Market put on by the Goshenhoppen Historians at Red Men's Hall, 116 Gravel Pike, on Saturday, December 7, 9:30 a.m. to 4 p.m., and Sunday, December 8, Noon to 4 p.m.

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

- Council President Brian Carpenter said a request came from Upper Hanover Township asking for Green Lane to participate in payment of the workers' compensation insurance coverage for Upper Perkiomen Valley Ambulance Association. President Carpenter said the Borough will contribute in 2025, but it will subtract the fee from the budgeted donation to the UPVAA just in 2025.

**VISITORS:** Borough resident Mary Rose Discipio. Town and Country Reporter Jennifer Frieze.

**VISITORS COMMENTS:**

- Ms. Discipio had questions about a letter that she received stating that a chain-link fence in her front yard is in violation of the Borough fence ordinance. She also had questions about having chickens on her property. Council is continuing to discuss a possible chicken ordinance due to complaints the Borough has received regarding out-of-control chickens.

**SOLICITOR'S REPORT:**

- Councilman Guntz made a motion to advertise notice of the proposed budget for 2025. The proposed budget will be available for review in the Borough during regular business hours: Tuesday-Thursday, 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. It will also be posted on the Borough's website: [www.greenlaneborough.org](http://www.greenlaneborough.org). Second by Jack Findley. Motion approved.
- Councilman Guntz made a motion to approve publication of the schedule of Borough meetings for 2025. Second by Councilman Godshall. Motion approved.

**CODE ENFORCEMENT OFFICER REPORT:** (Report on file)

- A sign permit was issued to Mary Heckler at 109/113 Main St.
- Bamboo was cut down at 115 Main St., but still needs to be removed from the property. The owner, Atlas Holdings LLC, will be contacted and informed that the bamboo must be completely removed. A second citation is still pending before the District Justice.
- A civil action was filed against 2963 Real Estate/Rockwell's at the district justice on October 4, 2024, for failing to appeal the notice of violation for operating a junk and salvage yard. A hearing has been scheduled for November 21, 2024, before Magisterial District Justice Coggins, but that hearing was a placeholder, and a further hearing date will be scheduled.
- An informal enforcement notice was sent to Maryrose Discipio at 505 Green St. for erecting a chain-link fence in the front yard, which is not permitted.
- The citation before the district justice against 2nd St. Lawyers LLC has been withdrawn because a fence has been erected around the property.
- McCuskins Properties (750 Lumber St.) has made an application for a new tenant and for a shed permit for the shed.
- A notice of violation was sent for work being done without obtaining any permits at 416 Main St., owned by 4G Holdings LLC. Construction must be halted on the property, and it cannot be used as two units without obtaining zoning relief.

**ENGINEER'S REPORT:** (Report on file)

- Montco 2040 Grant - Route 29 Sidewalk
  - The stakeout is complete. NJS anticipates starting on Monday November 18, 2024.
  - Coordination with Oddo's regarding the wall is ongoing.

- A GRTP Grant application was made and is out for consideration in the amount of \$79,770 for the balance of the lighting costs for the Route 29 project.
- No update at this time on the DCED-MTF Grant received for ADA ramp upgrades.
- 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.
- The Montco CDBG Grant for Walnut Street sidewalk links and ADA ramps was rejected but will be resubmitted as an LSA grant application by the Borough Secretary. A motion was made by Councilman Findley to approve a resolution to apply for the LSA grant. Second by Councilman Godshall. Motion approved.
- Regarding Hurricane Ida Disaster Relief – Home Buyouts, Gilmore & Associates obtained the necessary state water obstruction and encroachment permits from PA DEP for the homes to be demolished on Lumber Street and Gravel Pike and provided same to Susan Mazzitelli. G&R Excavating and Demolition has been issued a notice to proceed.

**REGIONAL PLANNING:**

- Chicken ordinances were discussed.
- Upper Hanover Township is considering regulating in-law suites.
- The electronic recycling event was very successful.

**SEWER AUTHORITY:**

- A flow meter is being installed at the brewery.
- Sumneytown Pump Station work is continuing.

**ROAD COMMITTEE:**

- Leaf pickup will be November 18th and December 9th.

**PARK COMMITTEE:**

- Councilman Godshall and Councilman Findley discussed maintenance and mowing of Isaac Smith Park.

**TREASURER'S REPORT:**

- Councilman Findley made a motion to approve the treasurer's report and pay all bills. Second by Councilman Godshall. Motion approved.
- President Carpenter presented the proposed 2025 budget, for which Council approved a motion to advertise notice of the budget.

**CORRESPONDENCE:**

- An invitation was received from the Montgomery County Boroughs Association for the annual holiday dinner meeting on Thursday, December 5, 2024.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

- Tort legislation packets were distributed to Borough staff members for review and to sign off that they did so. Review will be required every year.

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- One property owner in the FEMA buyout program has withdrawn her application. Seven properties have been purchased by the Borough with FEMA funds, and the structures on these properties are scheduled to be demolished in December.
- Perkiomen Mapping Initiative update. (See handouts)
- The Borough Secretary attended a training session for applicants for low-volume-road grants.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

- Councilman Guntz asked about the cost of maintenance for the properties acquired through the FEMA program. President Carpenter said the Borough will not be mowing those properties.
- Councilman Godshall made a motion to continue the burn ban until December 12, 2024. Second by Councilman Findley. Motion approved.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** None.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Mary T. Garber, Borough Secretary