

Green Lane Borough  
Green Lane, Montgomery County, Pennsylvania  
Borough Council Meeting  
November 9, 2023  
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 Jack Findley and Jonathan Guntz.

**COUNCIL MEMBERS ABSENT:** Council Member 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:** A motion was made by Councilman Guntz to accept the minutes of the October 12, 2023, Council meeting. Second by Councilman Godshall. Motion passed.

**MAYOR'S REPORT:** Written Report.

- A community service volunteer is working on finishing up the curb painting.
- The Mayor asked for approval to issue a proclamation to the Green Lane Marlboro Lions Club to acknowledge the organization's 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary. Councilman Godshall made a motion to approve the proclamation. Second by Councilman Guntz. Motion approved.
- The Christmas tree lighting in Isaac Smith Park at the veteran's memorial will be held on Sunday, December 3, 2023, at 5 p.m. There is no rain date.
- Councilman Godshall made a motion to approve fire police participation in the events listed below with a second by Councilman Findley. Motion approved.
  - a. Big Bad Bonfire, Spring Mount, previously approved by Council but date was changed for a second time to October 28, 2023.
  - b. Hometown Christmas Parade, December 3, 2023, from 5 to 6 p.m.

**PUBLIC SAFETY/EMERGENCY REPORTS:** Police, ambulance and fire company reports on file.

**VISITORS:** Borough residents David Whetstone, Nancy Harvey, Trevor Reed, and Mike and Sherri Lee.

- Mr. Whetstone complimented the contractor that has been doing the paving and road restoration project. He was also pleased that a sign was put up to warn trucks not to turn on Fourth Street, but he said it was placed on the wrong side of the road and should be higher. President Carpenter said another sign would be installed.
- Mr. and Mrs. Lee asked for an update on action being taken against their neighbor for bamboo on his property. President Carpenter said the Borough is in the process of citing the owner of 413 Fourth Street for having bamboo too close to their property line. Mrs.

Lee also thanked Councilman Godshall for all the work he is doing clearing the leaves from the park.

- Mr. Reed also complimented the road resurfacing contractors and asked for updates on properties in the Borough with outstanding violations, including Rockwell's, the 2<sup>nd</sup> Street Lawyers property, and the Alan Apt property.
- Mr. Whetstone expressed concern about the plastic blowing off of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Street Lawyers' greenhouse property.

**SOLICITOR'S REPORT:**

- Councilman Guntz made a motion to appoint Kimmel Lorah as the Borough's independent auditor to conduct the Borough's audit for fiscal year 2023. Second by Councilman Findley. Motion passed.
- Solicitor Comer reviewed regulations regarding the Borough's support of emergency services agencies.

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

- Permits were issued to:
  - Mary and Randy Heckler, 109 Main St., change of use for produce/garden center; Mary and Randy Heckler, 107 Main St., change of use for a landscape business office;
  - Rich and Crystal Ogle McNelly, 208 Main St., for a fence and shed;
  - Michael Tierney & Kelsey Butt, 301 & 303 Main St., for a fence.
  - 2963 Real Estate Co. (Rockwell's), property was inspected, and it appears at this time to be in compliance with their zoning permit and stipulations made at that time. The owner was reminded that all activity on the property is supposed to be inside the fence according to the agreement made with the Borough.
- Another citation was filed with the Magisterial District Justice for 2nd St. Lawyers LLC - (Greenhouse Property). This was for creating a nuisance by owning and failing to maintain an unsafe or dangerous structure. Mr. Membrino has been in contact with one of the ownership partners about the need to secure the property. His plan is to install security lighting and secure the entrance doors.
- The property owner at 413 Fourth St. was cited for the bamboo on his property being closer than 10 ft. from the property line and 40 ft. from the roadway.
- One of the ownership partners of 101 Main St. (Yoder's) has provided photos of all of the entry points being secured which is in compliance with the October 10, 2023, letter sent to them by the Borough's solicitor.

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

- PennDOT has issued a permit for the curb and sidewalk project funded by the 2021 Montco 2040 grant. The executed agreement for the 2023 grant for pedestrian level streetlights has been received. Gilmore is preparing final light layout prior to electrical design. The Borough had selected the LED option lamp previously presented which is in

keeping with the appearance of the period lights offered by the Oddos. Pricing to retrofit those has not been received at this time.

- A grant application has been submitted to DCED for updating curb ramps throughout the Borough to meet ADA compliance rules.
- The Borough is awaiting funding for Post Hurricane Ida disaster assistance projects.

**REGIONAL PLANNING:**

- The municipal contribution to fund the commission will stay at \$2,500 in 2024.
- Marlborough Township is looking to hire a police officer and a public works employee.

**SEWER AUTHORITY:**

- Sumneytown Pump Station work is continuing.
- Manhole repairs have been completed in the Borough.

**ROAD COMMITTEE:** None.

**PARK COMMITTEE:** None.

**TREASURER'S REPORT:** Councilman Findley made a motion to approve the Treasurer's report and pay all bills. Second by Councilman Guntz. Motion approved.

- 2024 Budget was presented and discussed. Councilman Guntz made a motion to advertise notice of the proposed budget. Second by Councilman Godshall. Motion passed.

**CORRESPONDENCE:** None.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

- Council discussed the changes in tort law regarding incidents of abuse by Borough employees. Present Carpenter said the Borough's insurance agent will look into having the Borough added as an additional insured on the policy, which would cover the Borough secretary/treasurer.
- Councilman Godshall made a motion to apply for the PECO Green Region Grant. Second by Councilman Guntz. Motion passed.
- Councilman Guntz also complimented T. Schiefer Contractors for the great job they did on the Borough pavement project.

**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