

**Green Lane Borough  
Green Lane, Montgomery County, Pennsylvania  
Borough Council Meeting  
September 12, 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 Member Jonathan Guntz.

**COUNCIL MEMBERS ABSENT:** Darren Landis and Jack Findley.

**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 regular Council meeting held on August 8, 2024. Second by Councilman Guntz. Motion passed.

**MAYOR'S REPORT:**

- The Mayor and the Borough Secretary were at Bartram's Garden in Philadelphia on August 14 to accept a PECO Green Region Grant Award for \$10,000.
- A motion was made by Councilman Guntz to approve the participation of Green Lane Fire Police in the following activities.
  - Bally Borough Halloween Parade, Monday, October 21, 2024, at 7 p.m.
  - Upper Perk Downtown Halloween Parade, Sunday, October 27, 2024, at 5 p.m.
  - Tylersport Haunted Hayride, October 11, 12 and 18, 19, 2024, from 6 to 10:30 p.m.
  - Trick or Treating in Green Lane Borough on October 31, 2024, from 6 to 8 p.m.

Second by Councilman Godshall. Motion passed.

- Mayor Bergey completed pipeline safety education and attended a dam safety course on August 21, 2024.
- The Montgomery County Boroughs Association will host a dinner meeting on Thursday, September 26 in King of Prussia.

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

**VISITORS:** Borough residents: David Whetstone, Rick Stamper, and Kristin and Walt Sherzer.

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**VISITORS COMMENTS:**

- The Sherzers expressed concern that they are “under a microscope” regarding the citation they received for bamboo on their property. Council President Carpenter said he travels through the Borough at least five times a week and thanked them for bringing the bamboo into compliance with the local ordinance.

**SOLICITOR’S REPORT:**

- The Solicitor, Zoning Officer and Council President attended a hearing on August 13, 2024, before District Justice Coggins regarding bamboo ordinance violations at 115 Main Street. The property owner did not attend the hearing, and a judgement was entered against the owner in the amount of \$1899.25. The owner has 30 days to appeal.
- Councilman Godshall made a motion to approve a resolution appointing Kimmel Lorah & Associates as independent auditor for 2024 audits. Second by Councilman Guntz. Motion approved and so ordered.
- The 2<sup>nd</sup> Street Lawyers (Greenhouse Property) have said they will put a fence around the property currently in violation of Borough ordinances. The property owners delivered a set of development plans to the Borough office for information purposes only and not formally. No action was requested or taken on these plans.
- Mr. Comer presented a draft ordinance for review by Council that could address concerns about chickens in the Borough. Council discussed the draft ordinance but did not take any further action at this time.

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

- Permits were issued to Perkiomen Valley Brewery, 101 Walnut St., for a gazebo; Larry Alderfer, 515 Fifth St., for new sidewalk; and Trevor and Lauren Reed, 104 Green St., for a greenhouse.
- A temporary fence permit will be issued for the installation of a security fence around the property owned by 2<sup>nd</sup> Street. Lawyers LLC (Greenhouse Property). A hearing scheduled for September 10, 2024, was continued. The DEP made a site visit to the property on September 11, 2024.
- 2963 Real Estate (Rockwell’s) was sent a notice of violation of the Zoning Ordinance by operating a scrap and recycling operation. The property owner has denied to Mr. Membrino that the property owner is operating a scrap and recycling operation. Mr. Membrino was directed to continue citing the property owner for running a scrap and recycling operation.

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

- The contract for the Gravel Pike sidewalk and lighting project with a reduced scope to install lights as Phase II has been awarded to NJS Concrete in the amount of \$307,658. Engineering firm Gilmore and Associates will be issuing a notice to proceed. PennDOT has issued the permit supplement for the conduit and the Route 29 crosswalk at Walnut Street. NJS indicated an anticipated start date of October 14, 2024. A pre-construction meeting will be scheduled with the contractor and the DOT in the coming weeks.
  - Note: PennDOT requested additional advance warning signage for the crosswalk, which will be added to the contract.
  - Note: The Oddos at 100 Main Street have offered to reduce the amount of retaining wall on their property in the project. They stated that they were aware of the cost overruns and decided to help reduce cost. The engineer will follow up with the Oddos.
  - GRTP Grant is out for consideration in the amount of \$79,770 for the balance of the lighting costs.
- The Borough is awaiting survey results and a proposed schedule in order to move forward with the ADA ramp upgrades funded by a DCED-MTF Grant.
- 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 now that the Borough is able to qualify as low-to-moderate income according to grant guidelines.
- Montco 2040 Grant for Route 29 Sidewalk from the Perkiomen Trailhead North was rejected.
- A grant application was submitted to the Community Development Block Grant – Disaster Recovery (CDBG-DR) program for hard pipe of the existing swale from the Marlborough Business Park Stormwater Basin to the headwall located at Main Street to address the persistent blockage of the facility by debris in storm events, leading to flooding on Main Street. The project is estimated to have a total cost of \$267,283 including engineering, permitting and construction.
- Senator Pennycuick’s office requested a list of Borough funding priorities. After discussion, the resulting list follows:
  1. Borough-Wide Pavement Project Phase Two – Grant application submitted to DCED-MTF at an estimated cost of \$463,077.
  2. Route 29 Sidewalk- Phase 2 Lighting Funds-\$79,770 – Currently being considered under a GRTP Grant.
  3. Borough-Wide ADA Upgrades – partially funded, \$32,000 estimate to complete balance of ramps.

4. Main Street (SR 0063) Stormwater Pipe Replacement – \$3.2 Million including contingencies and three years of cost escalation.
5. Walnut Street Sidewalk Missing Links – \$200,000.
6. Route 29 sidewalk at the Perkiomen Trailhead – \$95,000.
7. Route 63/Marlborough Business Park Stormwater Extension- \$267,300 – currently under consideration for a CDBG-DR grant.
8. Preliminary Planning/Feasibility Study to connect Green Lane Borough to the Perkiomen trail in Green Lane Park by way of a trail extending from the new crosswalk on Route 29 to a pedestrian bridge with a birding observation deck across the Macoby Creek as described in the Activating Green Lane Active Transportation and Revitalization Plan approved by the Borough on July 14, 2022, and the Green Lane Park Master Plan.

**REGIONAL PLANNING:** No report.

**SEWER AUTHORITY:**

- An inspection was completed at 101 Gravel Pike.
- Sumneytown Pump Station work is continuing.

**ROAD COMMITTEE:**

- A speed limit sign is being replaced on Walnut Street.
- Trees and shrubs need to be trimmed back at several intersections in the Borough.

**PARK COMMITTEE:** None.

**TREASURER'S REPORT:**

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

**CORRESPONDENCE:** None.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

- In the FEMA/PEMA Hurricane Ida buyout program, two more settlements were completed in Project #1, and one remains. Project #2 has yet to be approved.

**NEW BUSINESS:** None.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

- Mr. Whetstone asked for an update on the old Yoders property.
- Mr. Stamper asked about updates to the Borough ordinances to get rid of old information and terms.

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

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**Respectfully submitted,**

**Mary T. Garber, Borough Secretary**