

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

**COUNCIL MEMBERS ABSENT:** None.

**OTHER OFFICIALS PRESENT:** Mayor Lynn Bergey, Engineer Joe Carlin, Solicitor Loren Szczesny, Code Enforcement and Zoning Officer John Membrino and Secretary/Treasurer Mary T. Garber.

**OFFICIALS ABSENT:** Solicitor David Comer.

**MOTION ON MINUTES:** A motion was made by Councilman Godshall to accept the minutes of the August 10, 2023, Council meeting. Second by Councilman Guntz. Motion passed.

**MAYOR'S REPORT:**

- The mayor reminded everyone that school is back in session and to be aware of school buses on the road.
- Condolences were offered to Council Member Darren Landis on the passing of his mother.
- The Mayor will perform a wedding on Saturday, September 16, 2023.
- Councilman Godshall made a motion to approve fire police participation in the event listed below with a second by Councilman Findley. Motion approved.
  - Tylersport Haunted Hayride, Friday, October 13, 2023, and Saturday October 14, 2023, and Friday October 20, 2023, and Saturday October 21, 2023, from 7 to 10 p.m. each night.
- A drill to prepare for a possible emergency at the Limerick Power Generating Station will be held on Tuesday, September 26, 2023, and facilitated by Mayor Bergey at the Marlborough Township Municipal Building.
- The Mayor thanked President Carpenter, Willow House Paints, and Mike Kiernen for painting over the graffiti in the Borough. She also said the culprit has been apprehended and charged.

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

**VISITORS:** Chief Don Lynch of Freedom Valley Medical Rescue; Borough residents David Whetstone and Rick Stamper; Borough resident and business owner Trevor Reed; Borough Business owner Tom Weiss; and Mary and Bryn Young from Project Live

- Chief Lynch gave an update on activities at the rescue services agency. He said 64 people graduated from the recent EMS training program. Four will be going on to EMS work. He provided a staffing report, which is on file.
- Mary Young provided information about current and upcoming activities of Project LIVE to help parents talk to their children about avoiding drug and alcohol abuse.
- Mr. Whetstone asked about the signs he requested to warn about low wires and “no access” for trucks on Fourth Street. President Carpenter said signs have been purchased and will be installed soon. Councilman Findley said he would contact Google Maps to tell them that Fourth Street is a dead end. Mr. Whetstone also asked about pothole patching in the Borough.
- Tom Weiss asked about the resurfacing project on Borough roads. Engineer Joe Carlin said deep repair work will be done first and then milling. President Carpenter said the project is to be completed by November 11, 2023.
- Mr. Reed asked for an update on action the Borough is taking against properties owned by Alan Apt, 2<sup>nd</sup> Street Lawyers and Michael Sheridan. President Carpenter said Mr. Apt is trying to sell the property at Main Street and Gravel Pike. The Solicitor is reviewing next steps for the property owned by 2<sup>nd</sup> Street Lawyers. The owners had until August 18, 2023, to respond to a citation. Mr. Reed said he is concerned about the blighted properties in the Borough, and he will make a list of the problems he has noted and send it to the Borough. Mr. Carpenter said that would respond to all of the items on the list. Mr. Reed asked what the people of the Borough can do to rectify the situation of blighted properties in the Borough.
- Mr. Stamper said his traffic cones in front of the house are now missing. He also asked about the road repairs being done on Green Street and asked if residents would be notified. Engineer Joe Carlin said signs would be placed on the roadway in advance of the work.

**SOLICITOR’S REPORT:**

- A hearing regarding the McCuskins properties was held on June 20, 2023, at the district court. A judgment was entered against the property owner in the amount of \$9,392.25. The property owner has appealed the judgment to the Montgomery County Court of Common Pleas. Mr. Szczesny said the Borough filed a complaint with the Montgomery County Court of Common Pleas in response to the appeal and this week the property owner responded to the complaint and included a new matter in the response. The Solicitor will respond to the complaint. Mr. Carpenter said the owners are asking for relief of judgements if they participate in the FEMA/PEMA HMGP buyout program. Mr. Carpenter said the Borough will be willing to forgive judgements but not legal fees.

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

- One permit was issued to Daniel Macarro and Loune-Dana Brandt, 658 Macoby St., for a driveway with conditions.
- Adam from Blue Dumpsters has provided an update. He has gotten a quote from an Engineer to perform the design work but is waiting on the owners of the property to determine the future of their ownership. Mr. Carpenter reported that he spoke to the owner of the dumpster company before the meeting and was told that the business would be moved.
- Notices of Violation were prepared and sent certified mail to McCuskins Properties LLC. One was for the lack of a Use and Occupancy Permit, and one was for failure to obtain a permit before placing a shed on the property. Mr. Membrino is awaiting the return of the receipt cards.
- A draft Notice of Violation was prepared for 2963 Real Estate (Rockwell's) and it has been reviewed by Solicitor Comer. That notice will be sent out by the end of this week.
- A Citation was filed with the Magisterial District Justice for 2<sup>nd</sup> St. Lawyers LLC - (Greenhouse Property). This was for creating a nuisance by owning and failing to maintain an unsafe or dangerous structure.
- The exterior of 100 Walnut St. was inspected for debris and two vehicles on the other side of the alley.
- The exterior of 208 Main St. was inspected for the replacement of a fence and a shed without obtaining a permit.

**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.
- Construction on the Borough-wide pavement project is anticipated to begin Tuesday, September 19, 2023. Notification signs should go up in the next day or so. The plan is to resurface with some full-depth repairs at the following locations:
  - Green Street – Route 29 to 220' SE of 4th Street
  - Walnut Street- Full Length
  - 5th Street Main to Walnut
  - 4th Street Main to the northern Borough Line
  - School Alley northern Borough Line south to the bend
  - Maple Alley spot repairs between 4th and 5th Streets
- All of the above may be subject to adjustment as necessary.
- Grant application has been submitted to DCED for updating curb ramps throughout Borough to meet ADA compliance rules.

- Currently awaiting funding for Post Hurricane Ida disaster assistance projects.

**REGIONAL PLANNING:**

- Dollar General Store construction will begin in January. Sidewalks will be installed on Main Street but not Upper Ridge Road.

**SEWER AUTHORITY:**

- Councilman Godshall reported that the Authority has closed on a \$2.25 million loan at 5.25% with QNB and paid off \$500,000 in existing loans at Univest.
- The first project going out to bid is for a new Geryville/Sumneytown Pump Station which will cost about \$1 million; it will take 12-14 months to complete.

**ROAD COMMITTEE:**

- The streetlight replacement loan application is progressing.

**PARK COMMITTEE:** None.

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

**CORRESPONDENCE:** None.

**OLD BUSINESS:** Councilman Guntz asked about the feasibility of contracting with a single trash hauler in the Borough. Discussion followed, but no action was taken.

**NEW BUSINESS:** None.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** Mr. Whetstone asked that repairs be made on the north side of Fourth Street.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Mary T. Garber, Borough Secretary