

Green Lane Borough
Green Lane, Montgomery County, Pennsylvania
Borough Council Meeting
September 8, 2022
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 Member Jack Findley.

COUNCIL MEMBERS ABSENT: Darren Landis and Jonathan Guntz.

OTHER OFFICIALS PRESENT: Mayor Lynn Wolfe, Code Enforcement and Zoning Officer John Membrino, Solicitor David Comer, Engineer Joe Carlin and Secretary/Treasurer Mary T. Garber.

OFFICIALS ABSENT: None.

MOTION ON MINUTES: A motion was made by Gerald Godshall to accept the minutes of the August 11, 2022, Council meeting. Second by Jack Findley. Motion passed.

MAYOR'S REPORT:

- A pipeline safety course will be offered at the Holiday Inn in Kulpsville. If anyone is interested in attending, they should contact the Mayor.
- A mailing was received from Constellation Energy regarding preparedness for an emergency at the Limerick Generating Station. A card was sent out to all residents asking for information on any special needs of anyone in your home in the event of an emergency. The Mayor recommended putting the postcard in an envelope and mailing it back to Constellation Energy to avoid having your personal information in sight.
- Free potassium iodide tablets (KI) will be available to Montgomery County residents who live, work and/or attend schools within a 10-mile radius of the Limerick Nuclear Power Plant on Thursday, September 15, 2022, at Pottstown Health Center.
- The Mayor remembered those who lost their lives on 9/11/2011.
- The Mayor officiated at one wedding.

PUBLIC SAFETY/EMERGENCY REPORTS: (State police and fire company reports on file.)

VISITORS: Resident Rick Stamper and Borough property owner Jerry Borchers.

- Mr. Borchers asked for an update on the situation at 750 Lumber Street where dumpsters are being stored in the floodplain. He is concerned that if another flood should occur in this area of the Borough, the dumpsters will be lifted by the water and lodge under the bridge over the Macoby Creek causing a flooding catastrophe. President Carpenter and Solicitor David Comer explained that the Borough is in the midst of legal proceedings against the property owner due to violations of zoning ordinances and that

the Borough is awaiting a court date to be scheduled in the Montgomery County Court of Common Pleas. Mr. Borchers presented a letter to Council that he had written to District Justice Maureen Coggins regarding the situation at the recommendation of Jason Wilson, Deputy Coordinator of Emergency Services of Montgomery County. The letter is on file in the Borough office.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT:

- A notice of proposed changes to the Borough's "stormwater ordinance" was published in the Town & Country Newspaper on September 1, 2022, and on the Borough's website. The complete ordinance was posted on the Borough's website and was made available at the Borough office and also sent to the Montgomery County Law Library. A motion was made by Councilman Godshall to approve the ordinance making it match the County's changes. Second by Jack Findley. Motion approved and so ordered.
- A hearing has been scheduled for November 9, 2022, in district court to address the stormwater issues at 417 Walnut Street.
- Gerald Godshall made a motion to approve the bid documents for the sale of the lot at 303 Main Street and to publicize the invitation to bid. Second by Jack Findley. Motion approved and so ordered.
- The solicitor reviewed proposed wording to amend the "trees, shrubs and weeds" ordinance to require property owners to trim trees above streets, alleys and sidewalks. Gerald Godshall made a motion to advertise the changes to the ordinance. Second by Jack Findley. Motion approved.

CODE ENFORCEMENT OFFICER REPORT: (Report on file)

- Permits were issued to the owner of the property at 120 Gravel Pike for a fence and a change of use to retail for the property at 120 Gravel Pike.
- A permit for a no-impact home business was issued to the owner of 301 Main St.
- McCuskins Properties LLC – 750 Lumber St.: Mr. Membrino was contacted by Joe Sheehan once he received the denial letters in response to his permit application. The property owner was instructed on what he needed to do to be in compliance.
- A letter was sent to Mike Martin at 108 Walnut Street regarding the accumulation of junk and debris on his property.
- A letter was sent to the owner of 400 Main Street regarding a tree in the front yard in danger of falling.
- An inspection was done of the office trailer at the Mayer/Shellaway used car lot on Main Street, and the operator was sent a zoning permit application and referred to the building inspector for a building permit.

ENGINEER'S REPORT: (Report on file.)

- Post Ida Efforts: There has been no word on the Hazard Mitigation Program Grant Application that was submitted by the Borough in January.
- MS4 Exemption: Gilmore is working on having the Borough exempted from MS4 requirements due to its size. This would not negate the Borough's ordinance, but it would remove the Borough from the county-wide general permit and annual reporting and inspection requirements, which could save the Borough thousands of dollars annually.
- Montco 2040 Grant - Route 29 Sidewalk: All acknowledgements from property owners have been received. Plans have been re-uploaded to PennDOT for review. Secretary Garber reported that during a Pennsylvania Highlands Trail Steering Committee meeting, Bob Thomas of Campbell Thomas & Co. strongly encouraged the Borough to include pedestrian level street lighting in the project. He said that funding is available, and it would greatly enhance the project. The committee coordinator said her organization could write the grant. Secretary Garber said she contacted the county grant officer who indicated that there would be no problem getting a one-year extension on completion of the sidewalk project while funding is investigated for the streetlights. President Carpenter directed Secretary Garber to explore funding sources.
- There are no updates on the Green Street Repaving - DCED (Horse Development and Gaming Act) Local Share Account Grant.
- No updates have been received on the DCED-MTF Grant Application, although the committee did contact the Borough for clarification of the budget.

REGIONAL PLANNING:

- Councilman Findley asked everyone to review the County's proposed comprehensive plan, which he emailed to Council.

SEWER AUTHORITY:

- The Authority has hired Dave Garber to replace Lisa Duemler as administrator.
- Salam Majeed has resigned from the Authority board due to health reasons, requiring the Borough to appoint another representative. Councilman Godshall is investigating possible replacements.

ROAD COMMITTEE:

- There is a sinkhole at the intersection of Routes 63 and 29. President Carpenter is continuing to get quotes for repairs. PennDOT has said it will assist in some way.
- President Carpenter asked if anyone had any comments regarding switching to a single trash hauler. Discussion followed. asked Secretary Garber to investigate costs.

PARK COMMITTEE:

- Trees have been removed in Isaac Smith Park, and the Borough is awaiting an invoice.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

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

CORRESPONDENCE: None.

OLD BUSINESS: None.

NEW BUSINESS: None.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Mr. Stamper supported the switch to a single trash hauler.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Mary T. Garber, Borough Secretary