

Green Lane Borough
Green Lane, Montgomery County, Pennsylvania
Borough Council Meeting
Thursday, February 13, 2020
Minutes

The regular meeting of the Borough Council was held on the above date in the Municipal Office, 214 Main Street, Green Lane. President Brian Carpenter called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m.

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT: President Brian Carpenter and Vice President Gerald Godshall and Council Members Jonathan Guntz and Jack Findley.

COUNCIL MEMBERS ABSENT: Darren Landis.

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

OFFICIALS ABSENT: None.

MOTION ON MINUTES: A motion was made by Jonathan Guntz to accept the minutes of the biannual reorganization meeting held January 6, 2020. Seconded by Gerald Godshall. Motion passed and so ordered. A motion was made by Gerald Godshall to accept the minutes of the regular monthly Council meeting also held on January 6, 2020. Seconded by Jonathan Guntz. Motion passed and so ordered.

MAYOR'S REPORT:

- The Perkiomen Watershed Conservancy is coordinating the annual cleanup of the watershed shorelines and park areas on Saturday, April 4, from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. Mayor Wolfe encouraged residents to sign up to help clean up debris along both the Perkiomen and Macoby Creeks that has been there since the July 11, 2019, flood. Volunteers must register at <https://www.perkiomenwatershed.org/stream-clean-up>.
- The Mayor reported there was a spill in the Borough of hydraulic fluid from a Whitetail Disposal Inc., garbage truck on Thursday, February 13, 2020, along its collection route. The spill was throughout Marlborough Township and Green Lane Borough. Green Lane Fire Company and Marlborough Township Police responded to the incident, and the Department of Environmental Protection was notified. According to Chief Crouthamel, a Whitetail representative said that an outside company would be hired to clean up the fluid, but no one had seen evidence that cleanup was occurring.
- The annual schedule of Green Lane Fire Police activities was presented. The Mayor noted that a new event on the schedule is the Green Lane Fire Company's 100 Anniversary to be celebrated on Saturday, July 25. Note: One item had been cut off from copying of the schedule, so the record should include the annual Trick or Treat Night in Green Lane Borough on October 31 from 6 to 8 p.m. A motion was made by Gerald Godshall to accept the Fire Police schedule. Jack Findley seconded. Motion passed and

so ordered. This schedule will become part of the officially recorded minutes for the Borough's February 2020 meeting as Exhibit A.

PUBLIC SAFETY/EMERGENCY REPORTS: (police, ambulance and fire reports on file)

VISITORS: Dale Bardman; Dan Ireland of Harleysville EMS; Ryan Crouthamel, Fire Chief, and resident of 187 Gravel Pike.

- Green Lane EMS Station Captain Dan Ireland expressed pleasure that two of the bridges on Route 63 have been reopened, but they still have some challenges with the continuing construction of the third new bridge along that route.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT: Solicitor Dave Comer shared the following items:

- The Solicitor contacted the Montgomery County Board of Assessment regarding 113 Main Street, which is recorded as the official address of two different properties in the Borough, one a duplex and the other identified in public records as commercial in nature. He has been in contact with the County regarding this issue.
- A letter has been sent to The Green Lane Group LLC, which owns the old Yoder property at Main Street and Gravel Pike, expressing concerns about the condition of the property and requesting a meeting to discuss what can be done to improve conditions.
- Highland Trails sign easement agreement with the fire company is nearing completion.
- The Solicitor reminded Council members to complete and return their Statement of Financial Interests to the Borough Secretary by May 1, 2020.
- Marlborough Township is updating their Sewer Ordinance and they want the Borough's ordinance to agree with the township's. The Solicitor will forward copies of the ordinance to Council members by email.
- The Transient Merchant ordinance regarding food trucks needs to be revised to allow trucks to operate in the Borough during the operating days and hours of the host business. The host business owner must supply a certificate of insurance.
- A motion was made by Gerald Godshall and seconded by Jonathan Guntz to appoint the following officials to the Zoning Hearing Board. Motion passed and so ordered:
 - David Whetstone for a two-year term ending 12/31/2021
 - Kenneth Brewer to a three-year term ending 12/31/2022.
- A motion was made by Gerald Godshall and seconded by Jonathan Guntz to appoint Brian Carpenter to a three-year term to the Green Lane Planning Commission, ending 12/31/2022. Motion passed and so ordered.

CODE ENFORCEMENT OFFICER: Code Enforcement Officer John Membrino submitted a report (on file):

- A fence permit was issued to McCuskins Properties, owner of 113 Main Street.
- A fence installed at the 608 Main Street was inspected and determined to comply with the Borough's fence ordinance, but it does not meet the conditions of the Zoning

Hearing Board decision of November 7, 2019. John Membrino and Solicitor Dave Comer will follow up with the Zoning Hearing Board Solicitor to resolve the situation.

- The legal requirement for submitting construction permits to the County were discussed. The Secretary was asked to find out the name of the County's residential assessor for Green Lane.

ENGINEER'S REPORT: Engineer Joe Carlin submitted a report (on file) including the following:

- There has been no update on the PennDOT Multimodal grant application.
- The Chapel property owner has not taken any action on storm water issues at the site. The Borough Solicitor will send a letter to the property owner that the Borough has been very patient, but if action is not taken the Borough will proceed to enforcement.
- In response to concerns about the condition of several sidewalks in the Borough, the Engineer reviewed the Borough's existing ordinance. President Brian Carpenter said there is some confusion in the ordinance regarding repair requirements and asked clarification from the Engineer and Solicitor. In the meantime, he said letters will be sent to residents regarding the condition of their sidewalks.

REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION: Jack Findley and Jonathan Guntz attended the recent meeting and reported the following.

- The County wants to improve access to the Perkiomen Trail entrance off Route 29 and has determined that the trail that is currently being used is in the wrong location.

SEWER AUTHORITY: The Authority's solicitor is working on the legalities of taking on management of the Candlewyck Homeowners Association sewage treatment plant.

ROAD COMMITTEE: Brian Carpenter reported that repairs were made to Fourth Street, and a drainage pipe was replaced in the alley behind the fire house.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Gerald Godshall made a motion to accept the treasurer's report and pay all bills. Jonathan Guntz seconded the motion. Motion passed and so ordered.

OLD BUSINESS: Marlborough Township is now involved with the Highland Trails project and has approved a route from the Musser Scout Camp property to enter Green Lane Borough where Penny Road turns into to Walnut Street as it crosses Upper Ridge Road.

NEW BUSINESS: The Borough is applying for a federal TCDI planning grant through the Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None.

ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business, a motion was made by Gerald Godshall to adjourn and seconded by Jonathan Guntz. Motion passed and so ordered.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary T. Garber, Borough Secretary