

Green Lane Borough
Green Lane, Montgomery County, Pennsylvania
Borough Council Meeting
Thursday, September 10, 2020
Minutes

The regular meeting of the Borough Council was held on the above date in the pavilion at the Isaac Smith Park to allow social distancing due to the COVID-19 virus pandemic. Signage was posted at Borough Hall and on the Borough's website to advise people that the meeting was being held in the pavilion. Borough Council waited five minutes past the 7 p.m. starting time to allow people to walk from Borough Hall to the pavilion. The meeting was called to order by President Brian Carpenter at 7:05 p.m., and the Pledge of Allegiance recited.

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, Secretary/Treasurer Mary T. Garber, Code Enforcement/Zoning Officer John Membrino, and Engineer Joe Carlin.

OFFICIALS ABSENT: None.

MOTION ON MINUTES: A motion was made by Jonathan Guntz to accept the minutes of the August 13, 2020, Council meeting. Seconded by Gerald Godshall. Motion passed and ordered.

MAYOR'S REPORT:

- Upper Perkiomen municipalities are seeking consensus regarding options for trick-or-treat this year considering the COVID-19 restrictions. After some discussion, Council President Brian Carpenter said that Borough residents can decide for themselves if they want to participate by taking their children house to house or putting out candy on Saturday, October 31, 2020, from 6 to 8 p.m.
- The Fire Company will hold an event with vendor tables on October 4, 2020. They have asked that the Borough waive the fee for the required transient merchant permit. Gerald Godshall made a motion to waive the fee for the fire company. Jack Findley seconded the motion. Motion passed and so moved.

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

VISITORS: Jennifer Frieze, reporter for the Town & Country newspaper, and Green Lane Borough Residents David Whetstone and David Garber.

- Mr. Whetstone expressed concern about a drainage swale that is clogged with rocks. President Carpenter said he would contact PennDOT to clean out the swale.

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

- A copy of the sewer ordinance recommended by the Green Lane Marlborough Joint Authority and approved by Marlborough Township was forwarded to Council members for their review. Councilman Guntz expressed his concern about some of the language

in the ordinance regarding inspections for sump pumps on private property. After extensive discussion, a motion was made by Gerald Godshall to add language to Section 189-11 of the proposed ordinance stating that no inspections can occur against the will of the property owner without a municipal (also referred to as an administrative) warrant. Jonathan Guntz seconded the motion. Motion passed and so ordered.

- Councilman Guntz asked that Section 189-18.B (on page 16 of the proposed ordinance) be revised to include “or condensation.”

CODE ENFORCEMENT OFFICER:

- A fence permit was issued to the owner of 501 Walnut Street.
- Numerous complaints about the condition of the Rockwell’s Restaurant and Bar property have been received. A letter was sent to the owner stating that Zoning and Building permits are required for the patio roof that has been erected. The Zoning Officer was directed to supply a list of the nuisance ordinance violations at the property to Council President Carpenter who will be meeting with the property owner.
- Two property owners were contacted about high weeds. Both cases have been rectified.

ENGINEER’S REPORT: Engineer Joe Carlin reported the following: (on file)

- No word on ARLE grant application for \$16,000 to complete maintenance at the intersection of Route 29 and Route 63.
- No word on grant application to Montco Transportation Program for Green Street repairs in the amount of \$247,000, which will require a 20 percent match by Borough.

REGIONAL PLANNING: No report.

SEWER AUTHORITY: Knight Road development system acquisition in process.

ROAD COMMITTEE: No report.

PARK COMMITTEE: No report.

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

OLD BUSINESS: Codification update is in process.

NEW BUSINESS: None.

CORRESPONDENCE: None.

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