

Green Lane Borough
Green Lane, Montgomery County, Pennsylvania
Borough Council Meeting
Thursday, November 12, 2020
Final ~~DRAFT~~ Minutes (approved 12/10/2020)

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 residents that the meeting was moved to 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 was recited.

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

COUNCIL MEMBERS ABSENT: None

OTHER OFFICIALS PRESENT: Mayor Lynn 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 Gerald Godshall to accept the minutes of the October 8, 2020, Council meeting. Seconded by Jack Findley. Motion passed and so ordered.

MAYOR'S REPORT:

- One wedding was performed.
- Heinz Herman, founder of the Green Lane Tool and Die Company died at the age of 99. Born in Auerbach, Germany, he came to this country when he was seven. He served in the United States Army during WWII in Counterintelligence as an interpreter. His distinguished military service is recorded in the Library of Congress.
- Trick or treating on Halloween went well although there was a low turnout due to COVID-19 concerns. Residents were very appreciative of the flares put out by the Fire Company.
- The Fire Company was thanked for providing the banquet hall for voting. Election workers appreciated and approved of the new location. The Mayor noted that there was a lot of confusion about the location of the polling place in communications from the County.
- Nancy Harvey of the Adornment Committee announced that the Christmas tree in the park would be decorated and lit up, but there would be no celebration due to the rise in COVID cases.
- A motion was made by Gerald Godshall to approve the participation of the Fire Police in a Halloween parade event at the Marlborough Elementary School from 5-7 p.m. on October 30, 2020. Jonathan Guntz seconded. Motion approved and so ordered. The Mayor noted that some adjustments will need to be made for future such events at the school.

PUBLIC SAFETY/EMERGENCY REPORTS: (reports on file)

VISITORS: Jennifer Frieze, reporter for the Town & Country newspaper; Nancy Harvey of the Adornment Committee.

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

- Seeing that the updated proposed sewer ordinance was appropriately advertised to the public in the newspaper, a notice posted at the Borough office, and the complete ordinance available on the Borough website, a motion was made by Gerald Godshall to approve the ordinance. Seconded by Jonathan Guntz. Motion approved and so ordered.
- A motion was made by Jonathan Guntz to approve a Resolution to appoint Kimmel Lorah & Associates as the Borough's auditor for 2021. Second by Gerald Godshall. Motion approved and so ordered.
- The schedule of municipal meetings for 2021 was presented, and a motion was made to advertise the dates and times of meetings for Borough Council, workshop and Planning Commission by Jonathan Guntz. Second by Gerald Godshall. Motion approved and so ordered.

CODE ENFORCEMENT OFFICER: (report on file)

- There has been no response from 2963 Real Estate/Michael Sheridan regarding the letter sent to him on September 8, 2020, regarding obtaining a Building Permit for the structure he constructed on his property. Code Inspections that no contacts have been made and no Building Permits have been issued for the covered porch.
- A sign has been erected on the covered porch at Rockwell's and a sign permit was not applied for. This is a violation of Ordinance 2009-03.
- The violations to Ordinance 2017-01 continue at Rockwell's.
- The owner of a property located at 770 Lumber St. was contacted about a junk car and it has been removed.
- Numerous zoning inquiries were made during the month

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

- No update on the ARLE Grant application for repairs to Main Street and Gravel Pike.
- Funding was not awarded for 2020 Montgomery County Transportation Program (CTP) Grant Application make repairs to Green Street.
- Stormwater outfall inspections were performed subsequent to the October meeting.
- A letter was received from Pennsylvania Emergency Management regarding possible flood plain violation on Lumber street. Including:
 - A failing retaining wall in Macoby Creek that may be inhibiting the flow of water during high-water events
 - Storage of hazardous materials (petroleum products) in or near the Special Flood Hazard Area (SFHA)/regulatory floodway.
 - Storage of materials (debris, abandoned cars, etc.) in the SFHA
 - Reconstruction of a fence in the SFHA that was damaged during Tropical Storm Isaias in August 2020

REGIONAL PLANNING: No Meeting

SEWER AUTHORITY:

- Rates will be raised by 2%.
- Relining is being done on Green Street.

ROAD COMMITTEE:

- Leaf collection in the Borough will be November 16 and December 14.
- Council President Carpenter said he will be getting bids for snow removal for the winter.
- Patch repairs will be made to Green Street.

PARK COMMITTEE: No Report.

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

- Council discussed the proposed 2021 budget.
- Council President Brian Carpenter said recent reassessments have lowered tax revenues for next year by about \$1,000.
- A motion was made by Gerald Godshall to advertise the budget for consideration at the December meeting. Second by Jack Findley. Motion approved and so ordered.
- A motion was made by Jonathan Guntz to advertise a Resolution setting the municipal tax rates for next year at the same rates as this year. Second by Gerald Godshall. Motion approved and so ordered.

OLD BUSINESS:

- Codification update is in process.
- A motion was made to approve the publication of notice of the Request for Proposal for the TCDI grant by Gerald Godshall. Jonathan Guntz seconded. Motion approved and so ordered.
- Councilman Guntz asked if the Church at 417 Walnut St., has responded to notices of violation. The Solicitor and Engineer said neither has received any notification. Engineer Joe Carlin said he will follow up and contact the church leadership.

NEW BUSINESS: Councilman Findley asked about PECO work being done on the newly paved road. President Carpenter said PECO is making repairs and can do it at any time they choose.

CORRESPONDENCE: None.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Mary T. Garber, Borough Secretary