

The Monthly meeting of the Lansford Borough Council for General and Executive purposes was held at the above date and place at 6:30pm. The meeting was called to order by President Martin Ditsky and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited. There were 11 residents and 1 reporter.

### **ROLL CALL**

Secretary Treasurer Mary Fittos took roll call. Those present were Martin Ditsky, Mary Soberick, Tommy Vadyak, Mayor James Romankow, Joe Butrie, Samantha Yasson, Colin Jones, and Rose Mary Cannon. Solicitor Michael Greek walked in at 6:32pm.

### **PUBLIC COURTESY**

Tommy Vadyak, 334 West Abbott, Lansford mentioned that there is a sewer drain in front of his home has not been completed. He also said there was damage done to the sidewalk. This has been an issue he has brought up before. He said he also brought up about the drainage ditch that runs off the back road. He also mentioned that the areas that the borough workers are paving have no markings or warning signs, like between Coal and Abbott Street, Center Street, by the pool, by Boyers and Rite Aid. He said there is one area that should have lights. He said we are starting projects and not completing anything. Joe Butrie responded in regards to Coal and Abbott Street, he said PennDOT only uses a Road Closed sign, no lights and no cones. He also said about 2 years ago when he first came on council they had over 40 cones, but people steal them. He said we have about 22 cones left. Mr. Romankow said he received some complaints also about down by Boyers and driving into the pot holes. Mrs. Soberick suggested that maybe it would be beneficial if we painted orange around the openings. Mr. Butrie said he will have the Borough workers do that in the morning. Mr. Romankow asked how many "road construction" signs we had and Mr. Butrie said none. We only have 4 "Road closed" signs. Mr. Romankow suggested that we look into prices for those signs to purchase them. Mr. Butrie said he will look into solar lights.

### **SEALED OIL BIDS**

- Evans Fuel – Opened and read by Solicitor Mike Greek, the lock in price for 2015- 2016 Season is \$2,249.
- K & K Oil – Opened and read by Solicitor Mike Greek, the fixed pricing is \$1.95 per gallon for 15,000 gallons +/- on an automatic delivery schedule.

Mr. Greek said the lowest bidder is K & K oil. **Tommy Vadyak makes the motion to go with K & K Oil. Seconded: Colin Jones vote. Opposed: Joe Butrie, Mary Soberick, Samantha Yasson and Rose Mary Cannon. Motion failed.**

Mike Greek also said Evans also listed that they will continue to provide service for the oil burners which was not mentioned in K & K's bid.

Tommy Vadyak said we are looking at litigation here if we are taking away from the lowest bidder.

Mr. Greek said the lowest bidder is K & K and if an issue comes up we will have to point out why they would not be the lowest responsible bidder.

**Rose Mary Cannon makes the motion to go with K & K Oil Seconded: Tommy Vadyak. Opposed: Mary Soberick & Joe Butrie. Motion passes.**

### **APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES**

Colin Jones mentioned the minutes from the Sewer Authority and asked if they should approve them. Mr. Greek said it was not technically a Lansford Borough council meeting so we would not be approving those minutes. Mrs. Soberick asked if they are official minutes of the Sewer Authority and Mr. Greek said yes.

- June 10, 2015- **Mary Soberick makes the motion to approve the minutes. Seconded: Colin Jones vote. All in favor, motion passes.**

Ms. Cannon said in regards to page 3; it was mentioned about a survey being done. Mike Kafkalas said he would be happy to do the survey at the garage and that someone should contact him. Mr. Ditsky said he would contact him. **Mary Soberick makes the motion to contact Mike Kafkalas to do the survey. Seconded: Joe Butrie vote. All in Favor, motion passes.**

- June 24, 2015 Special Meeting- Ms. Cannon said on Page 2, it says we have a debt service that is incorporated into the tax, she said it should be reversed and read that the tax is incorporated into the Sewer Transmission. Also, the paragraph below, "Decodes" should be changed to "Decides". **Colin Jones makes a motion to approve as read with the changes. Seconded: Joe Butrie vote. All in favor, motion passes.**

### **CORRESPONDENCE**

- Thank You letter from Rose Ann Orach- Read by Martin Ditsky regarding the blood mobile. Next one will be held in October.
- Thank You Letter from St. John's Slovak Lutheran Church – Read by Martin Ditsky

### **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

- Municipal Administration- Cancelled. Ms. Cannon mentioned that when Mrs. Fittos was on vacation Jill Seigendall had no access to her email and Vice Versa. She was wondering if they should access each other's email when one is away. Mrs. Fittos said she could inquire with Jeff Leslie. Ms. Yasson said a bounce back reply would work. Mr. Jones suggested an out of office reply. Mrs. Soberick said they should not share access, she suggested an out of office reply/ bounce back email.

- Public Safety- Cancelled. Mr. Romankow mentioned that the project for the police department was changed and we will be saving money. Bruce Mertz will let us know when he can start and Mr. Romankow will get a new copy of the estimate.
- Fire Department- Read by Samantha Yasson. Mr. Vadyak mentioned that they usually support the #9 coal mine and make wings on Sunday. **Tommy Vadyak makes a motion that they be covered under our insurance. Seconded: Joe Butrie vote. All in favor, motion passes.** Mr. Ditsky asked Mr. Butrie if he knew if anyone from #9 museum got in touch with him regarding trash or parking horses. Mrs. Fittos said they spoke to Jill and we are bringing a truck down Saturday for their trash.
- Ambulance- Read by Samantha Yasson
- Mayor's Report- Read by James Romankow
- Police Report- Read by James Romankow
- Parks & Recreation- Ms. Cannon mentioned that we allowed members from the Tamaqua Pool to use our pool during the drastic mud flood they had. She also mentioned someone from the pool board is looking into getting a security system for down there. She said it's only a little over \$100 for a security system. She also mentioned a list of duties for Tyler Trotman that needs to be done for the basketball court, painting down at the pool, and things for the tennis court. Mr. Vadyak said the basketball courts could be done by shared services. She also said the foundation at the refreshment stand at the south side is crumbling along with the ramp. She said it can be dug out some and refaced. She also said the ceilings at the pool need to be painted.

Mr. Romankow said the backboards at the courts at Cashmere/ Abbott, have been replaced with steel, thanks to David Burrell. Ms. Cannon also said a thank you to Kenny Hill who did some work down there as well. **Mr. Vadyak makes a motion to send a letter to the appropriate people involved. Seconded: Joe Butrie vote. All in favor, motion passes.** Ms. Cannon asked when he can start doing some of this work. Mr., Butrie said he will drop him and Colton off, but he has blacktop for him to do. Ms. Cannon said he was hired for parks and rec and he can be dropped off there and just given a list of what to do. Mr. Vadyak said that's why we put him on. Mr. Vadyak said we are way over the hours with him, and send him to where he needs to be. Mr. Butrie said he will send him there.

Mrs. Soberick said she is bringing up something which was a motion that failed last month, but we have two additional council members here this evening and would like to bring it up again. Smokey Krajnak usually purchases gas for the lawn mower and then gets reimbursed, he is requesting if he can get the gas from friendly mart through the borough. **Mary Soberick makes the motion to authorize him to purchase fuel for the lawn mower from friendly mart through the borough which we will get a statement from. Seconded: Colin Jones vote. Opposed: Tommy Vadyak and Joe Butrie. Motion passes.**

- Mrs. Fittos mentioned to Mr. Butrie to hand in backup with his payroll to see where all his hours are going.
- Public Works- No Report. Samantha Yasson mentioned there is another quote for a pole building. Mr. Vadyak said it has to get surveyed. Mr. Ditsky said he thought it was motioned to get it surveyed last month, Mr. Vadyak said yes it was.
  - Community Development/ Planning// Zoning- Read by Mary Soberick. Next Meeting is July 29<sup>th</sup>, 2015.
  - Code Enforcement- No Reports
  - Treasurers Report- Bills to be approved, Income Report, Check Register, Profit/ Loss budget vs actual. Mrs. Fittos said she added a new bill from Citgo that needs to be approved. Along with a Quick Analysis. She said the payroll was paid along with the Benecon Insurance and some bills that accumulated from when she was on vacation. Mrs. Fittos made a suggestion to pay at least \$50,000 to M & T to pay down the Tax Anticipation Loan. She also wanted to mention that about \$278,000 will be needed for payroll from 7/16 to end of year. **Colin Jones makes the motion to send the \$50,000 for the tax anticipation note, per Mary's suggestion. Seconded: Samantha Yasson vote. Questions: Mr. Vadyak feels the whole \$100,000 should be paid. Opposed: Tommy Vadyak and Martin Ditsky. Motion passes.**

Mary Soberick inquired about two of the Barry Isette bills. Mary Fittos said she will look into them as they look like the same invoices we paid last month. Mary Soberick said she has another item that failed last month and she will bring it up again. Mary Soberick said it is regarding the payoff of that Pennvest Sewer Loan. She said it will save us around \$3,000. Samantha Yasson asked what the options are on paying it off. Mrs. Soberick explained it's a monthly disbursement in the amount of \$2,907. She calculated what amount we need a year for our big loan. She said we have a total of \$450,000 in our Sewer Transmission Account. She guesses the payoff now will be about \$27,450. **Colin Jones makes the motion to pay off the Penn vest loan. Seconded: Mary Soberick vote. Opposed: Tommy Vadyak and Martin Ditsky. Motion Passes.**

**Mary Soberick makes the motion to approve the bills with the exception of Barry Isett and Associates. Seconded: Joe Butrie vote. All in favor, motion passes. Tommy Vadyak is not voting on Tamaqua Transfer.**

- Tax Collector's Report- Read by Martin Ditsky
- Carbon County Tax Collection Committee- Next Meeting is in November.
- Solicitor's Report- Read by Attorney Greek. He reviewed the advertisements of the Sewer and Sanitation ordinances that were amended. **Mary Soberick makes the motion to adopt Ordinance 2015-5. Seconded: Colin Jones vote. All in favor, motion passes. Mary Soberick makes the motion to adopt the Ordinance 2015-6. Seconded: Rose Mary Cannon vote. All in favor, motion passes.** Mr. Greek reviewed Mr. Benevy's complaint, Carbon County Housing

which was regarding the inspection and rental license application letter that was sent to them. They are required to inspection by the state. Mrs. Soberick inquired if we can ask them for documentation. Mr. Greek advised to direct the Solicitor to write a letter to that entity requesting that they don't have to comply with the licensing requirements provided on the condition that they provide a copy of inspections. **Mary Soberick makes the motion reflecting what attorney Greek just stated. Seconded: Rose Mary Cannon vote. All in favor, motion passes.** Mr. Greek continues with Municipal Energy Managers, Edward Hillanbrand and Pay Simply.

Ms. Cannon asked how much the loan was we are paying because of the MEM fraud. Mrs. Fittos asked if it was the Jim Thorpe Loan and said its \$14,000 a year. Ms. Cannon said we are paying \$14,000 a year for a service we never received. Mrs. Soberick said no one else paid them. Mr. Greek said, other boroughs did take out loans or lost funds.

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

- Special Event- Grace Community Church- Block Party 8/16/15 6am-9pm- (Insurance Attached) **Samantha Yasson makes the motion to accept their application. Seconded: Colin Jones vote. All in Favor, motion passes.**
- Insurance Renewal from Seltzer Group- Ms. Cannon had some changes on page 12. Borough Admin Office and Meeting Room should be the corrections. **Motion made by Samantha Yasson to stay with Seltzer Group. Seconded: Mary Soberick. Mary Soberick also added to pay the initial down payment of \$16,628.75. All in favor, motion passes.**
- Special Event- Sports Zoo/ Zoo Stock 2015 on 9/7/15- Insurance to be provided on acceptance- **Tommy Vadyak makes the motion to table. We approve it when Insurance is here.**
- Special Event- St. Luke's Miners Hospital- 5K run on 9/19/15- **Samantha Yasson makes the motion to accept their application. Seconded: Mary Soberick vote. All in favor, motion passes.**

Ms. Cannon said she spoke to David Bodner about the railing as there is additional money available in the Grant. They are just looking for authorization to re-paint and it will come out of the Grant funds. Mrs. Soberick asked what we will do with the funds if we don't use it. Ms. Cannon said we lose it. Samantha Yasson asked if we will use the funds to repaint the railings. Mrs. Soberick asked how much is left in the Grant, and Ms. Cannon said about \$5,000 but the painting will cost about \$1,500.00. Ms. Cannon said David wants to close out the Grant and we need to make a motion one way or another, we should let them paint it.

Mary Soberick suggested we should request extra paint for touch ups since there is so much left over in the Grant. **Tommy Vadyak makes the motion to have the railings painted correctly. Seconded: Rose Mary Cannon Vote. All in favor, motion passes.**

Ms. Ditsky mentioned the LSA Grant in the amount of \$58,000 for the Fire Company which required no action.

#### **OLD BUSINESS**

- Landlord License- Mr. Greek will get more information on this at the Conference he is attending in August.
- 3 Strike Law- Mike Greek said he will be attending the Borough's Solicitors Conference and will get more information on this in August.

#### **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

- GCC- Status on Agreement – Jodi Mika was not there and attorney Mike Greek does not have the changes. Martin Ditsky is to provide last set of changes made.
- Status on COG Advertisement – Mr. Ditsky said, they are going to look at hiring an attorney and publish the COG advertisements for all the Borough's.
- Resolution 2015-04 – Updated – **Tommy Vadyak makes the motion to approve Resolution 2015-04. Seconded: Colin Jones vote. All in favor, motion passes.**
- Easement for ADA Ramp- Copy to Borough – Mr. Greek said it was executed. Mike Greek will get a copy from the court house.
- Deed to Fire Co- Mike Greek said this was provided by attorney Greco. He said he received an email about a reversionary interest that if the fire company ceases to exist, the property would revert back to the Borough of Lansford. He doesn't see the problem with making that change. Mike Greek said a motion should be made to have the Solicitor revise the deeds and get it back to the Fire Co. **Mary Soberick makes the motion to have our solicitor revise the deeds for the Fire Company. Seconded: Samantha Yasson vote. All in favor, motion passes.**

Ms. Cannon inquired about the railroad not responding. Mr. Greek said you don't receive any responses and he will have to take it to a hearing. Mr. Greek suggested having a committee discuss it. Mr. Vadyak suggested going to the PUC with it. Mr. Greek said that might be the route. Mr. Greek said he will research it as he has never done a PUC.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION FOR PERSONNEL REASONS**

Council entered into a brief recess for executive session at 8:09pm and exited at 9:00pm.

**Mary Soberick makes the motion to have Mary Fittos participate in a Webinar regarding Hipaa Healthcare. Seconded: Tommy Vadyak vote. All in favor, motion passes.**

**Tommy Vadyak makes the motion that we have a Special Meeting on Monday July 27, 2015 @ 6:00pm for one purpose only. Seconded: Samantha Yasson vote. All in Favor, motion passes.**

Mike Greek said to make sure that minutes reflect we were in executive session for personnel reasons.

**ADJOURNMENT**

**Joe Butrie makes the motion to adjourn at 9:03pm. Second: Tommy Vadyak. All in favor, motion passes.**

Respectfully submitted,

*Mary Fittos*

Secretary/Treasurer