

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 8 residents and 1 Journalist.

ROLL CALL

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

Mr. Ditsky mentioned that Monday evening council met in an executive session to discuss personnel and pending litigation issues.

PUBLIC COURTESY

Don Gildea, 107 West Kline, inquired about a letter under correspondence from the solicitor of the Coaldale, Lansford Summit Hill Sewer Authority. He would like to know what this letter is about. Ms. Cannon told Mr. Gildea it was about the 537 Plan. He asked if DEP was pushing to get rid of the Sewer Authority, but Mr. Ditsky said that DEP wants the three boroughs to work together to resolve the issues of the water infiltration. There was some discussion on this that lasted just a few minutes and then ended.

Robert Hackash, 46 Center Street, was asking if the lines could be painted by his house for parking between Bertsch and Abbott Street. He said without the lines being painted, no one really has any regard with how they park, so he was asking if the Borough workers could paint the lines there as they start to do the line painting.

Paul Jarrett of Lehigh Valley Inspection Services, who handles our Zoning and code complaints, wanted to present a software demonstration but was having technical difficulties. He asked if council wanted to reschedule for an executive session, but Ms. Cannon said this is not something for executive session. Mrs. Soberick suggestion a committee meeting maybe a better option. She also said it would be better if full council was there so nothing gets lost in translation. Ms. Yasson suggested using the fire house if they have more technology there to be able to present this. Ms. Cannon asked for a brief run-down of the system while he is there. Mr. Jarrett said it keeps track by property, code violations, Zoning Violations, Rental Registration, and junk vehicles. It prints reports and will keep a list of any violation by property address. It is also all cloud based. He said he would be the administrator, but should services be terminated, the program will be turned over to the Borough. Ms. Cannon asked if the Borough would be purchasing it. Mr. Jarrett said yes and the cost is \$6,300 for implementation and the first year's fees, after that it would be \$4,000/ year which represents updates and upgrades. He said the price can definitely be negotiated since he uses this company's software for his code billing. Mr. Ditsky asked if he can do a power point presentation. Mrs. Soberick said she will not be able to make the meeting, but she believes it will be beneficial and although she will not be here, other council members can certainly be present to make a quorum. Mr. Jarrett said the cost is steep, but will save money over time. Mr. Ditsky tentatively scheduled the meeting for August 26, 2015. Mrs. Fittos asked if it was possible for a power point handout and Mr. Jarrett said he will look into it. The name of the software is Comcate.

Mrs. Fittos suggestion looking into the Police Departments software called In-Sync upon Sargent Soberick's recommendation. He said the software keeps track of everything by property and we would just need to purchase a few user licenses and install on our computers. She said it may be worth looking into.

APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES

- July 8, 2015- Ms. Cannon mentioned on the second page on bottom, "Penny Hill" should be "Kenny Hill". Mrs. Soberick said there were other changes she already addressed with Mrs. Fittos.
Tommy Vadyak makes the motion to approve the minutes with the changes. Seconded: Rose Mary Cannon vote. All in favor, motion passes.
- July 27, 2015 Special Meeting- **Tommy Vadyak makes the motion to approve the minutes as read. Seconded: Rose Mary Cannon vote. All in favor, motion passes.**
- Bid Opening Minutes- Bid to be approved/ disapproved- Read by Martin Ditsky.
 1. Bid #1 from Bruce George Paving Co, Kunkletown Base bid for #'s (1-14) is \$301,191.74, Base Bid for # (14-24) was \$52, 825.03, the alternate bid is \$42, 522.77. Subtotal is \$396,566.55.
 2. Bid #2 was from RGC Development, Bath PA- Items (1-13) is \$276,321.00, base bid for items (14-24) is \$157,522.00 and base bid total is \$433,843.00. The alternate is \$46,301.00 and subtotal base bid is \$433,873.00.

Ms. Cannon asked if Mr. Ditsky had a letter from Keystone which was emailed and it explained the bids and options on moving forward. Ms. Cannon read the letter which gave to options as follows:

1. Option #1 Reject both bids and rebid the project again this winter for a spring startup date.
2. Option #2 would be to award this project to the lowest bidder (Bruce George Paving) at the base bid price of \$354,043.78. We would reduce the project scope via a change order to a minimum amount allowable per the contract, which is 25% of base bid amount. This would result in a working bid number of \$265,532.84. There is currently \$249,900 available from the initial Grant application; the Borough would need to provide an additional \$16,000. Unless it can fund raise or collect donations. Should the Borough choose option # 2, the project could start immediately after the paperwork is submitted.

The project completion date would be November 30, 2015. The \$16,000 would need to be in place around November 1st for payment to the contractor.

Tommy Vadyak said right now contractors are busy as it was stated in the letter. He would agree to re-bid over the winter with a spring time start, but it would also need to be scaled back. He said there is no way this project will fly otherwise. He said with the engineering cost being so high, right now we are paying that cost out of our budget.

Mr. Ditsky said also to come up with an additional \$15,000 to \$16,000; we don't have that at this time.

Mrs. Soberick asked if the Grant has a deadline and Mr. Ditsky said, June 30, 2016. Mr. Ditsky said he spoke with Ms. Cannon about requesting an extension.

Mr. Ditsky asked what council's thoughts are on it. Mrs. Soberick was questioning what the items represented. Mr. Ditsky said this is for the South and North side of 1 Block.

Mrs. Fittos got the bids to show everyone. It was being reviewed. This was discussed for a little bit among some of the council members.

Mrs. Fittos said we do not have \$16,000 in the General Fund. It could possibly be pulled from a different fund. Ms. Cannon said we budgeted \$10,000 in Capital Improvement. Mrs. Fittos explained we would have to collect the full \$898,000 we budgeted in Real Estate Taxes.

Rose Mary Cannon makes the motion to reject and rebid the project. Seconded: Samantha Yasson vote. Opposed: Mary Soberick. Motion passes.

Ms. Cannon said she would have preferred to go with option 2 and come up with the \$16,000 somehow.

CORRESPONDENCE

- Letter from Lansford- Coaldale JT Water Authority / Hydrant Usage- Tommy Vadyak said to make sure the Borough workers know about this. They usually open the hydrant for the sweeper or Vactor
- Letter from Lansford- Coaldale JT Water Authority/ Pool Leak/ attachment- Ms. Cannon said she spoke to Toby and could not find any plans for the pool. She did call several places to have someone try to find the leak. She would like permission to call Atlantic Leak Detection. Ms. Yasson asked if we budget for maintenance of the pool, and Ms. Cannon said we don't, but we should. **Tommy Vadyak makes the motion we bring in this Atlantic Leak Detection and with a set cost of \$5,000. Seconded: Rose Mary Cannon Vote. All in favor, motion passes.**
- Pa Liquor Control Board- Logan's 209 Pub. - Mrs. Fittos said this is being looked into by Steve as they need to meet the sit down requirements. Mr. Vadyak said the requirement is for 39 people to be able to sit. Something like Marco's Pizza someone spoke out.
- Thank you Card from Mrs. Turrano regarding the support of her son- Read by Mr. Ditsky. Ms. Cannon said thank you and it was very nice and he is an excellent lifeguard.
- PSAB Webinars
- Nepa MPO Letter Mysidewalk Release
- PSAB Webinars
- Coaldale Lansford Summit Hill Sewer Authority letter from their Solicitor- Ms. Cannon said it is not acceptable to her the way it is written, specifically where it says, funding will be obtained through user rates or any other method they deem acceptable. There was a brief discussion concerning the funding. Mrs. Fittos mentioned that the Act 537 was approved at the special meeting, but Ms. Cannon said that was to go along with it, there was no discussion on how to fund it. **Tommy Vadyak makes the motion to approve it. Seconded: Martin Ditsky vote. Opposed: Rose Mary Cannon, Mary Soberick and Samantha Yasson. Motion failed.** The Solicitor suggested sending a letter that we voted to not go with it. It's up to council what they want to say.
- Carbon County Housing Authority- Response to Mike Greek's letter.
- PSAB Training – PW Management / Grant Writing Workshops, Mun Admin Training
- Water Authority Meeting Minutes- Mr. Vadyak said take notice on the changes to the chair and different officers.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

- Municipal Administration- Read by Martin Ditsky. He mentioned that he modified the Grace Community Church agreement and re-sent it to Mr. Greek. He also mentioned that the topic of light duty was brought up to not have light duty anymore and asked how council would like to move forward with it. Mr. Vadyak said we should do away with light duty. **Tommy Vadyak makes a motion to eliminate light duty. Seconded: Martin Ditsky vote.** Mr. Greek said you don't have to have light duty. Mrs. Fittos will address this with information from her webinar. The Fire Co Deed was signed and transferred. Tommy Vadyak said he would like to apply for a Grant for the Edgemont Bridge. He understands we will have to go to court with the railroad, but that bridge is getting worse. **Tommy Vadyak makes the motion to apply for an NEPA grant for the bridge and send the railroad a certified letter from Mr. Greek. Seconded: Rose Mary Cannon vote. All in favor, motion passes.** Mrs. Soberick asked who is doing the application. Mr. Ditsky said he and Rose Mary will look at it. He also said his committee suggested paying off the Tax Anticipation loan. Mrs. Soberick said it's technically not due until the end of the year. He

also mentioned that we need a UCC board or join with an existing one. **Tommy Vadyak makes the motion that we contact Tamaqua, see if they are still interested in letting us be part of their board, see what the fees are, and advertise for our own board pending the requirements that is in our code book. Seconded: Rose Mary Cannon vote. All in favor, motion passes.**

- Public Safety- Read by Martin Ditsky
- Fire Department- Read by Samantha Yasson
- Ambulance- Read by Martin Ditsky
- Mayor's Report- Read by Samantha Yasson
- Police Report – Read by Martin Ditsky
- Parks & Recreation- Read by Rose Mary Cannon. Closing date of pool is 8/23/15.
- Public Works- read by Martin Ditsky. There were estimates mentioned for a Mold Board, but we did not have specs so it was tabled. Ms. Yasson was asking if the Borough Workers can clean out the sewer drain in the new parking lot of the fire department when they clean out the storm sewers.
- Community Development- No Report (Handicap Applications) Mrs. Soberick said there was an application that came in that was denied due to the fact there was a handicap space on the block where this applicant wanted a space. The person next door passed away and she would like to occupy that space. The applicant is at 235 West Bertsch and the other one is at 237 West Bertsch which is no problem, she meets all the conditions. She said instead of removing 237 west Bertsch sign, to keep it and allow her to use that space since her house is closer to that space. She asked that the Borough do whatever is best and is willing to keep it at 237. Mrs. Soberick said she would like to request to eliminate some of the installation fee being that the pole is there, she just needs a new sign unless she is able to keep that permit number. If it can be transferred to her, a new sign will not need to be ordered. **Mary Soberick makes the motion to approve the handicap application for 235 W Bertsch street with the conditions that she will be utilizing the space that is already in existence at 237 W. Bertsch Street which would eliminate the installation fee. Seconded: Rose Mary Cannon. All in favor, motion passes.**
- Code Enforcement- No Reports yet, Violation Letters attached. Issues are being addressed. Mr. Vadyak brought up 6 Leisenring.
- Treasurers Report- Bills to be approved, Income Report, Check Register, P/L budget vs Actual- Mrs. Fittos went over the bills, and the Quick Analysis and made a suggestion to pay off the tax anticipation note as well as transfer money from our parks account #6309 to our pool account #1905 for at least \$10,000 to cover payroll and any other expenses the pool may incur. She also explained that Sergeant Soberick told her that L & S electrical did not complete all they were supposed to do, but I need to call them to find out. Mrs. Soberick had a question about a sewer bill. **Mary Soberick makes the motion to pay off the tax anticipation note as recommended by the treasurer. Seconded: Tommy Vadyak. All in favor, motion passes.** Ms. Yasson was inquiring about the park balance and Mrs. Fittos told her to make sure she was looking at right account because they are two separate bank accounts. **Mary Soberick makes the motion to transfer \$10,000 from the parks & Recreation to Pool account. Seconded: Rose Mary Cannon. All in favor, motions passes.**

Mary Soberick makes the motion to pay all the bills except Barry Isett & Associates, the January and the February bill (Zoning). Seconded: Rose Mary Cannon. All in favor, motion passes. Tommy Vadyak votes no on all BIA bills and not voting on Tamaqua Transfer.

- Tax Collectors Report- Read by Martin Ditsky
- Carbon County Tax Collection Committee- No Meeting
- Solicitor's Report- Mary Ann Van Lieu, Ch. 13, Mike Greek explained to Jill Seigendall how to address these. David Benevy Case, which was in the Borough's favor. He also mentioned that he amended the Sewer Ordinance and added Commercial & Industrial Property. He is revising some of it and will send it back. He did not like the way some of it was worded. He said a fee needs to be established for commercial and Industrial. Mrs. Soberick said the other ones were raised at 80%, then the Industrial should be raised to \$180.00 and the commercial would be \$135.00. **Mary Soberick makes the motion to advertise the ordinance with the changes that Mr. Greek has stated and include the Industry Annual sum of \$180.00 and Commercial Annual sum of \$135.00. Seconded: Tommy Vadyak. All in favor, motion passes.**

Mrs. Soberick asked if this billing should be done immediately or the next assessed year. Mr. Greek said it should be effective either December 31, 2015 or January 1st 2016. He also said it should be adopted for December 31, 2015.

Mr. Greek reviewed the Ambulance letter; he stated he received everything except 2 pagers. He also said he sent a letter to Barry Isett and received no response, the housing authority was already addressed and Alfonso Sebia has not responded. He also went over the use and maintenance agreement for GCC. He also crossed off the items we do not need. He suggested we be named as an additional insured and have a policy in place. He also said we should not agree to give them another plot of land should something happen to the current one. He said the Borough should keep it the way he wrote it. There was a brief discussion on some of the items. Mr. Greek suggested \$100,000 for Insurance on that property. Mr. Vadyak suggested \$200,000 for insurance. **Tommy Vadyak makes the motion to approve this agreement. Seconded: Martin Ditsky. All in favor, motion passes.** Mr. Greek said he was reviewing the webinar that Mrs. Fittos attended and he has some info on a Privacy Officer, should the Borough choose to have policy in place.

Mike Greek Left 8:30pm.

NEW BUSINESS

- Pioneer Pole Buildings Estimate – Mr. Ditsky read out the dimensions on the lot from the Survey that was done. **Tommy Vadyak makes the motion to put out the specs from Zawada and advertise. Seconded: Martin Ditsky. All in favor, motion passes.** Mrs. Soberick asked for clarity on the motion and Mr. Ditsky said, with the specs we received from Zawada, they will be given to the engineer to create a bid package and advertise the project. Ms. Cannon asked about funding and Mr. Vadyak said we can borrow the money.
- HIPAA Webinar Outline and information/ Generic Light duty Policy. Mrs. Fittos reviewed some important topics and asked if anyone had any questions to contact her.
- Special Event- Music in the park modified (Added two more dates) Insurance on file. **Tommy Vadyak makes a motion to approve it. Seconded: Martin Ditsky. All in favor, motion passes.**

OLD BUSINESS

- Establish a UCC Board- was already addressed.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- GCC- Status on agreement – already addressed
- Deed Revision to Fire Co must be signed , Mike to get it recorded- was addressed
- Status of Survey from Mike Kafkalas- was addressed.
- Special Event- Zoo Stock (Insurance Attached)-**Mary Soberick makes the motion to approve. Seconded: Samantha Yasson. Discussion:** Tommy Vadyak said to notify the PW to fill in the pot holes and makes sure nobody trips or it's a liability. **All in favor, motion passes.**

ADJOURNMENT

Samantha Yasson makes the motion to adjourn at 9:04pm. Second: Rose Mary Cannon. All in favor, motion passes.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Fittos

Secretary/Treasurer