

**Borough of New Stanton
Borough Council
February 5, 2019
Minutes of Meeting**

Attendance

Council members: Todd Bartlow, Linda Echard, Scott Sistek, Tom Smith, Ray Strosko and Mayor Ronald Echard. Also: Borough Solicitor John Campfield, Borough Engineer Emil Bove and Borough Manager Jeffrey McLaughlin. Absent: Joshua Bennett and Tom Theis.

Call to Order

President Raymond Strosko called the meeting to order at 5:30 PM.

Invocation

Linda recited a prayer.

Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge was recited.

Approval of Bills: \$95,988.06

Todd made a motion seconded by Linda approving the bills in the amount of \$95,988.06. Motion passed unanimously.

Approval of Minutes

1. January 8, 2019

Tom stated that the minutes of the January 8th meeting should list a bill list approved amount of \$31,980.72, reflecting non-approval of the Mark D'Amico bill in the amount of \$1,985 as well as non-approval of the \$20 late fee to Hoffman Animal Control. To follow-up on the discussion at the last meeting, Jeff stated that he has trying to get in contact with Mr. D'Amico but was having trouble with Mr. D'Amico's phone. He stated that after several attempts he was able to get a hold of him and conveyed that Mr. D'Amico would be willing to make some changes to the conceptual plan. Jeff provided council with a copy of the e-mail that he sent to Mr. D'Amico listing Tom's concerns. Jeff stated that if there is anything else that he should have included to let him know and he will add it to the list.

Tom made a motion seconded by Scott that the minutes of the January 8, 2019 meeting be approved as presented with the following exception, the bill list amount approved should equal \$31,980.72, reflecting non-approval of the Mark D'Amico bill in the amount of \$1,985 as well as non-approval of the \$20 late fee to Hoffman Animal Control. Motion passed with Scott and Tom voting *yes*, Ray voting *no* and Todd and Linda abstaining.

2. January 22, 2019

Jeff pointed out that the Central Westmoreland Career and Technical Center is referred to as the WCCC instead of the CWCTC on page 3 of the copy of the minutes provided to council.

Linda made a motion seconded by Tom to accept the January 22, 2019 minutes with the change from WCCC to CWCTC. Motion passed with all voting in favor, with the exception of Scott who abstained.

Opportunity for Public Comment – Items not on the Agenda

Ray asked if there were any public comments on items not on the agenda.

Pearl Yuhouse, 205 Melrose Drive

Ms. Yuhouse expressed concern about water in her front yard and the fact that it is also affecting her neighbor's property. She stated that she had contacted the borough about this before. Emil stated that he would investigate the situation.

Council Additions to Agenda

Ray asked if there were council additions to the agenda.

Tom asked that *Nominees for the Recreation Board* be added. Linda asked that *Posting the Park Entrance* and *Discussion with the Central Spartans* be added.

Opportunity for Public Comment -- on Agenda Items Only

Ray asked if there any public comment on agenda items only. There were none.

Agenda

1. M/V on Trump Subdivision Plan

Emil reviewed the proposed sub-division plan.

Tom made a motion seconded by Todd approving the Trump subdivision. Motion passed unanimously.

2. M/V to Close Westinghouse Dr. and Glen Fox Rd. on the Morning of Sat., May 18th for the UPS 5K

Tom made a motion seconded by Todd approving the closing of Westinghouse Dr. and Glen Fox Rd. on the morning of Saturday, May 18th for the UPS 5K. Motion passed unanimously.

3. M/V to Place a ¼ Page Ad in the Westmoreland County Boroughs Assoc. Annual Dinner Program

Linda made a motion seconded by Todd to place a ¼ page ad in the Westmoreland County Boroughs Association annual dinner program. Motion passed unanimously.

4. Update on Farmer's Market

Linda stated that she wanted to update council on the farmers market for 2019: Jolene Kopsis will be the Market Manager and it will be held on Thursdays from 2 PM until 6 PM beginning in June and running through end of September. The agreement was for one year so it will need to be renewed and updated. She stated that we have the signs from last year, but we may need to look into buying a banner.

5. Discussion Regarding New Stanton Church's Stanwood Elementary Food Program

Jeff stated that he received a proposal from New Stanton Church for a program that would provide children that are eligible for free or reduced-price lunches at Stanwood Elementary with a backpack of food to take home on the weekends. The program would start in the fall. The representative from the church told him that they would not know the names of the children. Jeff stated that after he included this on the agenda, he spoke to John C. who stated that boroughs are limited to donating to programs that serve seniors. John referenced section 1202 of the Borough Code which allows for donations to senior citizen program. He stated that their does not seem to a clause that allows for donations to this type of program.

6. Discussion Regarding Citizen of the Year

After discussion, it was decided to put another article in the newsletter soliciting nominations for the citizen of the year.

7. Nominees for the Recreation Board

After discussion it was decided to wait until after sign-ups before making any decisions on the Recreation Board members.

8. Posting Park Entrance

After discussion, there was general agreement to have two new signs added to the park gate: *Park Closed* and *No Parking in Front of Gate*.

9. Discussion Regarding Central Spartans Request

Linda stated that Jeff received an e-mail from Spartan Central with several questions, including whether they could have a tournament on Memorial Day weekend. Jeff stated that he talked to Bill Naylor who stated that HAAA will not be developing a schedule until later in the spring. The Spartan Central representative also asked if the field would be ready at the beginning of March. Jeff stated that the Public Works crew has been installing the French drain along the third-base side of the big field as weather allows. The plan was to also install a French drain along the first-base side, but that could be put off until baseball season is over. He stated that after that work is completed, the fencing that was knocked down from the flood needs replaced. Tom and Todd also both mentioned the need for new field dirt to be brought in. Todd asked if the Recreation Board will work on the field.

10. Discussion Regarding Fire Truck

Before beginning the discussion on the truck, Chief Rob Cammarata reviewed the monthly report a copy of which was given to council.

Rob reviewed the information he provided that was included in the agenda packet regarding the different trucks, the role of each truck, and the specifications for a new rescue truck: The fire department would like to get on a 20-year replacement schedule for each truck. Presently the department has four trucks: a rescue, a ladder truck, an engine, and a brush truck. The rescue truck that they are seeking to replace is a 1999. It would take approximately 1½ years to develop the specifications and to have a new one built. The estimated cost is approximately \$700,000. They could bid the truck out or get a Co-stars price. Currently the borough is paying \$923 a month on the 2007 engine. All of the other trucks are paid for. The fire department is looking for feedback from council as to what the next step should be. The specifications can be reviewed and tweaked to get more in line with a budget number. The rescue truck could probably run for another 5 years, but the risk is higher maintenance costs and a lower resale value. After 20 years the resale value on trucks really begins to drop. They could possibly replace the rescue and the engine with one truck. If sold today, the rescue could possibly bring in \$50,000, while the engine may bring in \$75,000. He stated that the state offers a 2% loan program. First Commonwealth stated that they could provide a 3.25% loan. He also brought up the idea of raising the millage to cover the cost as well as using LST money. 25% of the Local Services Tax money is to be used for emergency services. He will develop a 10-year maintenance budget and get a Co-stars price.

Jeff stated that the LST tax brought in a total of \$210,000 last year. The borough already uses some of the LST to pay fire department bills. The fire-fighting account balance is \$105,000.

Rob also mentioned that the fire department is now mortgage-free and that the president of the fire department is exploring constructing a new building. The present building was built in the 1950's and the utility and maintenance costs are very high.

Reports

Administrative

Borough Manager – Jeffrey McLaughlin

Jeff reported that:

- Work is set to begin on the Route 119 ramps and lighting project. Work is not supposed to be completed until 2020.
- He received an e-mail, a copy of which he provided to council from the contractor that has been awarded the work. They are to put a *Reduced Speed Ahead* sign on Route 119 near Painter Street in New Stanton. The borough would be required to maintain the light. Emil stated that this standard PennDOT procedure. Council agreed that they did not want to pay to maintain the light which will not benefit the borough.
- The newsletter that is to be sent out, a copy of which he provided to council for their review, will cost about \$1,000 to copy and mail.

- The 2012 Ford F550 has been having a lot of issues. He passed out a copy of a maintenance history to council. It only has approximately 40,000 miles but it is a gasoline engine with the other two being diesel. He wanted to make council aware of the maintenance issues.
- The state Liquid Fuels auditor will be in the office next week.
- Henninger is proceeding with the review of the 2017 and 2018 financial reports and the 501(c)3 non-profit application for the fire department.
- There will be a pre-construction meeting regarding the new water line on Broadview Road on February 6th. He stated that he planned to attend with Emil and John B.
- John C. has set up a meeting on February 8th with MAWC representatives to discuss the new building that they are proposing for their campus.
- The Zoning Hearing Board will be meeting on February 12th on the continuance of the GetGo sign variance.
- Final phase 1 and 2 phase drawings have been submitted for Broadview Estates and it is supposed to go before the Planning Commission on February 13th but that might be delayed.
- The Public Works crew has installed 170' of the 800' of French drain pipe at the big field on the park. The crew made a great deal of progress when the temperature dropped below freezing, but when it got warm there was a concern of rutting the field and turning it into a mud bog.
- The Public Works crew patched potholes throughout the borough.
- The plumber for a new home being constructed would like to close Broadview Road from Marginal to Waltz-Mill to install a sanitary sewer line. Emil stated that most of the work would be alongside Broadview road and that he didn't feel that it would warrant closing the road. He told Jeff that the contractor should provide the borough with a bond for the road.

Code Enforcement

Jeff reviewed the report which was in the packet.

Solicitor's Report

John reported that:

- MAWC had submitted plans to the borough a couple of months ago but there were some outstanding issues including: possible rezoning of the property, whether to consolidate the property with their existing property and the need to address the paper streets. He stated that he has been trying to get a meeting with them to work through these issues.

- Council approved a preliminary plan and also approved a zoning change for Broadview Estates. They have now submitted a revised preliminary plan for the entire project and a final plan for first two phases.

Engineer's Report

Emil reported that:

- The Broadview Estates plan contains 4 more lots than originally planned, taking the total to 168. There are a number of issues with the revised preliminary plan that need addressed including questions on landscaping and the homeowners' association. He stated that he would like to meet with the developer before the Planning Commission. John stated that the borough needs to monitor the dates of when these items are submitted to make sure deadlines are being met.
- He believes that they have found the sewer line running under the Arona Road Bridge. He also stated that they are investigating the option suggested by Chief Cammarata to go with a corrugated metal pipe design instead of a culvert.
- A response should be sent to the Route 119 contractor regarding the borough not being willing to pay for the maintenance on the warning light. Council agreed and directed Jeff to send a response.

Business

Fire Department Liaison

No report.

Special Events

No report.

Council President

He stated that he will have to talk to John about delaying installation of the third base side French drain until after baseball season.

Mayor

The mayor reported that he swore in the remaining fire department officers while attending their annual dinner. He also reported borough resident, John Hathaway, gave him a framed New Stanton Kiwanis Club original incorporation certificate that he would like displayed in the borough building.

Personnel

No report

Public Works/MS4 & Parks

No report.

Building and Real Estate

No report.

Safety Committee

Jeff stated that a meeting was held on snow plow safety in January.

Financial Report

Scott stated that there was no financial report. That the January and February reports will be given at the March meeting.

Additional Opportunities for Public Comment

There were none.

Adjournment

Todd made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:17 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Jeffrey McLaughlin
Secretary