

The special 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.

ROLL CALL

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

APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES: DECEMBER 10, 2013 & JANUARY 8, 2014

Martin Ditsky notated that in the past there has been a discussion on meeting minutes so he researched them under Pennsylvania Sunshine Act and contacted different Borough's such as Summit Hill, Coaldale and Tamaqua as to what they require in the meeting minutes. They all require the following: Date, Time and place of the meeting, names of members present, the substance of all official actions and record by individual members of the roll call votes taken and lastly the names of all citizens who appeared officially and the subject of their testimony. Mary Soberick stated in reference to the December 10, 2013 minutes, they were already approved with the corrections, which we received a copy of. **Mary Soberick made the motion to Table the January 8, 2014 minutes. Second: Tommy Vadyak, Motion passed.** Tommy Vadyak stated the meeting minutes were always in conjunction with the monthly council meeting and available prior to the meeting.

PUBLIC COURTESY

Joe Butrie, 443 East Ridge Street, explained that the residents of Lansford are complaining, yet no one shows up at the meeting to express their concerns and feels we should try to get more people to show up and participate. Some of the council agreed to these statements.

Donnie Gildea, 107 West Kline Ave, asked Solicitor Greek where we stood on the appointment of the other council seat that was sent to the court. Mr. Greek explained it was filed; we are just waiting for the court to set an order setting the date. It was filed January 17th, 2014. Mary Soberick asked if the courts need to advertise it. Mr. Greek explained that he will handle the advertisement and keep the Council posted.

CORRESPONDENCE

- Kim Roberti, Esq. Letter- Martin Ditsky explained this is Regarding the Title Insurance which states that the Land is partially owned by the Lansford Borough not the Fire Co. Mr. Greek explained that the Borough's Grant owns part of the property. When the building is constructed and they have their loan in place, the land would then be transferred to the Fire Co. so because of this, the Borough still owns the property. Rose Mary Cannon stated the Grant is covering the Pole Building. Mr. Greek stated one of the options is to join in on the Mortgage with the Fire Co otherwise they will not be able to get their funding to complete their project. Mary Soberick asked if we could get the funding contingent on them paying it? Rose Mary Cannon explained they are looking for the funding to do the inside of the building. We have a \$264,000 Grant, a portion of that paid the demolition and a portion is for the pole building exterior. In order for them to get the funding they need us to be on the Mortgage. Mr. Greek stated if we go on the Mortgage with them, it does not hold the Borough Liable to pay it. Rose Mary Cannon Stated the Grant has to be finished by June 2014. Mr. Greek stated that once they receive the funding, the Borough can then remove their name from the Mortgage and deed it to them. **Tommy Vadyak made the motion to join in on the Mortgage. Second: Rose Mary Cannon vote, All in Favor. Motion Carries.** Martin Ditsky asked Attorney Greek to draw up an agreement.

NEW BUSINESS

- Applications for Council Seat vacated by John Williams are Lenny Kovach, Joseph Butrie, Mary Jo Eidle and Marie Ondrus- Martin Ditsky notated that this is a 2 year term. **Mary Soberick made the motion to appoint Mary Jo Eidle to the vacant seat. Second: Rose Mary Cannon Vote. Roll call Vote was Mr. Vadyak said no, Mrs. Soberick said Yes, Colin Jones said no, Martin Ditsky said no and Rose Mary Cannon said yes. Motion Failed. Collin Jones made the motion to nominate Lenny Kovach. Second: Tommy Vadyak vote. More oppositions.**

Motion failed. Mary Soberick made the motion to appoint Joe Butrie. Second: Collin Jones vote. Martin Ditsky & Tommy Vadyak were both opposed. Motion Carries. Mr. Greek proceeded to swear in Mr. Butrie.

- Specifications for new police cars: Mayor James Romankow explained after careful review of the specs he decided we only need 1 vehicle. He would like 2 but we only need 1. Mayor Romankow made the recommendation for Option 3 with \$22,000 down on marked vehicle with a term of 3 years. We will be trading in one vehicle. **Tommy Vadyak made the motion to move forward with option 3 for 3 years. Second: Mary Soberick vote. All in favor, motion passes.**

Martin Ditsky stated there are (2) issues he did not bring up on the agenda. In December, there was a temporary appointment of an officer to a Full- Time Position. What is the process? Will he be hired automatically by the Borough? Rosemary Cannon Stated it was only for 3 weeks and the 3 weeks have passed, we should get further information. She is asking where it stands with the civil service board as far as testing goes. Mary Soberick stated we should get an update on the progress. **Tommy Vadyak made the motion to send a letter to the civil service Commission asking for an update. Second: Mary Soberick vote, all in Favor. Motion Carries.**

Martin Ditsky asked if anyone knew the status of the Lansford Ambulance. Rose Mary Cannon explained that their License is suspended and not renewed. In the future they may be able to renew but presently they are not functioning. In conjunction with that, attorney Greek sent them a letter in which they did not respond. **Rose Mary made the motion to send certified letter to the President only asking for the Radios and Pagers and if they don't reply than further action should be taken. Second: Joe Butrie vote. All in favor, motion carries. Tommy made the motion to contact Lehighton Ambulance and see if they have something there for people when they need to go to the hospital. Second: Rose Mary Cannon vote, All in favor. Motion Carries.**

Rose Mary Cannon mentioned the allotment for the pool was not transferred out of Parks and Rec as of yet. \$18,900 was budgeted for the pool in 2013. \$900 of it was 2012. This is misappropriation if it is not transferred. She also said the pool roofs need bids again. **Rose Mary Cannon made the motion to advertise for the pool roofs. Tommy Vadyak stated there is probably a lot more damage now. Second: Tommy Vadyak vote. All in favor, motion carries.** Rose Mary Canon made the motion that the \$9,000 be released to the pool. Second: Mary Soberick vote. Tommy Vadyak opposes however, motion carries. Tommy asked why we are entertaining a motion to disburse our own money and Attorney Greek said so we have a record of dispersing it.

Mary Soberick explains that when she signed checks there were two things that she noticed. There was a bill in the amount of \$358.40, which was a penalty from the IRS for the Tax Year 2010. She filed an insurance claim back in that year when things were a mess and would like to submit this claim as it's a current finding. She would like to submit this notice to the Insurance Company. The other thing she noticed was on the Windstream bill. All of the phone service is combined. There is one thing for \$111 being charged to Number #9220 which is the code enforcement office. We have been paying over \$100/month for #9220. Rose Mary cannon stated it should have been cancelled. **Mary Soberick made the motion to immediately disconnect this number. Second: Tommy Vadyak vote. All in favor, motion carries.**

Tommy Vadyak stated before spring time, he would like to see a list compiled. There are people who are delinquent in the sewer transmission. During the summer months we go through the process of shutting the water off. The good people of this town are paying their bills. People are delinquent more than 5 quarters in their sewage bills. Tommy states we as council members are neglecting our duties as we should be shutting their water off. We can't do it now, but come spring time. It's sad that there are people sitting at this table who are delinquent in there sewer and sanitation. **Tommy Vadyak makes the motion to send a letter to the Lansford- Coaldale Summit Hill Sewer Authority to go after the delinquents. Second: Joe Butrie vote. Mary Soberick is opposed however, motion carries.**

Rose Mary Cannon mentioned that some of the accounts need to be consolidated and should be added to the February agenda. She also stated that the Secretary Treasurer's 6 month probation is up next month and will need action and should be on agenda.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion: Rosemary Cannon makes the motion to adjourn at 7: 23 pm. Second: Tommy Vadyak vote. All in favor, motion carries.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Fittos

Mary Fittos
Secretary/Treasurer