

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 12 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, Colin Jones, Rose Mary Cannon and Michael Greek. Absent: Joe Butrie and Samantha Yasson.

Martin Ditsky announces that the Street Sweeper is up and running and has been repaired and will start tomorrow (Thursday) on the South side of Abbott street. The street sweeping schedule is posted on our door, should you have any questions; please contact the Borough office at 570-645-3900.

#### GUEST SPEAKER – DAVE BENEVY

Dave Benevy spoke about the Parking Meters in Lansford and said he has a petition signed by the businesses who agree that the parking meters are detrimental to the businesses in Lansford. He made a few points about Lansford not needing parking meters to ensure parking in this area, however a few council members rebutted and no action was taken. Council feels the meters are needed.

#### PUBLIC COURTESY

Bob Perin, of 235 First Street, Coaldale, is with the Lansford Historical Society and saw the article in the paper about the historical Lansford safe. He said it doesn't have to be sold; its Lansford's History and should be kept in Lansford. He said he can make arrangements to pick it up and hold it at the historical Society if possible and even have a fundraiser to collect money and give to the Borough, but he just doesn't want to see it sold. Most of council agreed and just said they wanted to get it out of the bad conditions of the garage and have it somewhere it is safe.

#### APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES MARCH 12, 2014

**Mary Soberick makes the motion to approve. Seconded: Tommy Vadyak vote. All in favor, motion carries.**

Rose Mary Cannon asked if there was any action taken on the property of 420 W. Bertsch Street. Martin said he contacted the Fire department to pump water through the line. Rose Mary said she was down there with the engineer and there was no smell when they were there.

#### CORRESPONDENCE

- County of Carbon Tax Claim Bureau- Sale of property free and clear of Liens/Map #122A-2214.01
- The Verdin Co- Town Clock- Rose Mary Cannon said it would be nice to go with the streetscape.
- Family Care for Children- Kathryn Labosky –Foster Family Reference Form- Mary Soberick said we can't answer it and Tommy Vadyak said it shouldn't be here.
- MRM -2014 Dividend Notice to PLT Members- Rose Mary said this is mostly informational
- PSATS- Ethics Act and You Webinar
- PA Municipal Planning Education Institute- The course in Zoning Administration- Mary Soberick said she was interested in this. **Tommy Vadyak made the motion to pay the registration fee so she can attend. Seconded: Colin Jones vote. All in favor, motion carried.**
- Spring Road Safety and Maintenance- One day course
- PSATS- Bond Financing Webinar- An introduction to the Basics of Federal Tax & Securities Laws for issuing Bonds
- PRINT- Municipal Directory Map- Mary Soberick said it would be nice but they are costly
- The Seltzer Group- WC Medical Management Seminar- **Tommy Vadyak makes the motion to pay the registration fee so Mrs. Fittos can attend. Seconded: Rose Mary Cannon vote. All in favor, motion passes.**
- POWER- Building a Park Bench for the Community – Mary Soberick said it was a good idea maybe by the swimming pool entrance. **Rose Mary Cannon made the motion to take advantage of the offer. Seconded: Mary Soberick vote. All in Favor, motion passes.**
- Letter from Dave Benevy- Sewer Transmission Fees for the Mini Mall- Credit requested. Tommy Vadyak suggested it be reviewed by committee.
- Retirement Letter from Chief Turcmanovich- May 1, 2014. **Tommy Vadyak made the motion to accept the retirement and the type of pension is to be determined by the pension board. Seconded: Colin Jones vote. Mary Soberick was opposed. Motion passes. Tommy Vadyak makes the motion to send a letter thanking him for his years of service. Seconded: Colin Jones vote. Mary Soberick was opposed. Motion Passes.**
- Letter from Chris Ondrus- Lansford Alive- Community Garden- Rose Mary said there is a conflict since Jodi Mika was here previously looking for a spot and that she and Lansford Alive were looking at the same spot. Jodi Mika spoke from the audience saying she is working with Lansford Alive. Rose Mary Cannon suggested that she talk with Lansford Alive and see where that goes and this topic will be brought back up on the agenda.

Tommy reminded everyone that last month we tabled a request from Lansford Alive that should have been under unfinished business/ new business. It was regarding the use of the pick-up truck for clean-up day. Martin Ditsky responded that he was not sure what the schedule will be like and if a Borough Worker drives it, which would include over-time pay. Colin Jones suggested that we pay one of the Borough workers to do it. Bob Perin volunteered his services of two drivers and two pickup trucks to help Lansford Alive at no cost to the Borough. **Mary Soberick made the motion that the Borough provide all the small equipment and tools they are requesting. Seconded: Colin Jones vote. All in favor, motion carries.**

### COMMITTEE REPORTS

- Municipal Administration- Martin explained there was no report as it was only him, Rose Mary Cannon and officer Ondrus and there were no recommendations. Rose Mary Cannon said a letter needs to be sent to the county regarding the Bertsch street project stating that borough will cover any expenses that go over CBDG funds that won't cover. **Tommy Vadyak made the motion to send the letter. Seconded: Mary Soberick vote, All in favor. Motion passes.** Martin mentioned the email that Jill sent out regarding the date change on sanitation bills. Mary Soberick said she discussed it at her committee. Tommy Vadyak said last year's delinquent letters were never followed through. The warm weather is coming and those letters should be worked on regarding sewer transmission fee. Martin mentioned that Jill's email stated we would like to send a letter to the water Authority to be able to view their muni-billing system so we can see who's water is shut off, but Tommy said that was a different topic and it was dismissed. Tommy said he wants to see the Sanitation up to date as well as the delinquent Sewer up to date. He wants to see facts since he thinks the Borough is spending more doing the billing in-house. Mary Soberick said it's functioning a lot easier since it's in-house. Mary Soberick mentioned that she is almost positive there is a policy that states you go after the delinquent Sewer Fees when its 2 years delinquent.
- Public Safety- Report read by Tommy Vadyak. There was a discussion on a vehicle to put up for sale, but no action was taken. Mr. Vadyak also mentioned that the 2006 Ford Expedition is at Kovatch's but he also got a quote from KME too. **Tommy Vadyak makes the motion to send a letter of Thank You to the Legion for paying for a desktop computer for the police dept. Seconded: Mary Soberick vote. All in favor, motion carries.** Jeff Leslie will be donating a monitor. **Tommy Vadyak makes the motion to allow Marie Ondrus to decorate the community Center and removal of the decorations for the meet and greet event. Seconded: Mary Soberick vote. All in favor, motion passes.** Tommy spoke about some old strobe lights and things we can't use at the garage that maybe can be sold or scrapped. Colin Jones asked if we can get an inventory for next meeting and go from there.

Tommy Vadyak asked attorney Greek if he can look into the 3 strike clause, Hazelton has a 1 strike. We keep having the same problems with the same people.

Mary Soberick asked about the event that Marie is decorating for as she was under the impression it was the Borough office, but it's not. The meet and greet will be downstairs in the Police Department. She also said council should look into more security in this building.

- Fire Department- Report read by Tommy Vadyak

Rose Mary Cannon mentioned that when Mary Misantone passed her family requested that donations be sent to the police department in honor of Mary Misantone, so she believes a letter of thanks should be sent out. **Mary Soberick made the motion to send letters of thanks on the discovery of who sent the donations. Seconded: Tommy Vadyak vote. All in favor, motion carries.**

Tommy Vadyak asked what the Special Meeting was for Public Safety, but that was a typo. There was no special meeting.

- Ambulance-no report
- Mayor's Report- report read by Mayor James Romankow
- Police Report- Report read by Mayor James Romankow
- Parks & Recreation- no report
- Public Works- Report read by Martin Ditsky. He mentioned the applications received for general laborers and CDL drivers- part- time to be reviewed by council.
- Community Development/ Planning/ Zoning, Handicap, Sanitation & Community Garden- Mary Soberick read her report. **Mary Soberick made the motion to adopt the Handicap Ordinance. Seconded: Tommy Vadyak vote. All in favor, motion carries.** The Sanitation billing was explained and discussed how Jill would like to process the billing on the first of the month as opposed to what the ordinance says. Mary Soberick suggested changing the ordinance to give a specific time frame for early discount and penalty fee. **Tommy Vadyak made the motion on Mary Soberick's recommendation to research and amend the ordinance. Seconded: Colin Jones vote. Opposed: Rose Mary Cannon. Motion passes. Colin Jones makes the motion to allow Jodi Mika to use 201 W. Bertsch Street for her community garden. Seconded: Mary Soberick vote. All in favor, motion passes.**
- Code Enforcement- Police Dept. Report
- Treasurers Report- Bills to be approved, Income report, P/L B/S Check register, Profit/ Loss Budget vs Actual and Quote from ADP- Mary Fittos explains that the ADP quote can be disregarded as their price was higher than optimal for processing bi-weekly payroll. Tommy Vadyak asked about the bills from Barry Isett. He asked about hope's towing to Danielsville and who authorized it. Martin Ditsky said he authorized it as he talked to one of the borough workers and that is where it was recommended to take it for repairs. Tommy said he is against it. He asked about the K & K Oil Service call why there were (2). I explained that one was from the weekend for the Police, they were not getting heat. Then coming back from the weekend, there was a separate issue. Tommy Vadyak also questioned the repairs done by performance driveline; he said this should have been brought before a full council. Tommy Vadyak said that PPL should be shut off at the pool during the winter. Mary Soberick asked if we get a report from Barry Isett.

She also said the towing and repair can be covered under the Liquid Fuels Fund. Mary Soberick asked about the service calls. She asked about the Panther Valley Public Library if this was missed for 2011 and it was. She also asked about the Singleton International bill, but I was unsure what it was and had to research and get back to her with that information. Mary Soberick asked if we received the PLGIT Funds, but it will be received 7-10 days. We are also expecting a check from Kyocera in a few weeks. She asked about the servicing contracts on the copiers and responded by saying we are covered by Klingamens with a good maintenance contract. **Mary Soberick makes the motion approve bills, pending the research on Singleton International bill. Seconded: Rose Mary Cannon. Opposed: Tommy votes no for Performance Drive line and Hope's Towing, and Tamaqua Transfer. Motion Carries.**

- Tax Collector's Report- no report
- Carbon County Tax Collection Committee- no meeting, next meeting is May 21<sup>st</sup>.
- Solicitor's Report- Attorney Greek read a resolution that needs to be passed on the 6 property's that we did not get an easement for. **Mary Soberick made the motion to adopt the resolution. Seconded: Tommy Vadyak vote. All in favor, motion carries. Tommy Vadyak makes the motion to put a property Value of \$100 for the easement. Seconded: Colin Jones vote. All in favor, motion carries.** Mr. Greek also states that the replevin action took place regarding the radios and pagers. If there is no response in 20 days we can send out a 10 day default notice. Tommy Vadyak asked for a map that Mr. Greek said he would forward to us.

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

- Special Event Application- Grace Community Church, Sunday 8/17/14- Community Family Block Party. **Mary Soberick made the motion to approve pending the certificate of Insurance. Seconded: Tommy Vadyak vote. All in favor, motion carries.** The chair of public works should have a copy.
- Carbon County Workforce Training- **Mary Soberick makes the motion to utilize the program. Seconded: Tommy Vadyak vote. All in favor, motion carries.**
- ADP- Quote for Pool recreation Board to set up payroll- This was addressed under Treasurers Report.

#### **OLD BUSINESS**

Sealed Bids on Pool Roofs- Attorney Greek said BGM General Contractors at 528 W. White Bear Drive, they have a PA License. Bid # 1 Roof for Pool Pavilion, \$2,817.00 25 yr. shingles, same price if you upgrade to 30 yr shingles, Bid #2 Pool Roof Snack shop, \$4,551, same consideration on shingles. Bid #3 at Pool Roof, \$8,267, Bid #4 Pool Roof Office, Largest one \$12,401.00. All bids for 30yr shingles apply. There were no other bids. The Bid proposals and Bid bonds were attached. **Mary Soberick makes the motion to accept bids. Seconded: Tommy Vadyak vote. All in favor, motion carries.** Attorney Greek said, price does not include all rotted wood. It was suggested that Smokey Krajcirik be the contact.

- Handicap Parking Permit Ordinance- already addressed

#### **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

- Property list for possible community garden- already addressed
- East Bertsch Street Project- CDBG project update-
- Proposed Streetscape- Cost Estimate
- Keystone- Preconstruction Meeting March 28, 2014 detail memo-
- Piano & Safe Status- Mary Soberick said if it sat at the firehouse, it could sit here in the Borough Office and the floor should hold it. Tommy Vadyak is not in favor of selling it. **Rose Mary cannon made a motion to have the engineer do a study on our floor. Seconded: Tommy Vadyak vote. All in Favor, motion carries.** Tommy Vadyak said the police department could utilize it if our floor cannot hold it. **Tommy Vadyack makes a motion the safe is not for sale. Seconded: Mary Soberick vote. All in favor, motion carries.** In regards to the piano, Rose Mary Cannon said we have a price that Jill found on the internet. Mary Soberick asked the price? Rose Mary Cannon thinks a few hundred. Attorney Greek said if it's less than a thousand we can have a private sale. Mary Soberick knows someone who may be interested.
- Cleaning Service- No Proposals – Rose Mary Cannon said this is ridiculous, we have been trying to get someone here for 2 years. She said there was no response to the ad and believes if we find someone, we can just draw up a contract so they know it's a contract. Rose Mary Cannon and Mary Soberick discussed how it was handled in the past, as candidates did apply when they thought they were being hired as an employee but this is a contract service. Mary Soberick spoke with a candidate in the audience and explained to her, we are looking for what she would propose to us and give us an estimate. The Candidate can come to meet with someone here and we show them what needs to be cleaned so she can come back to us with a price. Rose Mary Cannon said we would supply the cleaning supplies. The candidate said she will think it over.
- Generator Status- Rose Mary Cannon said it will be handled under the Grant we are applying for, which is a competitive Grant.
- Sealed Bids on Garage Vehicles- no bids. Rose Mary Cannon did say we should have made it legal and abide by the borough Code by putting it in the paper.

#### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Martin Ditsky asked for a brief recess at 9:16pm to go into an executive session.

**Mary Soberick made the motion to hire (2) public works employees pending the necessary background checks for Brian Erbe and Joseph Shucavage at the rate by Borough resolution. Seconded: Colin Jones vote. All in favor, motion carries.**

**ADJOURNMENT**

**Colin Jones made the motion to adjourn at 9:43pm. Second: Rose Mary Cannon vote. All in favor, motion carries.**

Respectfully submitted,

*Mary Fittos*

Secretary/Treasurer