

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 2 reporters.

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, Rose Mary Cannon and Solicitor Michael Greek.

PUBLIC COURTESY

Jodi Mika from Grace Community Church and resident of Lansford mentioned that there were not enough people at the last Municipal Administration meeting, so she will attend the next meeting, November 5th at 6:30pm, to go over the use and maintenance agreement. Martin Ditsky touched on a few topics regarding the agreement that they should work on (Specifically the 10year lease) and said they could not work on anything since there was no quorum.

Rita Klekamp, a resident of Lansford spoke on behalf of the concerned citizens asking for a report as to what is happening with the break-ins and why they are happening. She asked if we had enough police to cover all the crimes that are happening. Mayor James Romankow read a letter from Sgt. Jack Soberick in response to the crimes that have been happening in Lansford. Rita Klekamp asked if it will be in the paper and Mr. Romankow said it was and will have it run again.

Richard Pavlick a resident in Lansford said these homes are being targeted. He said his house was broken into on Labor Day between 10:30 & 11:00am. He said someone knew he was out on his bike and in 15minutes broke into his house. He said there is someone in this town that is watching people. He said they are coming up Kline Alley and going through the cellars.

Colin Jones said he spoke to his neighbors about starting a neighborhood watch program. He printed out a manual if anyone would like a copy. He said it's a great idea and just putting signs up in the neighborhood deters people from targeting houses.

Tommy Vadyak said a good point that Sgt. Soberick had in his letter, if you see something strange in your neighborhood no matter how awkward it might be, just call 911. He said there was someone outside his property at 9:30am; he has the guy on camera. The neighbors wait to tell his wife at 6pm when she came home from the dr. As little as it might seem, if it's out of the ordinary, pick up the phone and call the police.

Rose Mary Cannon said don't wait 15-20 minutes, call immediately to give the police a chance. Joe Butrie said a neighborhood watch is a good idea and don't be afraid to pick up the phone, you may stop something else from happening down the road. Tommy Vadyak said don't take the law in your own hands either.

APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES - SEPTEMBER 10, 2014

Mary Soberick mentions some corrections as follows: Page 3 under public works, where it says bids, should read "Quotes". Also at the bottom of that page, where it speaks about the allotment of 2014 wages, she would like to add Year to Date wage allotment, since we still have the other half of the year to calculate. Tommy Vadyak has a few changes also: Under Executive session the time is there that council went into it, but does not have the time council went back on the record. Also on the same page where Mary Soberick made the motion to allow Tommy Vadyak to be a licensed CDL driver, he was not opposed to it. He just didn't vote. **Tommy Vadyak makes the motion to approve the minutes with the corrections as read. Seconded: Mary Soberick vote. All in favor, motion carries.**

CORRESPONDENCE

- Free Workshop- Traffic Calming-
- Pa State Assoc. Of Boroughs- Managing a professional Police Dept. Mayor Romankow said the problem is he used all his day offs and will miss out on money if he takes off to attend this class. He asked if Sgt. Soberick can go if there are no issues. **Tommy Vadyak makes the motion to authorize the officer in charge to attend the 2 day conference in Wilkes- Barr. Seconded: Colin Jones vote. All in favor, motion carries.**
- PennDOT- Notice of Intent to enter- Attorney Greek said due to the construction on Patterson, they are giving us an update. They may enter on the property for the surveying. There was a brief conversation about a drain that should be fixed before it gets icy.
- Keystone –Bid Tabulation for ADA Ramp- Martin Ditsky said the start date should be October 14th.
- Lansford Alive Events letter to Mayor- Mayor Romankow said anything addressed to him he should receive sooner as it was not in his mailbox. He said he will be there.
- BCBS Letter
- US Bankruptcy Court Letter
- Letter from Bob Silver- Meters – Mary Soberick said she always believed the meters should be removed since there is such minimal business. Mary Soberick made a motion to do away with parking meters and the ordinances. Rose Mary Cannon said it was already incorporated in the Street Scape Grant. Mary Soberick asked if they can amend it depending how far along they are. Martin Ditsky said the project will start in spring of 2015. Joe Butrie agrees with Mary Soberick. Tommy Vadyak said since they are putting all new ones on the block they are reconstructing, the ones that work can then be used and replaced with the ones that are broke and replace the ones that are missing. Mary Soberick rescinded her motion since Tommy Vadyak made a good point.
- Examination Notice for Civil Service
- Pen. Dept. of Environmental- Free Recycling Program- Tommy Vadyak will research further.

- Kohler Generators- Costars Contract- Rose Mary Cannon said the one they applied for is under the CDBG competitive Grant and won't know until it's awarded.
- Letter from Debbie Kupres- Schedule of Cleaning Service- Read by Martin Ditsky. Mayor Romankow said he doesn't see where the issue is, when she is done, she tells him. Rose Mary Cannon said she understands there is a need for security in the Police Dept., however the plumber and electrical people were left there to fix the leak and the police were not present. She suggested we just Lock Debbie in to clean. Tommy Vadyak said you just lock up what needs to be locked up. Mary Soberick said she is in a position where we hired her services. She said if there is a week she missed cleaning then her work is double and the schedule may be in an inconvenient time for her, she has other jobs, she thinks her schedule should be arranged with the police dept. Martin Ditsky also added that per his conversation with Sgt. Soberick, he ran a background check on Debbie and it came clean. **Mary Soberick makes the motion that Debbie schedule with the police department. Seconded: Rose Mary Cannon vote. Opposed: Samantha Yasson. Motion Carries.**
- Letter from Robert Yurchak- Veterans Day Parade – Read by Martin Ditsky asking for available Fire Police for this parade. Mary Soberick said we have to approve it then the Mayor can handle it. **Rose Mary Cannon makes the motion to allow them to use available Fire Police and let the Mayor handle it. Seconded: Colin Jones vote. All in favor, motion carries.**

COMMITTEE REPORTS

- Municipal Administration- Meeting was cancelled/ No Report
- Public Safety- Read by Tommy Vadyak.
- Fire Department- read by Tommy Vadyak
- Ambulance- Read by Tommy Vadyak
- Mayors Report- Read by Mayor Romankow
- Police Report- Read by Mayor Romankow
- Parks & Recreation- Read by Rose Mary Cannon. She specifically mentioned the maintenance of trees at the park and suggested adding Shade Tree mileage to cover expenses. The estimate that was given is 2,700, about \$900/ day but may only need 2 days. Samantha Yasson asked Ms. Cannon when the football games go on, who collects the money to park and where does it go. Ms. Cannon explains how the Parks & Recreation board came into existence etc.... She explained for many years no one knew where the money was going being the Pool Board use to handle all the financials. The pool manager had total control over all money regarding the pool. She said now there is a Group of 5 that can account for everything being done and everything is being questioned. She said the money up until last year is in the borough, about \$6,000, the chicken dinners, ham dinners and parking fee collections. She said she spoke to the auditors and they suggested a resolution be made and approved to give that money back to this fund raising group. Tommy Vadyak mentioned that there should have been a resolution authorizing "friends of the Pool" to fundraise on Borough property and they should have insurance. Mary Soberick said when you're planning an event you fill out an event form, like the Zoo Stock did. She said forming a group has no bearing on the borough. She said if someone wants to put up a bake sale at Walmart that is up to that group to do that, the friends of the pool should be looked at in the same regard. Samantha Yasson asked if she wanted to go there and collect money, how does that work, who dictates it and where does the money go. Mary Soberick said normally you would have to fill out an event form or a request to council and ask for permission to do what you want to do. Mr. Greek said he didn't want to get into the middle of this argument, but if it's a separate legal entity, you have to give them permission. Also, from a legal standpoint, you have to have insurance. No permission was given. He said members of the commission can collect money for parking and it can go into the Borough. Rose Mary Cannon made a suggestion for money they raised to be given back and used in the spring towards a fryer and freezer for the pool stand. Rose Mary Cannon mentioned, there is a 2014 Wage Resolution to be addressed for the pool staff and is wondering why when there are other wages on it. Tommy Vadyak said the pool tag checkers are making more money than a CDL driver that is a problem. Rose Mary Cannon would like to table that.

Tommy Vadyak said he would like to get back to the conversation pertaining to the trees. He said he is happy with Mr. Dunn's figures. Mary Soberick noted that the reports indicate funds are available. **Tommy Vadyak makes the motion that we go with Mr. Dunn's proposal. Seconded: Joe Butrie vote. All in favor, motion carries.**

- Public Works- Read by Martin Ditsky. The only item that was discussed was a purchase of a Front Loader and a list of CDL drivers. Sam Yasson suggested sending a letter to the Fire Company, if any of the CDL drivers would be interested in seasonal work. Joe Butrie said he was informed that the beams on the ceiling in the garage are slowly coming off. He said if those beams come off, that roof is going to come off the building. Mr. Butrie said we have to address this before winter. If it gets weight on it, it's going to make this worse for us. Joe Butrie also said the Vackhall Machine that cleans up the sewers needs a new hose which is about \$1,700 and \$2,000. Mr. Butrie said there is only 1 place to get it, the place where the machine is made. No one else makes it. **Joe Butrie makes the motion to replace this hose by approval of council and purchase this hose. Seconded: Martin Ditsky vote. All in favor, motion carries.** Joe Butrie also says the street sweeper needs a new roof, which could cost about \$500 and \$1,000. It can be done in house and be welded; Mr. Daily has a certificate in welding. Mary Soberick asked for clarification on this cost value, she wanted to know if it was for materials. Joe Butrie said it was for materials and needs a motion to repair it in house. **Mary Soberick makes the motion to weld a new roof on the street sweeper with a maximum cost of \$2,000.00 and for Joe Butrie to find who will do it. Seconded: Tommy Vadyak votes. All in favor, motion carries.** Joe Butrie also says the

1990 Ford turnpike Truck (Orange) needs a new clutch before winter time. It will cost between \$1,000 and \$2,500. Tommy Vadyak asked where he received these prices from. Joe Butrie's response was PDC. Tommy suggested that he get a few quotes from several places, one specifically was Kovatch. Joe Butrie said he will get (3) quotes and come back to council with them. **Tommy Vadyak makes the motion to get the truck repaired with a cost under \$2,000.**

Seconded: Mary Soberick vote. All in favor, motion carries. Joe Butrie spoke about building a salt shed being that the garage roof beams are falling apart and the salt needs to be protected.

This discussion went on for quite a bit which led to the need for a new garage. **Tommy Vadyak makes the motion for Martin Ditsky to set up a committee or use Municipal Administration to start setting up for a Pole building. Seconded: Samantha Yasson vote. All in favor, motion carries.** Tommy Vadyak said he doesn't like how Coaldale built there, but the way Lenny explained it with Concrete blocks he likes that idea. After some exchange of ideas, Martin Ditsky said he will get prices on Blocks for the shed. Mary Soberick said that the discussion was about fixing the roof now we are talking about a salt shed, but Joe Butrie explained that the concern is the salt inside the garage. If we get the salt out, the garage roof can wait until we build a new pole building. Joe Butrie wants to advertise for CDL and non CDL drivers for the winter. He would like to advertise to sell an 8ft Western Plow. **Joe Butrie makes the motion to sell this plow for a minimum of \$500 or best offer. Seconded: Colin Jones vote. All in favor, motion carries.**

- Community Development/ Planning Zoning- read by Mary Soberick. She said the ordinance is not on the agenda and asked Attorney Greek if he had reviewed it. Rose Mary Cannon had a question regarding refuse containers stating they should be in metal etc. She asked about the people who put them out in garbage bags. Attorney Greek said if you want to get technical they can be cited. Mary Soberick asked if anyone had questions on the revision of the Sanitation ordinance as she emailed it to everyone. **Mary Soberick makes the motion to advertise the ordinance. Seconded: Joe Butrie vote. All in favor, motion carries.**
- Code Enforcement- Tommy Vadyak reminded everyone that we are supposed to be getting a monthly report from Barry Isett. Mr. Vadyak asked Martin Ditsky if he calls them to inquire.
- Treasurers Report- Mrs. Fittos went over everything included in the packet and mentioned some new reports that were attached. She mentioned a bill for the Fire Company that she didn't think we should pay and council agreed to mail it to them to pay. She mentioned that everyone received a proposed 2015 budget for review and to get back to her with any questions, or suggestions/ changes to be made. She mentioned that the quotes for the front loader can be discussed now or under New Business and introduced Rory Kania from John Deere who was sitting in the audience, letting council know that he was there to discuss the quotes and any questions. Mrs. Fittos explained the loan for the front loader would come out of Special Highway and we are allowed to use 20% of the state aid funds every year towards major equipment to pay that loan and recommended the 7 year loan as it is within the spending limit and we need to put \$20,000 as a down payment. She also recommended purchasing the one with the coupler. She explained that we can use LST monies for part of the down payment. Samantha Yasson asked how fast a machine can be delivered and Mr. Kania said the 444K was in stock and can be delivered immediately and the 310K backhoe that is at the garage is immediate and (2) 344K should be available as early as 2 weeks and as late as 4 weeks is what he was told as of this afternoon. There was a discussion with Mr. Kania about the difference in specs with the three different machines. **Rose Mary Cannon makes the motion to go with option #2 with the coupler. Seconded: Tommy Vadyak vote. All in favor, motion carries.** First payment would be due in December. **Mary Soberick explains the fund's availability and makes the motion that we finance the loader with the 5 year loan annually. Seconded: Tommy Vadyak vote. All in favor, motion carries.**
- Tax Collector's Report
- Carbon County Tax Collection Committee - Read by Mary Soberick
- Solicitor's Report- Attorney Greek reviewed the correspondence that was from him. There was a brief summary. He is working with Civil Service to move forward the hiring process and will reply to the ADA complaint. A revised resolution is required for the Fire Company. **Tommy Vadyak makes a motion to endorse the fire company for applying for gaming funds. Seconded: Joe Butrie vote. All in favor, motion carries.**

Mary Soberick makes the motion to pay the bills with the exception of the bill for the Fire Company which should be sent back to them. Seconded: Samantha Yasson vote. All in favor, motion carries. Tommy Vadyak is not voting on Tamaqua Transfer.

OLD BUSINESS

- 2014 Wage Resolution- This was tabled.
- Water Line Repair in Police dept. - **Mary Soberick makes the motion to approve. Seconded: Rose Mary Canon vote. All in favor, motion carries.**
- Budget Committee to be formed – Samantha Yasson, Tommy Vadyak and Martin Ditsky confirmed to be a part of this committee.
- Resolution for Permit Fees / Possible increase- Rose Mary Cannon made a motion to table.

NEW BUSINESS

- Special Event Application- 8th Annual PV Free Children's Trick or Treat Party 10/25- **Colin Jones makes the motion to approve and allow police presence upon availability only. Seconded: Samantha Yasson vote. All in favor, motion carries.**
- Special Event- Rosary Service of America Needs Fatima 10/11/14- **Rose Mary Cannon makes the motion to approve. Seconded: Mary Soberick vote. All in favor, motion carries.**
- Quote for Front Loader/ 5 Star Equipment- Already addressed
- Quote for Sweeper- Already addressed

- Quote from Powers- Already addressed
- Mid Atlantic Quote- Already addressed
- Server Quotes for Upgrades to server in police dept. / Jeff Leslie & In Sync Systems. **Tommy Vadyak makes the motion to approve Leztek Quote. Seconded: Colin Jones vote. All in favor, motion carries. Tommy Vadyak makes the motion to approve the server from InSync Systems. Seconded: Mary Soberick vote. All in favor, motion carries.**
- Police Pension 2015 MMO – Mary Soberick said the original figures were incorrect. She spoke with Mary Fittos and they called Marie Tepes of Beyer Barber to get exact information. It was too late in the day to correct for the meeting, so **Tommy Vadyak makes the motion to approve 2015 MMO Worksheet to be determined by the Secretary Treasurer. Seconded: Mary Soberick vote. All in favor, motion carries.**
- Handicap Application for 331 W Bertsch Street- **Mary Soberick makes the motion to approve the application. Seconded: Colin Jones Vote. All in favor, motion carries.**

Martin Ditsky would like a motion to be made to advertise for oil delivery now with a start date for the expiration date of the old contract. **Tommy Vadyak makes the motion to advertise for oil bids to be open at the next council meeting with a delivery date of November 21st 2014 and an end date of August 1, 2015. Seconded: Rose Mary Cannon vote. All in favor, motion carries.**

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- Grace Community Church- Already Discussed
- Status on safe- Samantha Yasson said the fire company said they would take it if we have nowhere to put it.

Martin Ditsky asked for a brief recess at 8:56pm

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Council entered into executive session at 9:00 pm and went back on the record at 9:25pm.

ADJOURNMENT

Rose Mary Cannon makes the motion to adjourn at 9:26pm. Seconded: Samantha Yasson vote. All in favor, motion passes.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Fittos

Secretary/Treasurer