

Committee Meeting Minutes

April 2nd, 2024

Call to order- 6:00 p.m. by President Bruce Markovich

Attending Council Roll Call- Gwyneth Collevchio, Michele Bartek, Jay Dole, Bruce Markovich, Joesph Butrie, Jennifer Staines

Absent- Mayor Hugh Vrablic, Jack Soberick

Pledge of Allegiance.

Public Works-

Jay Doyle-

Wrote up a request to Summit Hill Borough about using shared services for street sweeping. Due to the weather street crew is going to run down to Lancaster to look at street sweepers. Has walked down Ridge Street and there are no signs about no dog poop, wants council to look into doing something in the business district about that due to the large amount of dogs in the area.

Has not found an ordinance about people putting garbage in the street when they move their cars, and if he finds no ordinance those garbage cans are going to be picked up and thrown out.

On East Water by Kokinda's would like to do same as West Kline and have a no parking sign because of garbage. States that if signs are not going to be enforced about no parking, then the signs should be taken down. Is waiting for Radocha to call back about doing the manhole. Dock street will be done as well.

Bruce Markovich-

Dock street signs were put up as a request for the fire department.

Joesph Butrie

Inquired about status of the borough garage being put up.

Jay Doyle responded they are waiting on the guy that is doing the project.

Joe Genits-

States that a valid ordinance is needed for the police to enforce signs.

Bruce Markovich-

Asked about the lawn mowers for the borough.

Jay Doyle responded that the crew is going to get a lawn mower from M&S Hardware.

Jennifer Staines-

Talks about the fee schedule and how the prices had to increase. States that the handicap costs had to increase because of the costs of workers time, paint, and concrete to put in the signs. Discusses the price increase for each fee and states that the sanitation fee should be increased as well.

Bruce Markovich-

States that the sanitation price is set by the contractor and the garbage contract has exclusivity.

Audience members disagree that garbage contractor is not allowed to have exclusivity.

Denise-

Asks why Marcos is the only business that is required to get a dumpster.

Michele Bartek responded that they would like to get apartment buildings and restaurant have their own pickups to help alleviate the borough from worrying about only certain businesses having their own dumpsters.

Joseph Butrie responded that all businesses would have to be forced to have dumpsters there can be no selective enforcement.

Joe Genits-

States that the garbage ordinance allows for the council to enforce businesses to mandate private businesses to get dumpsters. He thinks that the raising costs should be based on weight.

Jay Doyle-

Wants Advertisement for the code enforcement position to be added to the agenda.

Michele Bartek-

Stated she wants to create a resolution for dumpsters/garbage for both the business district and private individuals in the borough be included in the agenda.

Municipal Administration-

Bruce Markovich-

The garbage contract is going to be reviewed and changes are going to be made to enforce multiple pickups downtown and some people may have to get dumpsters.

States that Brimbles wall received a grant for \$313,000 started at \$200,000 that's all approved and Dale Argo and Doyle Heffley went out of their make sure to get rests of money to get project done. The project is going to be completed in one project. There is going to be a meeting with the county to ensure they are taking over the job and that it is being done as soon as possible.

Meeting with the railroad, which included a tour of the mine and discussion about future plans and what it would take to bring the train back into Lansford. Planning to have meetings with railroad on a regular basis as the project is moving forward. States that while bringing the train back involves helping bring things into the borough that will allow people to have things to do once in the borough.

Heard back from Community Bank the bank did not get back to the borough, but it was made clear that they would not be getting back 4.76% on any kind of investment that is only for private individuals.

On Thursday there is a meeting that is happening with the school about the stadium sidewalks. The estimate for the electrical at Ashton Park is 23,000 cheaper than expected estimate at \$46,000. With the grant due May 1st, would like to add water line to concession stand so they can have water all year, costs to be around \$13,000.

Contacted two realtors about advertisement for Zimmerman Building. Only one gave an estimate for 20% of sale cost plus \$6,000.

Got a phone call from M&T Bank about doing investment and their current rates. Asked about having a meeting with our insurance man, to meet the new insurance man and talk about if anything needs to be added or subtracted from the insurance.

Hearing to block the sale of 334 East Bertsch, the sale is going to go through, the Judge can find no way to block sale but has given time to move grant money to another project. Asking for meeting with commission to ask if anything can be done to stop sale of these building prior to them being knocked down. Law Enforcement committee is having a executive meeting on Tuesday April 6th.

Public Safety-

Michele Bartek-

The police officers guns have been ordered. Dan from Cloud is going to be coming in to work on the IT in the police Department. Discussed bring up the quality of officers vests to level 3s, these vests are for stopping rifles and semi-automatic rifles. New vests are need for the officers. States that Kyle Woodward was able to find the vests for a little over \$1,000 from a company called Avon. There are two kinds of vests a lightweight vest and a heavy weight vest.

Says police applications have been submitted and that four applications were submitted, two full-time and two part-time. The applications are being processed, would like for the hiring of police officers to be added to the agenda.

Joesh Butrie-

States that the bus stops should moved back to the highway because of kids just running across the highway.

Parks and Recreation-

Gwyneth Collevchio-

Talks about how on March 5th, she talked to Heather Barna Dowling from Sync Recovery Community about bring them into Lansford. Suggested to Heather about doing a picnic or dinner at the pool or playground for the families. Heather liked the idea possibly in June.

On March 13, spoke with the Tamaqua borough manager they are offering tags to panther valley school district. People just have to come into the office and pick up a packet and submit the packet to Tamaqua borough. The tag will only be good for 2024 since next year the Tamaqua pool will be closed due.

On March 14th, received information from the Times News that cleanup work was being done at the skate park by the group Nothing-but-Love. Nothing-but-love requested to have the name of the park changed.

The Special Event Forms have been changed to include the ID number on them and are available in the borough office.

Talks about how a group of kids asked about making the tennis courts over by the pool into two basketball courts due to not having any available courts. The kids would like to have leagues and summer things.

Joseph Butrie-

Says he sent an email that people are trying to use east end court and that people are requesting to have the lines be repainted on the basketball court. That the kids are unable to play on the court because they can not see the lines on the court.

Joe Genits-

Inquiries about Resolution to fee schedule and that the fees need to be included with the ordinance that they pertain to. Says that the amount of ordinance should not be higher than the amount it costs to enforce the said ordinance.

Talks about how the website needs to be updated to lists correct information pertaining to zoning applications. States that on the website all the applications should be available. Talks about if more information is available on the website there would be a decrease in the number of right-to-know requests.

Discusses that all the ordinances should be available on the website and how many physical copies exists and that the ordinances need to be updated.

Michele Bartek-

The ordinance books costs over \$900 for a hardcover book \$75-95 for a soft cover book.

Bruce Markovich-

States that the borough should get soft cover books.

Meeting Adjourned- 7:30p.m. by Bruce Markovich

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Ashley McLaughlin". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'A' and 'M'.

Ashley McLaughlin

Assistant Secretary/Treasurer