

The April committee meeting 4/5/2022 was called to order by Borough Council President Bruce Markovich and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited. The following items were discussed by committee topic in a contiguous manner beginning at 4:00p.m.

In attendance at the beginning of the meeting session: Martin Ditsky, John Turcmanovich, Jennifer Staines, Gwyneth Collevchio, President Bruce Markovich, Mayor Hugh Vrablic, Jay Doyle were not in attendance William Chuma joined the meetings at 5:30 p.m.

Municipal Administration:

The Committee is Bruce Markovich, Gwyneth Collevchio, and Martin Ditsky.

Bruce mentioned that there was a conference call with the County on Brimble's Wall the County came up with another \$45,000 to bring the entire project out to about \$135,000.00. that brings the entire cost of the project to \$160,000.00. We will be responsible for the engineering costs and the survey costs. The County wants to get the bids out mid-June and hope to get the project started by August.

Bruce also had a chance to talk to Rich at Cloud Services to try and link multiple accounts with the Rental Licensing. Rich will look at the programs and see what he can do to link the programs together such as water, sewer, taxes, sanitation, sewage transmission.

Also mentioned was the fact that we have a \$1,000,000.00 that we are not using, and we are getting .01% interest. We need to start to look at a way to invest the money safely and in something that's insured, and we cannot gamble on anything with it. Bruce mentioned that we can probably do better than .01%. At the next Council meeting we should make a motion for a Financial Manager and try to get 1%.

The contract for the Borough workers has been finalized everyone will get a copy. The attorney brought up the cost of the insurance he said how it is the highest in the state that he has ever seen. We are paying \$39,000.00 for a family and \$18,000.00 for a single plan. We should think about changing plans.

The next item is drainage on School lot. Bill was down to look at it yesterday. I guess the school wants to move forward with paving that lot. There is only one sewer on that lot Bill feels that it will be overwhelmed once they start putting water from that lot in that sewer. The engineer will be down on the 14th not sure what will go on. The school claims they were given a waiver to pave up to the street. I emailed Greg Mousseau and left him know that we are not signing off on the waiver.

The CDBG grant is due by the end of the month I was thinking of taking Horvath's house down on W Patterson St. We have been trying to get that done for some time now. That house is an eyesore. The bids will not go out till next year. I will bring it up at the next Council meeting.

Settlement still has not taken place on the police car what we have been asked to do now is to pay for it and then get reimbursed from Rural Development. They have been waiting since January for the check for the police car.

Martin mentioned that the water bill came out on April 1st and that you have 19 days to pay it and if you do not pay it by then your water is turned off. I have people coming to me with the fact you receive the bill and have a short period of time to pay, or you receive a penalty and

in July it will go up \$15.00 and the usage dropped to 6,000 gallons plus they gave themselves raises.

Tom Vadyak mentioned that the Municipal Authority Act is clear they must appoint themselves as employees and work full-time. Council must do something about it.

Bruce mentioned that there is a problem.

Gwyneth mentioned that their minutes are in a font of 100 and are 7 pages long and say nothing.

Park and Recreation:

The Committee is Gwyneth Collevchio, William Chuma, Jennifer Staines.

Gwyneth reported that she looked at Ashton Park and found a few things.

The fence was too short for the area and needs to be extended.

There are 2 park benches near where the children go on the swings with a big space between them. We are going to place 2 new park benches in the middle of those two and give more security to the children playing.

We need mulch.

We need 2 swings.

We need 2 bike racks would like to put one at the pool area and one at the E end park. (We have 2 in storage) and the old one removed.

We also need a new timer for the lights. The kids busted the last one.

Palmerton Garage has been called two times to come and look at the concession stand. Pen Valley will be called.

Dogs are down at the park, and we are noticing dog feces in the park. Dogs are not allowed in the parks. There are signs No Dogs Allowed. Jennifer talked about the skate park. She talked to Franklin Klock, and he would be willing to come in and advise for a project. Most of the discussion about the skate park was because it is all the way in the back, and you have no idea what is going on back there. Also talked about was the West End playground. The playground was always full of kids years ago. We can reestablish a park and apply for a grant for it. Parking would be an issue. We need to decide whether we want a skate park or a playground. Put it on the agenda and look for a designer.

Gwyneth mentioned that some taxpayers were complaining that they do not see any police patrolling.

There was a discussion on the cleaning of sidewalks in the Wintertime.

Zoning and Ordinance:

The Committee is Jay Doyle, Jennifer Staines, William Chuma.

Jennifer mentioned that they would like to move forward on the Short-Term Rental Ordinance.

The Zoning Ordinance is 2003 they would like to bring it up to 2019. Also discussed was the Three-Strike Rule.

Public Works:

The Committee is William Chuma, John Turcmanovich, and Jay Doyle.

The Sewer Vector needs some repairs the tubes and hoses need replacing we have a quote for the Vector for parts that we need put on the agenda.

On the property next to the Summit Hill highway there is a drain from the highway leads to a step-down manhole that blew apart. Behind the 200 block of Water St, it is washing out it should be going into the storm sewer. This will need to be repaired.

*These minutes are unofficial minutes.

I ordered 10 gallons of paint and that was all we could order. We must order stuff for the sewers. The Borough is cleaning the streets we will need to start cutting grass soon. Then we are going to start on sewers.

Economic Development and Tourism:

The Committee is Bruce Markovich, Gwyneth Collevchio, Jennifer Staines.

The County does annual Real Estate Survey they take a video of real estate available. They are going to list Silberline and the Zimmerman building. We had a second request for a lease on renting the Silberline Property.

Train Station – Lansford Alive is giving Kenny Hill a Community Award on Thursday April 14th at 4:30 p.m. Open House is from 2:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. with refreshments. There is a meeting of the Steering Committee on April 11 at 5:30 p.m. at the Borough Hall the meeting is open to the public.

Sent DEP a letter to reestablish the tracks that are washed out for 1200 ft. The creek had blocked up at some point and washed out the tracks. We need to get the creek back to where it originally ran. We sent a letter up to DEP on this they will try and put it into a 5 yr. development plan.

We will not have ownership of the Train Station till probably sometime next year.

The meeting concluded.

Respectfully Submitted, *Wendy Butrie*, Secretary Treasurer