

Committee Meeting Minutes

August 6th, 2024

The August 6th, 2024 Committee Meeting was called to order at 6:00p.m. by President Bruce Markovich at the Lansford Borough Town Hall, 1 West Ridge Street, Lansford, Pennsylvania. The meeting was attended by President Pro Tempore Michele Bartek, Council Man Joseph Butrie, Council Woman Gwyneth Collevchio, President Bruce Markovich, Council Woman Jennifer Staines, and Code and Ordinance Enforcement Officer Shane Monk.

Vice President Jay Doyle, Council Man Jack Soberick, and Mayor Hugh Vrablic were not in attendance.

Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Public Works-

Due to Vice President Jay Doyle's absence, Joseph Butrie represented the public works committee.

Joseph Butrie spoke about the sinkhole on West Patterson Street/Route 209, that Toby's Excavator is not deep enough, and the street crew is unaware of what they are going to find when they open the hole. Flagger are needed when the work is occurring due to traffic speeding down the highway.

Joseph Butrie spoke about how as of September 1st, 2024 no triaxles will be traveling on Patterson Street. That coal is going to be hauled over towards Rocky Mountain on second shift.

Joseph Butrie spoke about how he feels that on rainy days that one public works worker should take the scrap metal the borough has to a scrap yard.

Joseph Butrie spoke about a complaint form that the borough received stating that the T lines on the 100 Block of West Abbott Street need to be repainted and that when the public works have time to start repainting the lines.

Michele Bartek inquired about the public workers work schedule and if they are filling out work orders.

Council discussed the shared services that the borough has with Summit Hill and Coaldale.

Joseph Butrie spoke about how the stop sign near Boyers Supermarket is now installed but the height of the sign needs to be adjusted.

Tommy Vadyak of 334 West Abbott Street spoke about the recently purchased street sweeper and inquired about what is stopping it from being used.

Tommy Vadyak spoke about how he feels that the public works crew needs better leadership.

Joseph Butrie stated that he is going to talk to the public works leader on August 7th, 2024 to get in writing what is needed to get the street sweeper running.

Martin Ditsky of 330 ½ East Abbott Street inquired about if anyone has contacted the place that the street sweeper was purchased to see if they can fix the problem.

Martin Ditsky spoke about the inlets that are blocked on East Abbott Street.

Michele Bartek stated that she feels that public works crew should have to fill out work orders for work to be completed.

Joseph Butrie spoke about the x-mark lawnmower and that needs work done on it due to a carburetor leak.

Council discussed that all public workers should be trained to use the equipment that the borough has.

Joseph Butrie spoke about signs on the East Unit block that say no parking, but the signs are not being enforced and the safety threat that poses due to emergency vehicles not being able to access the road.

Council discussed having the public workers trained to properly use borough equipment.

Bruce Markovich stated that before a street is paved it should be sprayed for weeds.

John Zym spoke about the trench that was on the 300 block of East Abbott Street.

Joseph Butrie stated that the current salt shed is collapsing forward and about possibly storing the salt in Coaldale.

Bruce Markovich spoke about getting the costs on a new shed.

Municipal Administration

Bruce Markovich spoke about the project that is happening on Cortright Street between Abbott Street and Water Street. Forty-two surveys were sent out and only

five were returned, the surveys are to be picked up August 15th, 2024. Due to the amount of returned surveys it is unclear if the county will continue with the project.

Bruce Markovich spoke about a meeting with the head of economic development down at CCED, Brenda Sacaro which was to discuss the splash pad to be installed at the pool and create a site plan. The plan was sent to DCNR and once approved, the plan will come before council, the splash pad to then be installed sometime next year.

Bruce Markovich spoke about the excavator grant and dock and Cortright grant that were submitted.

Bruce Markovich spoke about how the office currently is working to get an accurate lists of people that are not paying their garbage bills and ensure that people are paying their bill.

Bruce Markovich spoke about how at the next meeting that the borough wants to have Bob Yurchak prepare the necessary paperwork for a judgement against the owners of the Koch Building so legal action can be taken to have them tear the building down.

Tommy Vadyak spoke about the condition of the old borough garage and how it should be sold since there is no use for it.

Bruce Markovich spoke about getting the deed for the Zimmerman Building updated, but that the county still has the property listed as a leased property which is postponing the sale of the building.

Council discussed the documents they have submitted to the county for the deed of the Zimmerman Building, and they do not understand why the process of the deed being put in the Lansford Borough's name.

Jennifer Staines inquired about sending invoices to Construction Clearance for rent due.

Bruce Markovich stated that Construction Clearance is going to be getting a bill stating the amount due each month.

Michele Bartek would like added to the agenda for the public workers to start filling out work orders.

Michele Bartek spoke about wanting to investing sewer and pool account monies into CD's.

Public Safety-

Michele Bartek spoke about how council must vote to send a letter to the civil service commission for the commission to begin the hiring process.

Michele Bartek spoke about having Kevin Zucker provide an estimate of the costs to repair the Silberline Building.

Michele Bartek spoke about wanting to vote to move the police station to be located at the Silberline Building.

Michele Bartek spoke about how a letter was sent out to Jerry Scaran thanking him for his service on the civil service commission.

Michele Bartek spoke about the process Jack Soberick would have to go through to purchase his duty weapon because the gun cannot be gifted to Jack.

Michele Bartek wants added to the agenda for an official letter to be sent to Jack Soberick asking if he is going to be purchasing his duty weapon.

Michele Bartek wants added to the agenda to vote on gifting Jack Soberick his police badge.

Michele Bartek spoke about the handicap applications that were submitted and must be added to the agenda.

Michele Bartek stated that the borough received the final agreement papers for the borough's camera system.

Gwyneth Collevchio spoke about a dispute that occurred in the private driveway behind her property over if the driveway is private. The driveway is private, and signs need to be put up stating that the driveway is private on both ends of the driveway.

Gwyneth Collevchio wants added to the agenda for a vote on the borough putting a sign up on the driveway stating it is private.

Tommy Vadyak stated he feels the taxpayers should not have to pay for a private property sign on the driveway.

Joe Genits of 210 West Front Street spoke about that the sign is a private matter and has nothing to do with the borough.

Tommy Vadyak spoke about vehicles on the 300 Block of West Abbott Street that is not inspected and how the police are not enforcing laws pertaining to vehicles with expired registration or inspection.

Tommy Vadyak spoke about his complaint that he submitted on a police officer and that nothing has been done about his complaint.

Tommy Vadyak spoke about the police department and how he does not agree with how the police department is being run.

Michele Bartek wants added to the agenda to vote for police officers to not be allowed to leave the borough while working unless for mutual aid calls.

Michele Bartek spoke about how the month report for the police should be more detailed.

Audience member spoke about her experience with the police.

Audience member inquired about why there are two officers on a shift.

Michele Bartek stated that the police schedule is not in accordance with the needs of the borough.

Michele Bartek spoke about wanting to change the police schedule to eight-hour shifts.

Michele Bartek spoke about the ordinance for towing vehicles.

Joseph Butrie spoke about an issue with the moving permits.

Joseph Butrie spoke about the pole near Kitty Corner that there is no street pole due to teleco leaving and not putting the pole back up.

Zoning/Ordinance-

Shane Monk spoke about what he has been doing around the borough.

Shane Monk spoke about how he needs council to approve a phone and laptop for himself to use.

Shane Monk spoke about how he needs council to approve the stickers he wants to place on properties to let the owners know why he was there. The stickers costing \$120.00 for a thousand stickers.

Shane Monk spoke about how he needs council to approve his training for the property maintenance code.

Joe Genits spoke about how Shane needs a property maintenance book, and that the borough office needs a copy as well.

Jennifer Staines stated that she confirmed information from Ray Swartz that currently the borough has twenty-seven condemned houses with twenty-five being hazardous. Three are condemned and have a power outage. Two work loaders were shut down, the box taken, and the electricity shut down. Two Condemned properties have squatters, and one is currently occupied.

Tommy Vadyak spoke about complaints he submitted that were not addressed.

Jennifer Staines stated that she signed Shane up for three free trainings through the association of boroughs.

Bruce Markovich spoke about an incident in which a police officer has stated he is not okay with Shane giving out citations.

Bruce Markovich spoke about how Shane is allowed to give out citations and the borough does not need permission from the police. He thinks maybe a letter should be sent to the police informing them police permission is not needed for Shane to give out citations.

Audience Member spoke about having Shane fully trained and certified, allowing for the borough to get rid of ARRO Consulting.

Jennifer Staines spoke about wanting to increase Shane to a full-time work schedule.

Parks and Recreation-

Gwyneth Collevecchio spoke about the logos that Pocono Mountain set over that is going to be on the trash cans throughout the borough, one which is black and white, and the other in color.

Gwyneth Collevecchio spoke briefly about the event happening on August 9th, 2024 and how depending on the date it might be moved, details will not be decided until closer to the date.

Joe Genitz spoke about a bench that needs to be moved at the park and placed in its correct location.

Tommy Vadyak inquired about who authorized the public works crew to take the street sweeper to Johnston and leave the truck. He feels that there needs to be more communication especially due to council not being informed that was happening.

Joe Genits inquired about who authorized the payment of truck being inspected if it was never approved.

Joseph Butrie stated he would speak with the public works crew tomorrow to get information on why the truck is being taken to Johnston.

The meeting was adjourned by President Bruce Markovich at 8:33p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ashley McLaughlin". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Ashley McLaughlin

Assistant Secretary/Treasurer