

# March 4, 2024

The regular meeting of the Borough Council was called to order on the above date. The meeting was called to order at 7:00pm by President Jim O'Connor with the Pledge of Allegiance and the Lord's Prayer. Members attending were Pat Haley, Doug Hartman, Rafael Jimenez Gomez, Tricia Springer and Matt Urban. Also attending were Mayor Larry Minnich, Solicitor Colleen Gallo and Borough Manager, Melody Vanderveer. Sam Wengert was absent.

Minutes from the February 5, 2024, meeting was e-mailed to Council prior to the meeting. **Motion by Matt Urban, seconded by Pat Haley to approve the February 5, 2024, minutes. Motion Carried.**

The Treasurer's report for February 2024 was read. **A motion was made by Tricia Springer, seconded by Rafael Jimenez Gomez to approve the Treasurer's report for February 2024. Motion carried.**

## **FIRE COMPANY REPORT – Dustin Sider & Phil Snavely**

The Fire Company report was submitted prior to the meeting and was reviewed by Council. The new logo is official & finalized for the merged fire departments. The last piece of the merger is to transfer the title of the 2017 wagon. They will have a flower sale over Easter at the Annville fire company. Phil Snavely, Fire Chief, added the awards banquet is scheduled for March 9, 2024. The Fire Company is doing well but personnel is low. Firefighters are needed as well as administrative personnel. He is working on another grant.

## **POLICE DEPARTMENT – Mayor Larry Minnich and Chief Farneski**

Chief's report submitted and attached to these minutes. Chief Farneski warned again against anyone responding to e-mails or phone calls that are from someone they don't know. He has been working on several incidents of people being scammed out of thousands of dollars. He has been able to return some of the victims money but it is not a guarantee. He received a letter from a woman that was stopped by Officer Deitrich. She praised him for his professionalism. Chief is interviewing for part-time police officers.

## **CITIZEN'S COMMENTS:**

Darlene Shuey, 561 West Chestnut Street attended the meeting to ask what could be done about the number of squirrels in the Borough. She has trapped over 23 squirrels but there are still a lot remaining. Some residents are feeding them or have bird feeders that are not squirrel-proof. Neighbors are finding them in their chimneys and garages. Colleen suggested she contact the Game Commission for recommendations on eradicating the problem.

## **PRESIDENT' S REPORT/COMMENTS – Jim O'Connor**

Jim thanked Rafael and Doug for helping upgrade the video system.

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### **CODE ENFORCEMENT – Rafael Jimenez Gomez**

An IPMC meeting was held via zoom on February 21<sup>st</sup> to create an agreement for the new Code Enforcement Officer. Rafael e-mailed the solid waste and recycling ordinance to council for review. He and Melody continue to work on the permit fees.

### **PROPERT DEPARTMENT - Doug Hartman**

Doug received two proposals for gas piping for the fire company side of the building. Other contractors did not respond to his request for a quote. **Motion by Doug Hartman to approve Haller Enterprises proposal of \$14,160.00 for the gas piping and unit heater for the fire company engine room seconded by Tricia Springer. Motion carried.**

The glass front door bottom hinge broke this weekend. Melody received a quote from Hockley Glass & Mirror this morning. **Motion to amend the agenda to include the quote from Hockley Glass & Mirror by Tricia Springer, seconded by Matt Urban. Motion carried. Motion to approve the quote from Hockley Glass & Mirror for the front door repair of \$640.00 by Tricia Springer, seconded by Matt Urban. Motion carried.**

### **HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT - Sam Wengert (absent)**

The approval for Kinsley final payment is under new business. Snow removal in February was discussed. Problems that arose will be documented and discussed with the contractors in November.

### **RECREATION DEPARTMENT – Pat Haley**

The Park and Recreation scheduled their 2024 events at their February meeting. They are as follows: March 23<sup>rd</sup> Easter Candy Scramble, April 20<sup>th</sup> Spring Clean-Up; July 19<sup>th</sup> Movie Night #1 (“Super Mario Brothers”); August 16 Movie Night #2 (“Wish”); September 14<sup>th</sup> Movie Night #3 (“Teenage Mutant Turtles Mayhem”); October 26<sup>th</sup> Fall Festival and December 15<sup>th</sup> Santa Meet & Greet. The tree that fell in the Quittie from North Cornwall’s side is going to be removed by the resident once the weather breaks and they can get heavy equipment down by the baseball feeds.

### **FIRE SAFETY/POLICE DEPARTMENT – Tricia Springer**

Tricia did not have anything new to report for the police and fire companies however, she discussed the Lebanon County 2023 Hazard Mitigation Plan that needs to be approved if the Borough and Borough residents would be able to receive PEMA funding in case of an emergency such as flooding. **Motion to amend the agenda to include the Hazard Mitigation Plan by Tricia Springer, seconded by Doug Hartman. Motion carried. Motion by Tricia Springer, seconded by Pat Haley, to adopt the Lebanon County 2023 Hazard Mitigation Plan. Motion carried.**

**FINANCE DEPARTMENT – Matt Urban**

Expenses are tracking as projected in the 2024 budget. Real Estate taxes have not started coming in yet.

**BOROUGH MANAGER-BOROUGH AUTHORITY – Melody Vanderveer**

North Cornwall Township received a one million grant for the new Dairy Road pump station which will reduce costs for the four municipalities that use the pump station. Scott Rights, engineer for the Authority, continues to remind North Cornwall that Cleona will not increase their capacity at the new pump station so their costs for the new pump station should be lower than the other three municipalities.

**SOLICITOR’S REPORT – Colleen Gallo**

Solicitor’s report submitted and attached to these minutes. Colleen asked for comments from Council on the zoning ordinance revision. Tricia asked if Verizon Fios is providing cable services in the Borough and if we have a franchise agreement with them. Colleen will reach out to Attorney Winston of Cohen Law Group.

**NEW BUSINESS**

- **Motion by Tricia Springer, seconded by Doug Hartman to approve the final payment of \$19,673.69 to Kinsley Construction for the 2023 paving project. Motion carried.**
- **Motion by Pat Haley, seconded by Matt Urban to give Jim O’Connor approval to sign the land-lease agreement for the Quittapahilla Creek Restoration project. Motion carried.** This agreement is to allow engineers to go onto the Borough Park property to begin the design process for the restoration. It does not include any construction.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

Permit fee schedule and municipal trash was discussed under code enforcement.  
**Motion by Doug Hartman, seconded by Pat Haley to move forward with advertisement of the next part of the building renovations in the event he cannot find a Costars vendor. Motion carried.**

**Motion by Pat Haley, seconded by Tricia Springer to pay the bills for February 2024.**

With no new business to discuss the meeting was adjourned at 8:00pm.

Respectively Submitted

Melody Vanderveer