

AUGUST 13, 2020
PENN LAKE PARK BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING

The Penn Lake Park Borough August Council meeting was held via the conferencing app, Gotomeeting. Council President Paul Rogan called the meeting to order at 7:33 and stated that the meeting is being recorded.

ROLL CALL: Mayor Debra Krysicki, Council President Paul Rogan, Council members Shaun Kuter, David Longmore, and John Burden responded. Council person Jill Rosenstock was absent.

MINUTES:

Minutes from the July Monthly Council Meeting were distributed to council via email. The copies will be recorded as the official minutes and will be posted on the borough's website. A **Motion** to accept the July Council minutes was made by Rogan, 2nd by Kuter. Roll Call: Rogan, Longmore, Kuter, and Burden all in favor, none opposed. Motion carried.

TREASURERS REPORT:

The Treasurer's Report was presented. A **Motion** was made by Kuter, 2nd by Longmore to accept the Treasurer's Report.

Roll Call: Rogan, Longmore, Kuter, and Burden all in favor, none opposed. Motion carried.

RECEIPTS/BILLS:

A **Motion** was made by Kuter, 2nd by Rogan to pay the bills of \$90,085.89 and to accept the receipts of \$38,062.38.

Roll Call: Rogan, Longmore, Kuter, and Burden all in favor, none opposed. Motion carried.

PETITIONS OR COMPLAINTS:

- Barbara Sudimak complained that the areas of pothole patching on Horseshoe Drive were not sealed with tar. The areas were sealed shortly after.
- Lisa Stuart and Martin Harding complained that run off from excavation resulting from the new home construction on Lakeview Dr. was depositing mud into the storm drain causing her lakefront and beach to be damaged. The owner, excavator, and builder were notified and the excavation mounds were covered with straw, and bales of hay along with socks of straw were placed along the roadside and around the drain to prevent further mud run off.
- Kristen Fisher complained that the proposed \$950.00 permit fee for Short Term Rental property owners was outrageous. She posed questions concerning identification of STR owners, enforcement, violations, and management.

CORRESPONDENCE:

- Borough received notice that there will be a Public Hearing for the Solid Waste Management ten year plan update. The hearing will take place at the Emergency

Management Building at 185 Water St, Wilkes Barre on September 9, 2020, from 5 to 6 PM.

- The PA Turnpike has contracted to have 110 miles of fiber optic cable installed along the paved shoulder of the NE Extension to support the current open road tolling initiative.
- Selene George contacted the borough regarding storm water runoff repairs and lakefront restoration on their property.
- Luzerne County Recycling Office has cancelled all fall tire collections for 2020 due to the COVID epidemic.
- Atlantic Broadband sent a copy of their residential customer notification that due to enhancements, additions, and changes there will be an increase for services.
- The Borough received emails from Greg Robinson seeking information on the “Unsafe” status of the dam as well as questions concerning funding and tax increases.
- Luzerne County notified the Borough that Penn Lake has been allocated \$4,907.00 to defray the cost of COVID expenses and included an application for reimbursement for these expenses.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

MAYOR – Debra Krysicki– Made a request to all homeowners to inform their guests of the Borough’s rules, regulations, and also policies concerning boats with electric motors. Krysicki relayed residents’ concerns about the obstructed views at the intersections of Lakeview, Horseshoe and Hollenback as well as Lakeview and Terrace. The Mayor requested the trimming of trees and growth obstructing the view. Krysicki also reported that teens from White Haven Poconos have been riding quads around the beach area and lake. She asked residents to call 911 immediately to report these incidents.

POLICE – Mayor Krysicki stated the Borough received 24.9 hours of service for July. Thirty-four minutes of service was for several incidences including an animal call, 2 traffic violations, a neighbor dispute, and one harassment.

SOLICITOR – Jack Dean – The Resolution for a tax increase is drafted as well as the ballot question. The Borough has the option to extend the face value of taxes, and should consider the option only if Luzerne County also extends the face value.

ZONING – No permits were issued for July, one notice was sent for a violation of the sign ordinance. Not available for the June meeting were the following permits that were issued: lot 486-487 on Woodland for new construction, lot 251 on Lakeview for new construction, 1472 Lakeview for an accessory structure, and 49 Hollenback for an addition. Two notices of violation of the nuisance ordinance were issued.

ENGINEERING – Rogan – Nothing

DAM- Rogan – Will continue in Unfinished Business.

RECREATION– Kuter – Addressed in Unfinished Business.

LAKE MANAGEMENT - Rosenstock – Sent notices that water testing results are very good and the bladderwort treatment was completed and effective. Kuter requested that testing results are posted on the bulletin boards.

GOOSE ABATEMENT – Kuter – A few resident geese are still present.

RTK/RECORDS –Burden – Nothing to Report.

ROADS –Longmore –25mph signs are in place and a 20mph sign was added on the Hollenback and Horseshoe intersection. Bushes were trimmed at both entrances to

Horseshoe. Police will place 3 sets of lines on Hollenback to enforce speed limit. Kuter suggested an additional 25mph sign at the entrance to Hollenback. Council President Rogan sealed two pothole patches on Horseshoe with tar and chips.

SEWER –Rogan – The Borough ordered a 6 pack of grinder pumps with COSTARS pricing from Sites Specific. Tom Hughes has requested to hook up to Penn Lake’s sewer system from the S turn on White Haven Road. Hughes may face issues to be addressed with PennDot. A **Motion** was made by Rogan, 2nd by Longmore to allow Hughes to connect to the Penn Lake sewer system.

Roll Call: Rogan, Longmore, Kuter, and Burden all in favor, none opposed.

Motion carried.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Road Repairs / Paving- Shiffer Bituminous repaired areas on Lakeview damaged by a cement truck involved in new construction.

Spraying – The lake was treated for bladderwort.

DCNR and ADA Grants - Rosenstock sent notice that due to Engineer Totino’s server being compromised with ransomware, the projected timelines for both the DCED and DCNR projects may have to be adjusted.

Gaming Grant 2020 - Nothing to Report.

Electronic Recycling Event – The event will take place on August 15th from 10 AM until 1 PM at the Ballpark.

COVID 19 – The Borough was notified that Council Meetings can continue indefinitely with the virtual format. A **Motion** was made by Longmore, 2nd by Kuter to extend the State of Emergency for 30 days.

Roll Call: Rogan, Longmore, Kuter, and Burden all in favor, none opposed.

Motion carried.

Borough Credit Card – An account has been set up and cards were issued to Rogan and Kuter. Council members in need of the account can contact Kuter or Rogan.

Dam -

- Garret Flemming, consulting with Borton Lawson, made a presentation mid-July and was seeking input from the Dam Advisory Group for final presentation to DEP. The lowest cost solution was to widen the spillway, fix the conduit valve, and fortify dam structure at an approximate cost of 1.9 million, not including legal and financing fees, a coffer dam, a ford, land acquisition and easements. A 3 million dollar debt was an appropriate number based on the estimate.
- The Dam Advisory Group will circulate info in a timely and thorough manner for the September 3rd meeting scheduled for 6:30 PM at the ballfield.
- A meeting with DEP is scheduled for August 19th at the White Haven Library to review solutions and supply information on a consent agreement.
- A **Motion** was made by Rogan, 2nd by Kuter to adopt Resolution 19 allowing the Borough to incur an electoral debt to fund up to 3 million dollars for dam repairs and to allow the question to be posted on the November ballot.

Roll Call: Rogan, Longmore, Kuter, and Burden all in favor, none opposed.

Motion carried.

The millage rate for 2021 will be passed with a December Resolution.

- Longmore's research concluded that 51% of tax revenue is from non-lakefront properties and offered suggestions to improve lake access to non-lakefront residents.
- Funding to date – Penn Vest will not fund dam repairs. Attorney Dean spoke with FSNL in Reading and results were not encouraging. Contact made with Lisa Baker, Mike Carroll, Pat Toomey, Bob Casey, and Matt Cartwright were not encouraging or non-responsive. A FEMA Grant, H2O PA, for High Hazard Dam Funding is possible. Contact with Mau Chunk Trust resulted in possibility of grants or low interest funding. Another Fiscal Year 2020 Grant for Rehabilitation of High Hazard Dams has been applied for.

NEW BUSINESS:

Short Term Rental- A **Motion** was made by Longmore, 2nd by Burden to decrease permit fee for Short Term Rentals to 750.00 and to adopt the Short Term Rental Ordinance.

Roll Call: Rogan, Kuter, Longmore, and Burden all in favor, none opposed.

Motion carried. A **Motion** was made by Rogan, 2nd by Kuter to advertise the Short Term Rental Ordinance.

Roll Call: Rogan, Kuter, Longmore, and Burden all in favor, none opposed.

Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT- Josey Soriano inquired about the procedure necessary to install a stop sign at the corner of Lakeview and Hollenback. Council Vice President Kuter will investigate the matter. Longmore will monitor traffic around the intersections of Terrace and Lakeview and the intersections of Lakeview, Horseshoe, and Hollenback to determine whether a four-way stop is merited. Kristen Fisher inquired as to the number of Short Term Rental Properties in the Borough and whether invoices will be sent to all the properties. Attorney Dean explained that the first year permit fees for 2020 will be pro-rated, and notices will be sent out to all renters in January.

A **Motion** to adjourn was made by Kuter, 2nd by Burden.

Roll Call: Rogan, Longmore, Kuter, and Burden all in favor, none opposed.

Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 8:40 pm.

The next meeting will be held on September 10th, at 7:00 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen Burden, Secretary