

March 12, 2020

PENN LAKE PARK BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING

The Penn Lake Park Borough March Council meeting was held in the Penn Lake Park Community House. Council President Paul Rogan called the meeting to order at approximately 7:28 pm with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag followed by a statement that the meeting is being recorded by the Secretary and residents of the Borough.

ROLL CALL: Mayor Debra Krysicki, Council President Paul Rogan, Council members Shaun Kuter, Jill Rosenstock, David Longmore, and John Burden were present.

MINUTES:

Minutes from the February meeting were distributed to council and copies were placed on display. The copies will be recorded as the official minutes. A **Motion** to accept the

February Council minutes was made by Kuter, 2nd by Burden.

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

RECEIPTS/BILLS:

A **Motion** was made by Kuter, 2nd by Rosenstock to pay the bills of \$20,191.45 and to accept the receipts of \$28,953.78. An additional receipt of \$11,300.00 was presented.

Roll Call: Longmore, Rosenstock, Kuter, Burden all ayes, Rogan abstained from Line 9, all other aye.

Motion carried.

PETITIONS OR COMPLAINTS: None

CORRESPONDENCE:

- DEP sent information and a reminder that the PA Emergency Management Agency has been transitioning Dam Emergency Action Plans to electronic format and offered dates, times, and locations for their workshops.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

MAYOR – Debra Krysicki– Reminded drivers to slow down. Noncompliance of the speed limit will result in a ticket. The Mayor asked the volunteers who had adopted street signs to clean up the area around the sign post. Krysicki will give \$20.00 to those adopting a sign and noted this year's flowers should be red, white, and blue for the August Jubilee in honor of the fallen but not forgotten and all veterans.

POLICE – No Report.

SOLICITOR – No Report

ZONING – No Permits

ENGINEERING–Rogan – Nothing to Report

DAM- Rogan – Nothing to Report

RECREATION–Kuter – Commented that work at the playground should begin soon.

LAKE MANAGEMENT- Rosenstock – Has been researching a new agent, Clipper, to deal with the bladder wort and advised all watercraft coming from other water resources be cleaned, drained, and dried. New invasive species are present in nearby waters.

GOOSE ABATEMENT- Kuter- The geese and swans have been moved along.

RTK/RECORDS –Burden – No new requests. The four previous RTKs have been satisfied.

ROADS –Longmore – Pothole marking will begin soon.

SEWER –Rogan – The letter circulated to residents concerning a water rate increase did not pertain to borough residents. A sewer hookup application was received from the DeBenedettos. An inquiry from a builder was received; however the property was in arrears and no action will be taken until the delinquency is satisfied. A nearby business, Weasels, inquired about the possibility of connecting to the borough’s sewer system. Council President Paul Rogan requested the following statement be read into the borough minutes.

Addressing issues about sewage detailed in the February minutes approved this evening...

A primary responsibility of a borough council is to provide, bill for, and collect for municipal services. Sewer service is one of the most important service provided by the Penn Lake. Sewage service is provided and billed by Aqua Pennsylvania on behalf of Penn Lake. It’s important to note that Aqua ***is not responsible*** for collections. The responsibility for collections rests solely on Penn Lake Boro Council.

I have worked with Aqua for 6 years to ensure that the monthly bills for sewage service and the annual bills for lot availability charges are complete and accurate. The records are not perfect, but they are substantially improved. We continue to reconcile Aqua billing to the county tax records to prevent properties and associated billing from “falling thru the cracks”.

We believe Aqua’s bills are extremely accurate. Indeed, if they were wrong or inaccurate, the customer would most assuredly contest them with Aqua.

The boro uses Aqua’s “Accounts Receivable” reports to send out 3 delinquency notices. The customer has many months to respond to and correct billing issues during the dunning process. If a customer makes reasonable attempts to satisfy delinquency, dunning stops, otherwise, to protect the boro, liens are filed. To date, the filing of liens has been effective in getting the boro paid for delinquent accounts. In addition, Aqua has been instructed to contact the boro before doing repairs on delinquent accounts. We feel it is not in the best interest of the boro to replace \$2000 pumps for customers who are not paying their bill.

Penn Lake Park Borough is currently pursuing collections with confidence and integrity, in an even handed and impartial manner. Anyone wanting to discuss this topic further, Please call Paul Rogan at 570-956-9784.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

ADA Grant – Nothing to report.

Gaming Grant 2019 – The 2019 Grant has been closed out.

Gaming Grant 2020- Nothing to report.

Short Term Rentals – Continued to April meeting
Borough Web Site – Nothing to report.

NEW BUSINESS:

Lawn Care- A **Motion** was made by Rogan, 2nd by Longmore to advertise for Lawn Care for 2020.

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

Postcards- A **Motion** was made by Rogan, 2nd by Rosenstock to spend up to \$120.00 for postcards and stamps to inform residents that the borough has changed the process for billing trash collections for 2020. The trash fee of \$195.00 was included on the Property Tax Bill.

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

White Haven Ambulance- George Wood informed the borough that the White Haven Ambulance remains in operation; however, staffing is an issue. The annual subscription drive will begin in April. They are looking for volunteers and partnering with other ambulance services for the present. At this time, the White Haven Ambulance can provide basic life support and transportation.

DCNR – Will give the borough \$25,000.00, approximately half of the grant money, on the condition that a separate interest bearing account is set up to receive the sum.

PUBLIC COMMENT- A resident at 1635 Lakeview Dr. suggested a review of the Zoning Laws regarding setbacks. Another resident expressed concern over water being pumped out of the dam area resulting from the AQUA water main replacement.

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

Roll Call all in favor, all ayes, none opposed. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 8:02 pm.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Karen Burden, Secretary