

MEETING OF THE MOUNT PENN BOROUGH COUNCIL
September 26, 2023

The Mount Penn Borough Council met in a Business Meeting on September 26, 2023. President Goodman brought the meeting to order at 7:30PM and led the Pledge of Allegiance. Responding to roll call were, President Troy Goodman and Council Members: Rick Lombardo, Roger Stief, Christine Dise and Michael Kindlick. Also in attendance were Mayor Ryan Maurer, Solicitor Tom Klonis, Engineer Ty Leinneweber, Christeena Hauck, and Crystal Johnson.

IV. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION:

- A. St Lawrence Borough Councilmember's Mike Fritz and Warren Lubenow addressed Council regarding the grant for the shared garage. Mr. Fritz expressed St Lawrence Borough's willingness to move forward with the joint project and apologized for the time delay. Mr. Lubenow expressed his appreciation for the great cooperation between the two communities and his hope for that to continue. Discussion continued regarding the pros and cons of both sites for the proposed building, the joint municipal agreement that will need to be approved by both solicitors and staying on budget for the project. St Lawrence's solicitor will be compiling a list of talking points. A meeting with Mt Penn and St Lawrence Street Committees and both road crew staff will be held at St Lawrence Borough on Monday, October 16, 2023, at 6:30PM.
- B. Jennifer Lopez, 2413 Cumberland Ave expressed her frustration regarding Antietam School District's lack of respect for resident parking and asked for Council's help. The lot at 23rd and Perkiomen Ave was leased by the district for teacher/student parking. The lot is not being utilized by the teachers or students; they are parking on the streets of the community instead. She has been in touch with the superintendent who was unwilling to help and suggested she approached Council for permit parking.
- C. Billie Jean Buckland, 2318 Grant St also expressed concern regarding the school district paying \$18,000 to lease a lot containing 33 spaces that remain empty. She has been emailing the school board photos of the parking situation. She will share her timestamped photos with Council.

A letter will be sent from the Zoning Officer imploring the district to have the employees utilize the provided parking lot. The district has applied for Zoning relief. The hearing is scheduled for November 15, 2023. Mr. Klonis will also reach out to Attorney Bolland to inform him of the parking situation.

- D. Bill Howze, 1404 Friedensburg Rd asked Council to consider the school board a rogue board who are making decisions and taking actions without the proper steps. He implored Borough Council and Lower Alsace Board of Supervisors to stop the school board from destroying both communities with tax increases.

V. ENGINEERING-Ty Leinneweber

1. A letter from the Zoning Officer regarding the Special Exception of the School District was sent to Borough Council, the Zoning Hearing Board, Dr. Rochlin and Brian Bolland
2. 2451 Fairview Ave pool violation-the pool has been removed, however, the fence remains. Follow-up necessary.
3. The ADA ramp locations have been marked. Construction is set to begin on October 9, 2023. Tuan Doung made the motion for the Engineer to check the forms prior to the concrete being poured, seconded by Rick Lombardo. The motion carried unanimously. Intermittent inspections will be done by STE.
4. The CMS documents for the 2023 paving project are complete and have been approved by both the Engineer and the Solicitor.
5. The Local Share Accounts grant application needs to be submitted by 11/30/23. The project will be reconstruction of a few streets. Dave Okonski will meet with Ty Leinneweber to begin the application process. The residents will need to do their curbs prior to the street reconstruction as part of this project.
6. A list of questions was received from contractors for the trash bid.

VI. ACTION ITEMS FOR APPROVAL

1. **Minutes:** Motioned by Roger Stief, seconded by Rick Lombardo to approve the July 25, 2023 and the August 29, 2023 Business Meeting Minutes. The motion carried unanimously.
2. **Finance Report-**Motioned by Rick Lombardo, seconded by Mike Kindlick to approve the August and September Treasurer's Report. The motion carried unanimously.
3. **Payment of Bills:** Motioned by Rick Lombardo, seconded by Christine Dise to approve payment of bills presented. The motion carried unanimously.
4. **Meeting Secretary:** Motioned by Rick Lombardo, seconded by Roger Stief to pay Christeena Hauck for meeting time and minute preparation. The motion carried unanimously.
5. **Merger Meeting-** Motioned by Rick Lombardo, seconded by Roger Stief to attend the merger meeting along with Solicitor Klonis on November 1, 2023 at 6:30 PM, at Mt Penn Primary Center. The motion carried unanimously.
6. **ONBOARD -**Motioned by Rick Lombardo, seconded by Rodger Stief to discontinue the ONBOARD program. The motion carried unanimously.
7. **Meeting Change-**Motion by Christine Dise to advertise the change of the October meetings to: October 17, 2023 Workshop Meeting at 7:30 and October 24, 2023 Business Meeting at 7:30 PM, seconded by Mike Kindlick. The motion carried unanimously.

VII. LIASION REPORTS

- A. **Fire Company** (Rick Lombardo) -No Report
- B. **MPBMA**- No Report
- C. **AVMA** (Troy Goodman)- There is a vacancy on the board. Roger Stief is interested.
- D. **Planning Commission** (James Cocuzza)-No Report
- E. **Police Commission** (Ryan Maurer)-Rick Lombardo made the motion to appoint James Cocuzza to fill the vacancy on the Police Commission, seconded by Tuan Doung. The motion unanimously.
- F.

VIII. COUNCIL PRESIDENT REPORTS (Troy Goodman)

- A. **Resolution # 22-23**-participation in DCED's Strategic Management Planning Program Grant in an amount of 10% of the program not to exceed \$7,000.00. Motioned by Tuan Doung, seconded by Christine Dise. The motion carried unanimously.

IX. COMMITTEE REPORTS

- A. **Streets** (Dave Okonski)
 - 1. The leaf box is installed and ready for leaf pick-up to begin.
 - 2. Working on the preparation for the Block Party.
 - 3. More information on the no left turn onto Cumberland Ave from N. 23rd St will be provided to PennDOT.
 - 4. Mount Penn Primary Center Traffic needs a better solution during arrival and departure. Endlich is completely blocked. This is dangerous in an emergency. The district needs to do a traffic study. Tom Klonis will talk to Brian Bolland.
- B. **Parks and Buildings** (Troy Goodman, Tuan Duong)
 - 1. The meeting room door is finished.
 - 2. Rekeying of the building is complete.
 - 3. Panic buttons installed.
- C. **Solid Waste and Public Utilities** (Christine Dise, Tuan Duong)
 - 1. Bids due next month.
- D. **Insurance/ Pension** (James Cocuzza)-
 - 1. Mr. Goodman is working on the MMO. State aid was received.
- E. **Personnel** (Roger Steif)-
 - 1. Crystal Johnson was introduced to the Board.
 - 2. Roger Stief expressed his appreciation for the great job Elva Luz is doing with the rental and property inspection programs.
 - 3. Albright Center for Excellence will be working to help hire a Borough Manager.
- F. **Codes** (Rick Lombardo)-No Report.
- G. **Finance** (Troy Goodman, Roger Steif, Ryan Maurer)
 - 1. The accounting program is in the process of being corrected and transactions being brought up to date.
 - 2. Albright Center for Excellence will be helping with the budget.

X. OTHER REPORTS

- A. **Mayor** (Ryan Maurer)-No Report.
- B. **Police Report** (Chief Serafin)- No Report.
- C. **Solicitor** (Tom Klonis)-No Report.
- D. **Secretary**-No Report.

XI. ORDINANCES-None.

XII. RESOLUTIONS-None

XII. OLD BUSINESS

1. **Block Party**-Roger Stief reported 25th St will be closed from Cumberland Ave to Endlich Ave and Filbert Ave will be closed from Carsonia Ave to 25th St on September 30th for the block party. Notices will be distributed to the residents affected.
2. Rick Lombardo reported he is getting pricing for iPad and Laptops. Laptops will cost less. More information at the next meeting.
3. Mike Kindlick will work on getting the old website removed.
4. Mike Kindlick and Ryan Maurer will investigate hiring an intern for the office for 2024. A salary will be included in the 2024 budget.

XIV. NEW BUSINESS-None.

XV. EXECUTIVE SESSION-None.

XVI. ADJOURNMENT

Roger Stief made the motion for adjournment at 9:24 PM, seconded by Rick Lombardo. The motion carried unanimously.

The next Business Meeting is scheduled for Tuesday October 24, 2023, at 7:30 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
Christeena Hauck