

HARVEYS LAKE BOROUGH
Luzerne County

Virtual Council Meeting Minutes
July 21, 2020

President Boice welcomed everyone, called the meeting to order at 5:05 and led the Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call: Mayor Samson - present Councilmember Kehler - present
President Boice - present Councilmember Flack - present
Vice President Hilburt - present Councilmember Hogan - absent
Councilmember Blaine - present Solicitor Bufalino - present
Councilmember Kelly - present
Quorum established

Opportunity for Citizens to be heard – Residents were invited to send in questions and concerns by email to be heard at this meeting or to join the virtual meeting on Zoom.

Alice Frantz – Requested that the borough look into the safety of a shooting range.

Bruce Hanson – Sent an email to thank the council for letting him speak about the right of way at the rowing club. The case came to court and it was ruled that he did not have a right of way. Although he lost the case, he wanted to express his gratitude to the council.

****Minutes of Previous Meeting** – Councilmember Flack made a motion to waive the reading and accept the Minutes of the Regular Council Meeting on June 16, 2020. Vice President Hilburt seconded it, and the motion passed.

Reports from Appointed Officials and Special Committees

Roads: Vice President Hilburt gave the Roads Report. (attached).

Zoning: Vice President Hilburt gave the Zoning Report. (attached).

Finance Report: President Boice read the finance report (attached).

Grants: Fred Lubnow reported to President Boice on the state of the Lake. He will test the lake water on Monday, July 27. He reported that The Growing Greener Grant has not been awarded yet. Water clarity is 5-6 feet and Hydrilla has been spotted near the State Boat Launch.

****Motion to Accept Reports** was made Vice President Hilburt and Seconded by Councilman Flack. Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

Sewer Board Appointment – Brandon Harris sent a letter of intent that he would like to be considered for the vacancy on the Sewer Board created with the passing of Joe Sgarlet. Councilmember Flack made a motion to appoint him to the board and Vice President Hilburt seconded it. A roll call vote was taken and except for an abstention by President Boice, the motion passed unanimously.

****Resolution for Berkheimer** – Council member Kehler made a motion to adopt a resolution allowing Borough Secretary, Irene Sankey, to interface with Berkheimer as a representative of the borough. Attorney Buffalino asked the public attending if they had any objections, and there were none. Council member Blaine seconded the motion and it passed.

****Motion to Waive Amusement Tax for 2020** – A motion was made by Council member Dan Blaine to waive the customary fee for mechanical devices in local bars and restaurants, as a show of support for local businesses. These businesses have been closed or made to reduce occupancy by the Covid-19 pandemic. The motion was seconded by Council member Flack and the motion passed. Zoning Officer, Maureen Oremus will send out a letter informing the businesses of Council’s decision.

Old Business

Comcast Franchise Agreement – Comcast called the borough office and offered a five year contract rather than the customary 10 year one. Attorney Buffalino will arrange for a call with a Franchise Agreement specialist, Dan Cohen to inform the board of the advantages of hiring a firm to negotiate our contract with Comcast. It was agreed to have a virtual meeting with him in executive session before the August council meeting.

****Motion to pay the bills from June** – Council member Kehler made a motion to pay the bills from June of \$148,195.08. Councilmember Blaine seconded it and the motion carried.

Next meeting Tuesday, August 18, 2020 – Executive Session 4:30 and Regular Council Meeting 5pm

****Motion to Adjourn** – Councilmember Kehler made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 5:40 pm and Vice President Hilburt seconded it. The motion passed. Council members were advised to stay with Zoom for an executive session following the regular meeting.

The Harveys Lake Borough Council met in executive session from 5:45 pm to 5:58 pm.