**New Buffalo Borough Meeting Minutes**

**May 9, 2011**

**Call to Order**

President Ted Engle called the meeting of New Buffalo Borough Council to order at 7:35 p.m. on May 9, 2011 in the New Buffalo United Methodist Church.

**Roll Call**

Present were council members: Ted Engle, Dave Lesher, Dale Peterson, and John Johnson.

The following persons were also present: Janice Crouse, Helen Freet, Karen Ersoz, Dave Sweetland, Jim Kello, Sally Lesher, Mike Holler, Dan Balthaser, Martha Lung, and Kraig Nace, Duncannon EMS.

**Reading of last month’s minutes**

The minutes from April 11, 2011 were read with corrections made. Upon motion of Dale Peterson, seconded by Dave Lesher, the minutes were approved as corrected.

**Comments From Visitors**

Kraig Nace, Duncannon EMS Chief, presented to the Borough the order of response for Advanced Life Support (ALS) for each municipality. The responsibility for the Borough to choose their EMS provider lies directly with each municipality and not a county decision. Kraig explained that the current Medic Response set up is the best and most efficient for Perry County. He asked that we submit the paper he provided to the contacts at the county that the Borough would like to keep the current EMS schedule. Secretary will do this. Kraig also explained that in 2010 the Borough had only 11 uses of the Duncannon EMS service, this was out of approximately 1100 calls.

Upon motion of Dale Peterson, seconded by John Johnson, the order of response was adopted by Borough.

Ted Engle thanked Mike Holler for the stump on the square being ground down. Mike did this at his own expense and the Borough appreciates his willingness to help. Ted also thanked Ted Crouse for putting on the website the information pertaining to the yard crew from Gutelius starting the yard fix ups this week.

**Treasurer’s Report**

Upon motion of Dale Peterson, seconded by John Johnson, the Treasurer’s Report was approved as presented.

**Unfinished Business**

**Sewage/Sewage Authority Report**

Jim Kello stated that Borough needs approximately $250,000.00 to pay off LOC with Orrstown. That is his first objective to obtain the funds to do this. We should receive approximately $190, 210.23 from PV-H2O-DCED which will go to pay down the LOC, that leaves the Borough with a difference of approximately $56,971.11 that Borough will need to secure funding for until around December 2011, at that time Jim is confident we will receive more grant monies in this amount to pay this loan off.

Jim is working with PennVest for a $21,000.00 encumbrance. There will also be approximately $5,006.00 left over from DCED which will go to paying off the LOC.

The LOC from Orrstown matures on June 3, 2011; PennVest does not meet again until July. Jim suggested Borough obtain a low interest short term loan (either 6 or 12 months) to carry us so that we can pay off the LOC. Council does not want to continue to spend the fees necessary to modify the loan with Orrstown. Ted Engle feels that it will be cheaper and more beneficial for the Borough to get a new loan with a new institution than to refinance with Orrstown.

Jim feels we would end up needing anywhere from $33,000.00 to $54,000.00, he will not know until he is able to meet with PennVest in July. Council will have a special meeting May 19th in the Church at 8 am, after Ted Engle obtains information from other Banks to see what our options are.

Dan Balthaser wanted to know if we actually need to obtain a new loan after all the issues of missed laterals and other things he feels is Sweetland Engineering’s fault. Dan stated he feels that as a small Borough we are very fortunate to receive the many monies we have but also feels that the bid received from SEI was inaccurate and the Borough should not pay for these extra costs. Dan feels the water issue should have been in the original bid, he also feels that the Borough asked SEI for a detailed explanation of all fees and that the Borough never received this. Dave Sweetland responded that SEI did supply the Borough with a detailed report.

Jim Kello stated that he has been involved in numerous projects such as ours in his career and that to fund out a project rarely happens. He cannot do his job without a good engineering firm and he choose to work with SEI because of their good track record. He also stated that the overages the Borough incurred due to the laterals have been funded thru DCED – we have the money from that Grant to cover these expenses. Jim also pointed out that some issues of money were not the fault of SEI, but the fact that we had so many legal and bank fees. He stated that he understands the Borough’s concerns and respects the hesitation on some residents. This is a public project that the residents own – it is their system. At the same time he feels that the service from SEI is very good when compared with numerous other projects he has been involved in of this size, and he would work with them again.

Ted Engle asked for authorization to pursue information on getting a short term loan in the amount of $60,000.00 from a local bank. This is just to investigate terms. Borough Council will then meet on May 19th at 8:00 am in the Church to go over and decide if we want to stay with Orrstown or go with another local bank. Dale Peterson made the motion, and Dave Lesher seconded it. None opposed.

Board needed to approve outstanding bill for SEI in the amount of $27,395.90. Motion to approve submission of bills so that we can get monies in for them, made by Dale Peterson, seconded by John Johnson. None opposed.

Jim is also pursuing $71,000.00 for tap fees. He will submit this request in two parts. County can at least fund $33,000.00 if not the whole $71,000.00. This grant will be awarded in 2012.

Jim stated that New Buffalo Borough is better off as far as receiving funds than he had first anticipated.

Dale Peterson asked Dave Sweetland if the Borough can get credit for the properties that are already restored as the property restoration is in the retainage we owe Gutelius. Dave will check with Ron on this.

Dale Peterson stated that the well issue for the plant we are able to have Adam Pavusik do this as it will be cost efficient for the Borough, he will check with Adam to get costs.

The Borough owes Gutelius approximately $65,250.00 in retainage fees, most likely get the final bill for that the end of May. Ron Senior will come down as little as possible to help us keep his fees to a minimum. This will depend on the number of complaints etc.

The Borough needs to get an operator trained for the plant, Skelly and Loy is to do the training while they are here. Someone will need to be found very soon.

**PCCOG**

Nothing to report

**Beautification Committee**

The stump in the middle of town was ground down. Ted Engle will contact the Girl Scouts to see about helping to finish the area around the bulletin board and we can use the ground up stump as mulch.

**Street Committee**

Dale Peterson and Mike Holler will research to see if there is a way we can take off the macadam and leave the concrete alone, with patching up any major holes. The concrete seems to be in good shape and is lasting longer than the macadam. Mike Holler will check on making repairs with a friend of his.

**Refuse Coordinator**

Dale Peterson stated that CCD did not remove the trash from the rental house. He will place a call to them to remind them to pick up.

**Playground**

There seems to be a lot of older children hanging out at the playground. They are older children such as the Stines and Kendall. These children are smoking and just hanging out, and basically to old for the playground. Ted will look into seeing if we can arrange for them to be caught in the act and handle the situation from there.

**Ordinance Violations**

Ordinance #02-2011 – Act 32 – Tabled.

Ordinance #01-2011 – Dan Balthaser has the paperwork and has not had time to review. Mike Holler looked over the paperwork and stated that most of the zoning did not apply to the Borough; he passed this information onto Ted Crouse. All three will coordinate a meeting to go over the materials.

Numerous trash, cars, Wiltsie, square, yards not being mowed, etc.

Ted will attempt to speak to these individuals. After lawns are fixed by Gutelius, Ted Engle

will send out letters and if that does not work, file ordinance violation with DJ.

Letter sent to Borough stating that there is a large truck that regularly parks on 22 Front Street blocking traffic both on Front Street and the Alley way. Dan Balthaser stated he would talk to Joe Kistler about his tenant blocking the street. Ted Engle stated that this vehicle could park in the public parking in the square. This may be an issue for emergency vehicles not getting through. If it continues Borough may have to contact the owner of the rig and inform them of the violation.

**Barriers – Along Front Street**

Ted Engle stated that there is a product called Sim Tek that is a vinyl wall that we could possibly put along Front Street. Ted will research further and get back to the Council on this. Dan Balthaser suggested Borough finds out if there are programs or resources available and if there are any reports that could back up the noise and stress of 11/15. Dan asked if there was an agency that fights for resident’s rights concerning the quality of life and how the noise pollution affects the residents of New Buffalo. Karen Ersoz suggested borough contact Ron Brown to pick his brain; Ted Engle stated he would do this. Borough could also write a letter to PennDot.

**Rental**

Dale Peterson stated he needs to get back down the rental house to see the project and what needs to be completed. Insulation will need to be done.

**New Business**

Drop Box for Sewer Payments was discussed. Perhaps to go on the outside of the Sewer Plant so that residents can drop off payments at all times without incurring the cost of stamps. Dan Balthaser stated he would check on this – see if Hershock’s has something the Borough can purchase.

Ted Engle will check with Brockly’s to make sure that he is not mowing every week.

Secretary will check and see if there is any way that the Borough is able to pay the auditor more monies. State law states auditors for municipalities only get paid $10.00 an hour for their services. Also secretary verified that the Borough should have always been taking taxes out of the auditors pay. This was never done but was this year.

Dan Balthaser stated that the water issue on the 40 Front Street and 40 Mill Street is flooding his rental property and asked when it will be fixed. Secretary informed all that there is an underground spring issue that the owner is desperately trying to correct. Ted Engle stated that he would speak to Mr. Raudensky the next day to see if a resolution can be reached.

**Bills**

Upon motion of Dale Peterson, seconded by Dave Lesher the bill list was approved for payment.

**Adjourn**

Upon motion of Dale Peterson, seconded by Dave Lesher, council adjourned at 10:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Patricia A Raudensky Bierma

Secretary/Treasurer