

Borough of Susquehanna Depot
Minutes June 8, 2016

Present: John Hendrickson, Barbara Larsen, Dana Rockwell, Roy Williams, Joseph Varsik and Deborah Zayas

Absent: Susan Crawford

Also Present: Margaret Biegert, Mayor Nancy Hurley

Guests: Keri Wilder, Staci Wilson, Emerson Whitehead,

MOTION: By Barbara Larsen seconded by Deborah Zayas to approve the agenda. All present voted yes. Motion carried.

MOTION: By Roy Williams seconded by John Hendrickson to approve the minutes of May 11, 2016 as amended. All present voted yes. Motion carried.

MOTION: By Dana Rockwell seconded by Roy Williams to pay Freddy's Refuse \$471.84 for a dumpster from the balance of funds from the community board.

MOTION: By Roy Williams seconded by John Hendrickson to reschedule and advertise July's meeting to July 6, 2016. All present voted yes. Motion carried.

MOTION: By Roy Williams seconded by Deb Zayas to allocate \$6,000.00 of the Parks & Rec capital reserve budget Towards underground PVC material for electrical wiring after DEP digs trench.

MOTION: By Roy Williams seconded by John Hendrickson to advertise to rebid the camera system using the same specifications for the July 6, 2016 meeting.

Joe Varsik opened the meeting at 6:00 PM. Council approved the agenda and minutes of May 11, 2016.

Public Comment.

Mr. Whitehead mentioned that he had a family of foxes in his yard this year.

DPW:

Council reviewed a report submitted by Kevin McKee. Councilmen Williams is working on a committee for regional transportation. He updated council on 2016 Penn Dot projects including the Hallstead exit ramp, Route 92 from Lenox to Gibson and combined PAWC/Pen dot project on Turnpike which will consist of paving, ditch, sidewalks. Penn Dot will continue paving route 92 into the borough in 2017 after the slide project is complete. He advised council that the DPW department assisted a church group of 12-15 people who volunteered to pick up litter on E. Main St from Susquehanna to Lanesboro. They provide traffic control, distributed vests, gloves and picked up garbage. Twenty one bags of garbage were added to the dumpster that was already full from the last volunteer clean up. Mr. Williams pointed out that beyond the cost of the garbage; it is also costing in DPW man hours and taking them away from their duties. He expressed his concerns for the littering problem, as DPW starts each morning picking up trash throughout the town.

Secretary/Treasurer

Council approved the bill list as presented. Council reviewed the Treasurer's report. The Treasurer advised council that the bill for the dumpster was \$471.84 and suggested using the extra funds allotted for the community board as the dumpster was not in the budget. Councilmen Rockwell would like to see money for a dumpster budgeted next year.

Margaret advised council that the web-site has been updated with everything but the business list. She updated council on several economic developments meeting she and Councilmen Williams attended and the progress of Hometown Days and the 5-K race. She and Roy Williams had met with DEP regarding the river front park. DEP has agreed to dig a trench for the electric and fencing in lieu of the borough adding a two foot burm for the entire length of the park. This may be done prior to the grant being awarded. If so the borough would have to pay for the conduit with a cost of approximately \$6,000. She asked council to consider this expense as roughly \$30,000 has been budgeted for the park. If the grant is not approved, the area will be ready for the borough to add electricity rather than the additional the cost of adding burm. Council agreed. She asked council to consider moving the July's meeting to July 6th as she on vacation. Council agreed.

Mayor's Report

The Mayor reported 40 incidents and read a letter from the Lyon's Club thanking the police department for their assistance with a clean-up project on Franklin Ave. Staci Wilson added thanks to Officer Sweet for his assistance to her mother during a recent incident.

Emergency Management:

None. Have a safe and happy summer

Codes

Roy presented council with 3 bids for the removal of several large dying trees in the borough's right away. Council had questioned if the clearing and chipping services that were included with the various bids. Roy will contact the contractors for clarification. Barbara Larsen asked about tree debris on the sidewalk on Laurel Ave. where the tree was taken down by the owner. Councilmen Williams advised council that three blighted structures have been taken down this year. Two others are expected to go bid within the next month and three additional should be complete by the end of July. All 8 blighted removal projects are at no cost to the borough. He has issued 37 citations of \$50.00 for residents not cutting grass.

Old Business

Councilmen Williams had contacted Penn Dot about the proposed site location for the community board. They advised a permit for the location would be a lengthy and difficult process with a probable negative outcome, as Penn Dot would likely deem it a distraction. Council noted other communities and businesses that have put them up without permission. After a number of alternative locations were discussed, Councilmen Williams agreed to investigate a location near the Shop's Plaza and the original location.

Council discussed the need to officially vote to advertise a bid for a camera system. There was a lengthy discussion that included the original advertisement, the need for the system and the type of equipment be considering. Council voted to advertise to bid a camera system using the same specifications previously advertised.

Council went into executive session at 7:25 PM to discuss a legal issue

Council Reconvened at 8:42 PM

Meeting adjourned at 8:43 PM