

Lafin Borough Council Mtg.

August 13, 2019

6:00 P.M.

MEETING MINUTES

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER and PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG RECITED.

Roll Call:

Present: Anthony D'Eliseo, Vice President – Carl Yastremski – Lisa Natt – Thomas Parry
Mayor Maureen Zavislak (arrived later in the meeting) –
Junior Councilmember Matthew D'Elia

Absent: Paul Benderavich, President

Also Present: Solicitor Samuel Sanguedolce, Esq. and Charles Boyd, Borough Manager

Special Presentations: None

Minutes: July 9, 2019 and Special Mtg. August 6, 2019 Meeting

Mr. D'Eliseo asked if everyone any questions or comments. Asked for a motion to approve the minutes.

Motion to Approve: Lisa Natt

Second: Thomas Parry

Roll Call:

Carl Yastremski abstained to July 9, 2019 minutes due to meeting absence.

Ayes carried and motion passed

Treasurer's Report:

Mr. D'Eliseo asked for a motion to accept the report.

Motion to Accept: Thomas Parry

Second: Lisa Natt

Roll Call:

Ayes were unanimous and motion passed.

List of Bills for Approval:

Mr. D'Eliseo asked if anyone had any questions or comments then asked for a motion to approve the bills.

\$ 34,903.98 plus payroll \$ 8,463.63.

Motion to Approve: Lisa Natt

Second: Thomas Parry

Roll Call:

Councilman D'Eliseo abstained on CVI invoice due to employment relationship.

Ayes carried and motion passed.

Correspondences (e-mailed to Council during the month): No discussion.

Reports: Fire report was emailed to Council. No discussion.

Manager's Report –

Mr. Boyd reported on the front door security access installation. He noted the system was installed by Acme Lock and is working fine.

Mr. Boyd reported on the overhead garage doors for the fire bays and noted both doors have been completed for sensors and timers by F&L Garage Doors Inc. The doors will auto-reverse if either the infrared sensors or pressure sensors are tripped. Both doors have 3-minute auto-shut timers that are activated in case the firemen forget to shut the doors when responding to an emergency call.

A plaque was received from John Lepore in memory of Michael Lepore to be installed on a bench at the Creekside Park walking track. A \$750.00 donation for park maintenance did accompanied the plaque. This was approved at a council meeting last year.

Mr. Boyd advised meeting attendees on a write-up and picture of Junior Council Person Matthew D'Elia in the Pennsylvania State Association of Boroughs state-wide magazine. This article was regarding his recent Distinguished Junior Council Person award from the PSAB. The article was displayed for everyone.

Jerome Patelunas property Final Default court hearing is scheduled for August 15, 2019 at 10 o'clock in the morning. Many prior attempts to schedule this meeting have been cancelled or rescheduled. This would be the last court hearing before demolition can be completed by Laflin Borough.

Mr. Boyd advised that both the CFA Multimodal grant and Greenways, Trail & Recreation grant will have award announcements in mid-September. Laflin Borough has two pending grant applications for paving of Oakwood/Fordham Road and for the basketball court fencing.

A letter received from Michael Murphy regarding the purchase cancellation of 60 Oakwood and non-return of his deposit was presented to council for reconsideration. Mr. Murphy thanked council for cancelling the purchase agreement but hoped council would reconsider the vote to retain his \$1,000.00 deposit. Some discussion continued on the actual expenses incurred by cancelling.

Mr. Boyd advised that the new traffic signal light at the Oblates of St. Joseph on Rt. 315 was put-out-to-bid by PennDOT with Latona Trucking submitting the low bid of \$1.5 million, Krieger \$1.75 million and American Asphalt was over \$2 million. However, it was noted that Latona Trucking failed to meet the 51% self-performance requirement and the bid was disqualified. The project will be rebid and, more than likely, started in the spring. Some discussions took place.

Mayor's Report –

Mayor Zavislak reported on the number of calls to Laflin Borough by the Pennsylvania State Police noting that 11 calls were responded to in town and 12 incidents on I81. Nothing major happened in July.

Motion to Approve Reports: Lisa Natt

Second: Thomas Parry

Roll Call:

Ayes were unanimous and motion passed.

Unfinished Business:

A) 60 Oakwood Drive Property Rebid Advertisement –

Councilman D’Eliseo asked what everyone’s opinion was for setting the rebid amount for 60 Oakwood Drive after the prior purchase bid was rescinded. Some discussions took place on a new minimum bid amount; what the effect of the three children passing away had on the property value; the appraisal of \$48,000.00 and the use of a Realtor to sell the property.

Councilman Parry suggested re-advertising the lot with a minimum bid amount of \$30,000.00.

Mr. D’Eliseo asked for a motion to approve and advertise a new minimum bid of \$30,000.00 for the 60 Oakwood lot.

Motion to Approve: Thomas Parry

Second: Lisa Natt

Roll Call:

Paul Benderavich Absent

Anthony D’Eliseo Yes

Lisa Natt Yes

Thomas Parry Yes

Carl Yastremski Yes

Motion passed.

B) Vincent Kasa Pole Barn / Salt Shed Land Purchase –

Since Mr. Boyd did not have any communications with Chris Kasa nor Vince Kasa after several attempts, Mr. D’Eliseo asked for a motion to table the issue.

Motion to Table: Lisa Natt

Second: Thomas Parry

Roll Call:

Ayes were unanimous and motion passed.

New Business:

A) Roadway Crack Sealing Work –

U.S. Seal, Inc. (Don Zurenda) Bid Proposal

Mr. D’Eliseo asked for a motion to table until next meeting where more information can be gathered.

Motion to Table: Thomas Parry

Second: Lisa Natt

Roll Call:

Ayes were unanimous and motion passed.

Public Comments:

Thomas Richards, 116 Cedarwood Drive – asked for information on what is being done with the property at 129 Cedarwood Drive. He noted the cars speeding up and down the street and garbage around the outside of the house with 7 or 8 people living in the home as being a problem.

Mr. Boyd responded that the borough code enforcement officer has sent letters to the tenants and the landlord regarding the condition of the property and the junked cars on the street. The grass height does not meet code and some of the vehicles lack license plates.

Stanley Karkut, 41 Laurelwood Drive – asked about the status of the Janet Moll property at 38 Laurelwood Drive and how much is owed in back taxes. Some discussions took place of the demolition cost of \$12,500.00, the amount of back taxes owed and the upcoming free & clear tax sale.

Other Non-Agenda Items:

Councilwoman Lisa Natt – asked if council should address the email from Michael Murphy on the return, or partial return, of his deposit after he cancelled his offer to purchase 60 Oakwood Drive.

Solicitor Sanguedolce Esq. was unaware of the recent email received by the borough from Mr. Murphy and asked if the deposit was refundable or non-refundable. Mr. Boyd responded to say that Bruce Phillips, Esq. reviewed the request in the past and noted the borough doesn't have any obligation to refund the deposit.

Some discussions followed with Solicitor Sanguedolce indicating he will look into the situation with Atty. Phillips. If he believes it is unclear on whether the deposit is refundable or not after speaking with Attorney Phillips, then the borough can consider carrying out an accounting of actual expenses incurred and vote again on whether to refund partially or not.

Executive Session: NONE

Adjournment: Motion to adjourn at 6:28pm.

Motion: Lisa Natt

Second: Thomas Parry

The motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,
Charles Boyd, Borough Manager
Laflin Borough