

Lafin Borough Council Mtg.
February 12, 2019
6:00 P.M.

MEETING MINUTES

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

Roll Call:

Present: Paul Benderavich, President – Anthony D’Eliseo, Vice President – Carl Yastremski – Lisa Natt – Thomas Parry – Mayor Maureen Zavislak – Junior Councilmember Matthew D’Elia

Also Present: Charles Boyd, Borough Manager and Jessica Pleskach, Esq. (substitute for solicitor)

Special Presentations: None

Minutes: January 8, 2019 Meeting

Mr. Benderavich asked for a motion to approve the prior month’s meeting minutes.

Motion to Approve: Thomas Parry

Second: Anthony D’Eliseo

Roll Call:

Lisa Natt abstained due to absence at prior meeting.

Ayes carried and motion passed.

Treasurer’s Report:

Mr. Benderavich asked for a motion to accept the report.

Motion to Accept: Carl Yastremski

Second: Lisa Natt

Roll Call:

Ayes were unanimous and motion passed.

List of Bills for Approval:

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

\$ 40,076.57 plus payroll \$ 8,341.52

Motion to Approve: Lisa Natt

Second: Thomas Parry

Roll Call:

Anthony 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 reminded elected officials that are running for re-election to pick-up their nominating packets at the Luzerne Co. Bureau of Elections and all elected officials are reminded to complete the state financial ethics form to be filed at the borough office. Forms were distributed to all elected officials prior to the meeting.

Mr. Boyd asked for an opinion on the need for a sewer reconnection fee for the new home under construction at 22 Main Street. Since a home that was previously connected to the sewer main line was removed from the property, should another reconnection fee be charged to the property? Council advised to review with Jerry Loftus the borough sewage enforcement officer for his opinion on charging for the sewer reconnection inspection only.

It was announced that the Laflin Borough website now has monthly meeting agendas and meeting minutes uploaded for the public to view.

Mr. Boyd discussed the catch basin at 28 Old Mill Road that is in need of repair. WVSA Stormwater Division was contacted and a request for repairs submitted.

The state 2019-2020 Costar bulk road salt contract was completed for a quantity of 300 tons.

Mr. Boyd advised the sewer maintenance and trash collection invoices will be mailed within the next few days to borough residents.

MS4 Stormwater Report –

Mr. Boyd noted two stormwater meetings were held at the Wyoming Valley Sanitary Authority. The first meeting was held for public comments on January 31, 2019 and the second meeting was a Steering Committee meeting for municipal representatives on February 7, 2019. A change in the tier 3 rates for residents will be instituted. Mr. Boyd posted the rate change on the public social media site Nextdoor Laflin for residents.

Mr. Benderavich asked for a motion to allow for Mr. Boyd to solicit repair bids for the catch basin at 28 Old Mill Road in the event WVSA is unable or unwilling to complete the repairs.

Motion: Anthony D'Eliseo

Second: Thomas Parry

Roll Call:

Ayes were unanimous and motion passed.

Mayor's Report –

Mayor Zavislak reviewed the Pennsylvania State Police responses to Laflin Borough during the month of January and noted 21 calls to the borough and 20 separate calls on 181.

During the recent Laflin Borough Crime Watch meeting a block party was discussed for the month of October. It was proposed to be an Oktoberfest and Halloween themed block party. Mayor Zavislak will discuss with the borough insurance carrier the need for a special events policy.

The community yard sale date will be finalized in the near future.

Crime Watch Report –

Chairman Paul Zavislak noted a recent discussion he had with Captain Morocco and Trooper Richards of the Pennsylvania State Police on possible preventative measures that can be taken to help address and reduce the problems that occurred last summer at the borough basketball court and parking lot area.

Chairman Paul Zavislak provided information on the Kangaroo front door motion sensor system. A federal grant could be available to help cover the system cost if provided to the residents. Mr. Zavislak will provide more information on the product as it becomes available.

Grant Report –

Councilwoman Natt presented information on the Multimodal Transportation Fund grant and noted it is now open for applications until July 31st. A Greenway Trails and Recreation Program grant is now open for application up to \$250,000. with a 15% match. This grant was previously talked about for basketball court fencing. The application is open from February 1st until May 31st. Ms. Natt is looking into Penn East Pipeline for the availability of their grant for 2019. She did not find anything to indicate if this grant is still available. It was noted the borough applied for shade tree funding in 2018.

Some discussions took place on the Vincent Kasa property transfer offer to the borough for the old railway property in lower Laflin and the potential use for rails to trails grant funding. It was noted that a small section of the former railway property in question could present a problem since it is now in the name of another property owner.

Motion to Approve Reports: Carl Yastremski

Second: Anthony D’Eliseo

Roll Call:

Ayes were unanimous and motion passed.

Unfinished Business:

A) Moll 38 Laurelwood Property Demolition Bid Proposals –

Company	Base Bid
Stell Enterprises, Inc	\$12,900.00
Brdaric Excavating	\$15,000.00
Mountain-Valley Services LLC	\$19,621.43
Bear Owen Paving Co.	\$26,000.00
Latona Trucking, Inc.	\$28,570.00
Bluestone Environmental Inc.	\$43,968.00

Mr. Benderavich asked for a motion to approve the lower bidder Stell Enterprises, Inc. at \$12,900.00.

Motion to Approve: Lisa Natt

Second: Anthony D’Eliseo

Roll Call:

Paul Benderavich Yes

Anthony D’Eliseo Yes

Lisa Natt Yes

Thomas Parry Yes

Carl Yastremski Yes

Motion passed.

New Business:

A) Wells Fargo Bank Community & Urban Stabilization Program (CUSP) –
Bellanca 60 Oakwood Drive Property

Mr. Benderavich noted a conversation he had with the listing broker who indicated the property was appraised at \$65,000. but that the bank would probably take \$50,000.00 for the property. Mr. Benderavich contacted Andrew Holter to further investigate the property purchase price.

Andrew Holter reached out to Wells Fargo Bank that he was aware had the CUSP program and explained the situation and history of the property to the bank. He was able to get the bank to donate the property free and clear to the borough. Much discussion took place of the various issues.

Mr. Benderavich asked for a motion to approve the CUSP and authorize Paul Benderavich and Anthony D'Eliseo to sign documents.

Motion to Approve: Carl Yastremski

Second: Anthony D'Eliseo

Roll Call:

Paul Benderavich Yes

Anthony D'Eliseo Yes

Lisa Natt Yes

Thomas Parry Yes

Carl Yastremski Yes

Motion passed.

B) Bellanca 60 Oakwood Drive Property Demo Specs & Advertisement –

Mr. Benderavich asked for a motion to approve preparing demolition specifications and advertising for bids.

Motion to Approve: Carl Yastremski

Second: Lisa Natt

Roll Call:

Paul Benderavich Yes

Anthony D'Eliseo Yes

Lisa Natt Yes

Thomas Parry Yes

Carl Yastremski Yes

Motion passed.

C) Sewer Direct Connection Minor Modification Component 3M –

Mr. Benderavich asked for a motion to approve the sewer planning module as prepared by Jerry Loftus, Pennoni Associates for submission to DEP. This sewer module would allow for the approval from DEP to continue with the elimination of the remaining septic tank by direct connection of the sewer line.

Motion to Approve the Sewer Planning Module: Thomas Parry
Second: Anthony D'Eliseo

Roll Call:

Paul Benderavich	<u>Yes</u>
Anthony D'Eliseo	<u>Yes</u>
Lisa Natt	<u>Yes</u>
Thomas Parry	<u>Yes</u>
Carl Yastremski	<u>Yes</u>

Motion passed.

D) Hire Part-time Fire Driver –

Joseph A. Kelly

Mr. Benderavich asked for a motion to approve the hiring of Joseph Kelly as part-time fire driver contingent on a favorable motor vehicle report.

Motion to Approve: Lisa Natt

Second: Thomas Parry

Roll Call:

Paul Benderavich	<u>Yes</u>
Anthony D'Eliseo	<u>Yes</u>
Lisa Natt	<u>Yes</u>
Thomas Parry	<u>Yes</u>
Carl Yastremski	<u>Yes</u>

Motion passed.

E) Ford F550 2010 Plow Truck w/Plow –

Mr. Benderavich asked for a motion to advertise for sell the 2010 F550 plow truck and transfer providing the new truck is in service and working properly.

Motion to Approve: Thomas Parry

Second: Lisa Natt

Roll Call:

Paul Benderavich	<u>Yes</u>
Anthony D'Eliseo	<u>Yes</u>
Lisa Natt	<u>Yes</u>
Thomas Parry	<u>Yes</u>
Carl Yastremski	<u>Yes</u>

Motion passed.

Unfinished Business (continued):

B) 2019 Commercial Liability Insurance Package Renewal Bid Proposals –

Assured Partners of Northeast PA

Joseph J. Joyce Insurance Group

Mr. Benderavich asked if anyone had any questions or comments on the insurance proposals presented.

Councilwoman Natt asked if the proposals are comparable to the current insurance policies. Mr. Benderavich answered in the affirmative.

Mr. Boyd asked Tyler Salerno from Assured Partners to explain the worker's compensation coverage limits and the possibility of increasing the limits to allow the general liability umbrella to cover over the worker's compensation policy. Mr. Salerno and Mr. Bartoli explained the options the borough has on increasing the limits. The cost to increase the limits will be provided to Mr. Boyd for discussion at the next borough council meeting.

Mr. Joyce of Joyce Insurance Group did not attend the meeting.

Mr. Benderavich asked for a motion to approve the Assured Partners of Northeast PA proposal.

Motion to Approve: Carl Yastremski

Second: Thomas Parry

Roll Call:

Paul Benderavich Yes

Anthony D'Eliseo Yes

Lisa Natt Yes

Thomas Parry Yes

Carl Yastremski Yes

Motion passed.

Public Comments: None

Executive Session: None

Adjournment: Motion to adjourn at 6:34 pm.

Motion: Anthony D'Eliseo

Second: Thomas Parry

The motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,
Charles Boyd, Borough Manager
Laflin Borough