

Lafin Borough Council Meeting

July 14, 2020

6:00 P.M.

MEETING MINUTES

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

Roll Call:

Present: Carl Yastremski, Vice President – Anthony D’Eliseo – Matthew D’Elia – Kyle Costello – Mayor William Kennedy

Absent: Paul Benderavich, Council President

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

Special Presentations: None

Minutes: June 9, 2020 Meeting

Mr. Yastremski asked if everyone reviewed the meeting minutes and if anyone had any questions or comments. Asked for a motion to approve the meeting minutes.

Motion to Approve: Matthew D’Elia

Second: Kyle Costello

Roll Call:

Ayes were unanimous and motion passed.

Treasurer’s Report:

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

Motion to Accept: Anthony D’Eliseo

Second: Matthew D’Elia

Roll Call:

Ayes were unanimous and motion passed.

List of Bills for Approval:

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

\$ 195,297.44 plus payroll \$ 7,080.61.

Motion to Approve: Kyle Costello

Second: Anthony D’Eliseo

Roll Call:

Councilman D’Eliseo abstained on the CVI invoice due to employment.

Ayes carried and motion passed.

Some discussion occurred on paying the Tax Anticipation Loan (TAN) which will be due in December. Mr. Yastremski recommended waiting until December since the borough still needs to pay for the road paving project and there is uncertainty on the timing and amount of the earned income tax receipts.

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

Reports:

State Police and Laflin Volunteer Fire Dept. reports were emailed to councilmembers. No discussions.

Manager's Report –

Mr. Boyd asked councilmembers if they had any questions regarding the numerous emails sent on the proposed gas line expansion in the borough by Williams Transco. He noted the pipeline construction work will not start until late 2021 or 2022. Currently field surveying and investigation work is under way to determine the route.

A letter sent by J.P. Mascaro & Sons that was posted to the borough website and Nextdoor Laflin that was regarding collection problems was reviewed and discussed. Councilman D'Eliseo responded to say the company has been pretty good on collections. Mr. Boyd noted only recently they had to push recycling collections back a day or two but overall the company has performed well.

Mr. Boyd reported on a meeting he had with Rusty Taft, New Enterprise Stone & Lime regarding the increased truck traffic on Laflin Road. The company is running loads for PennDOT at overnight hours and the noise and speed is an issue with residents. They are at the directives of PennDOT when it comes to the timing of the requested loads. All their trucks have GPS for monitoring speeds.

It was noted that the land transactions were completed for the Vince Kasa pole barn property and Bartoli land except for possibly a few signatures on the Bartoli / Lupas side.

Mayor's Report – None

Mr. Yastremski asked for a motion to accept the reports.

Motion to Accept Reports: Anthony D'Eliseo

Second: Matthew D'Elia

Roll Call:

Ayes were unanimous and motion passed.

Unfinished Business:

A) Hire Fulltime Maintenance / Fire Driver Position –

Jared Aigeldinger (current part-time fire driver / maintenance worker)

Gregory Rhodes

Richard Dunstan

Mr. Boyd spoke about the three (3) job interviews completed by Mayor Kennedy and himself for the applicants. The interviews went well and all three applicants were good candidates for the position. One applicant had a salary requirement too high for the position advertised but the other two applicants could possibly meet what the borough sets as a yearly salary.

Mr. Yastremski talked about the possible salary requirements and stated the current budget has \$25,600.00 for the part-time fire drivers. In past meetings, some discussions spoke on the possibility of increasing to \$30,000.00 for a qualified full-time maintenance / fire driver.

After much discussion on calculating paid time off, holidays, lack of health care and working hours with lunch breaks, Mr. Yastremski asked for a motion to set the terms of the full-time fire driver/maintenance position at:

\$30,000.00 annual salary

Ten (10) days paid time off (PTO). Five (5) for 2020. No carry-over days. Non-accrued.

Seven (7) paid holidays (major holidays plus Veterans Day).

No health care, no pension, no uniform allowance and no benefits.

8am to 4pm working hours with ½ hour paid working lunch. Monday to Friday.

Reports to Borough Manager and Council President.

At will employee.

Motion to Approve: Anthony D'Eliseo

Second: Kyle Costello

Roll Call:

Paul Benderavich Absent

Kyle Costello Yes

Matthew D'Elia Yes

Anthony D'Eliseo Yes

Carl Yastremski Yes

Motion passed.

Mayor Kennedy and Mr. Boyd both recommended that Jared Aigeldinger be hired for the full-time position based on the interviews completed and current borough work experience. Jared Aigeldinger does possess a current EMT certificate.

Mr. Yastremski asked for a motion to hire Jared Aigeldinger as full-time maintenance/ fire driver.

Motion to Hire: Anthony D'Eliseo

Second: Kyle Costello

Roll Call:

Paul Benderavich Absent

Kyle Costello Yes

Matthew D'Elia Yes

Anthony D'Eliseo Yes

Carl Yastremski Yes

Motion passed.

B) Sprucewood Drive Curb Replacement Proposal –

Don E. Bower – \$24,570.75 for both sides of Sprucewood Drive

Mr. Yastremski noted the proposed cost came in higher than expected from the contractor that will complete work on Manchester Drive under a different project. It was thought that since the contractor is already in

town for other work that the curb replacement would come in at a much lower price. Mr. Yastremski asked for a motion to reject all bids.

Motion: Anthony D'Eliseo

Second: Matthew D'Elia

Roll Call:

Paul Benderavich Absent

Kyle Costello Yes

Matthew D'Elia Yes

Anthony D'Eliseo Yes

Carl Yastremski Yes

Motion passed.

New Business:

A) Garbage Bid Specifications for New 2021 Contract –

Mr. Yastremski brought to the attention of councilmembers the expiring garbage contract and expressed the need to put it out-to-bid. What was done in the past was to bid the contract under current specifications with recycling included and to also bid without recycling. Mr. Yastremski believes the cost will increase based on what is being seen in other municipalities.

Mr. Yastremski asked for a motion to put the contract out-to-bid under the existing arrangement that has six (6) bags per week with one white good at the first collection of every month with recycling and a separate request without recycling included.

Motion to Approve: Anthony D'Eliseo

Second: Kyle Costello

Roll Call:

Paul Benderavich Absent

Kyle Costello Yes

Matthew D'Elia Yes

Anthony D'Eliseo Yes

Carl Yastremski Yes

Motion passed.

B) Power Washing Proposals for Borough Properties –

PJs Window Cleaning Inc. \$3,000.00

Advanced Power Wash, LLC \$3,200.00

After a review of the proposals presented to hire a contractor to pressure wash areas of the borough parks, Mr. D'Eliseo proposed looking into buying a pressure washer for the maintenance employee to do the work. A water buffalo would need to be included with the purchase since water is not available at Creekside Park. Much discussion took place. Kyle Costello will look into pressure washer and water buffalo costs as a purchase option.

Mr. D'Eliseo made a motion to reject the power washing bid proposals until purchase options are examined.

Motion: Anthony D'Eliseo

Second: Matthew D'Elia

Roll Call:

Paul Benderavich Absent

Kyle Costello Yes

Matthew D'Elia Yes

Anthony D'Eliseo Yes

Carl Yastremski Yes

Motion passed.

C) Borough Building Closure & Library Curbside Pickup Plan due to COVID-19 Virus –
Borough Building Interior Window Estimates

Mr. Yastremski spoke on the library plan to lend books during the current library closure and referenced a proposed plan emailed to councilmembers prior to the meeting to utilize curbside book pick-up. Currently, patrons don't have access to the library books. The library is proposing to have books picked up on a table outside the front door during library hours. Patrons can call in and request books to be picked up without entering the building. Books can be returned to the outside book return.

Since no problems or complaints have been made on the current building shutdown, Mr. Yastremski proposed keeping it in place until December 31st. Mr. D'Eliseo commented that, in his travels for work, he has seen most borough buildings shutdown as he is out and about. Mr. Boyd noted that the front door access system with intercom was a timely installment and has worked well for visitors to the borough building during the pandemic lockdown.

Mr. Yastremski discussed a payment office window within the borough building to reduce access to the borough office but still allow residents to conduct business within the building. After some discussion, Mr. Yastremski asked for a motion to approve an office window installation up to \$2,500.00.

Motion to Approve: Anthony D'Eliseo

Second: Kyle Costello

Roll Call:

Paul Benderavich Absent

Kyle Costello Yes

Matthew D'Elia Yes

Anthony D'Eliseo Yes

Carl Yastremski Yes

Motion passed.

Mr. Yastremski asked for a motion to continue the borough operations as-is with the door locked and, due to the COVID-19, no entrance into the building by non-employees until December 31, 2020.

Motion to Approve: Anthony D'Eliseo
Second: Matthew D'Elia

Roll Call:

Paul Benderavich	<u>Absent</u>
Kyle Costello	<u>Yes</u>
Matthew D'Elia	<u>Yes</u>
Anthony D'Eliseo	<u>Yes</u>
Carl Yastremski	<u>Yes</u>

Motion passed.

Mr. Yastremski asked for a motion to authorize the library to do curbside book pickup as outlined above. Currently, no books are being lent out and this would be a benefit to the community.

Motion to Approve: Matthew D'Elia
Second: Anthony D'Eliseo

Roll Call:

Paul Benderavich	<u>Absent</u>
Kyle Costello	<u>Yes</u>
Matthew D'Elia	<u>Yes</u>
Anthony D'Eliseo	<u>Yes</u>
Carl Yastremski	<u>Yes</u>

Motion passed.

D) Equipment Purchase Planning –
Grants

Some discussions took place on purchasing a loader for use at the new borough salt shed building. No decisions were finalized.

E) Creekside Park Ballfield Erosion Problem –

Mr. Boyd commented on the erosion occurring at the ballfield stormwater ditch area. Pictures were sent to councilmembers by email prior to the meeting and Mr. Boyd met with the borough engineer to discuss solutions. The water is coming off the ballfield area that is pitched toward the drainage ditch. Joe Mullen (not present) believes that the dirt erosion needs to be cleaned up by excavating out the area to regrade and add no. 3 rock to solve the issues according to Mr. Boyd.

Mr. Boyd noted a second issue in the same area that occurred within a few weeks of the council meeting. A water main break on Main Street caused much damage to the roadside, park access road and the drainage ditch on the opposite side of the access road. Mr. Boyd is trying to get Pennsylvania American Water Co. (PAWC) to make repairs. This would involve adding rock to the opposite side ditch, cleaning the culvert pipe under the access road and, possibly, repaving a section of the access road. The water company would need to come back to mill and repave the road cut at the water main break and could use their equipment to make the said repairs. However, they would not be responsible for the erosion that happened prior to the water main break in the adjacent area.

Mr. Yastremski asked for a motion to approve up to \$5,000.00 to correct the borough erosion problem at the ditch area.

Motion to Approve: Kyle Costello

Second: Matthew D’Elia

Roll Call:

- Paul Benderavich Absent
- Kyle Costello Yes
- Matthew D’Elia Yes
- Anthony D’Eliseo Absent (left meeting early)
- Carl Yastremski Yes

Motion passed.

Public Comments: None

Executive Session: None

Adjournment: Motion to adjourn at 6:56pm.

Motion: Matthew D’Elia

Second: Kyle Costello

The motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,
Charles Boyd, Borough Manager
Laflin Borough