



CONNOQUENESSING BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING

May 3, 2016

The public meeting of the Borough Council of Connoquenessing was called to order at 9:10 pm at the Connoquenessing Borough building.

Those present were Council members Lloyd Leslie, Ronald Kaufman, Francis Smith, Dave Hilliard and Mayor Harold Rader.

Also present were Pat Gauselmann, Lou Zimmerman, Daniel Cox, Mittie Kaufman, Tom Hilliard, Marcia Sack, Mike Zippler, Linda and Len Schoettker, Tom Thompson, and Vickie Forbes.

Thompson reviewed the Leslie Farms Tentative Plan Revision No. 2 Variance for Phases 2 through 8:

- Section 1104.2.A: Allow 93 lots < 12,500 sq. ft.
- Allow the percentage of homes ≤17,500 square feet to be 86% (185 units) compared to a maximum of 40%
- Allow lots greater than 17,000 square feet to be 13% (27 units) compared to a minimum of 60%.

The Borough has the right to adjust the above numbers based on stormwater management facilities on lots for Phases 2 through 8.

Hilliard motioned, Pete seconded to grant the modification. Motion passed.

Dan Cox, President of the Connoquenessing Fire Company, stated that there has been discussion with the Evans City Fire Department to determine the feasibility of merging the two fire departments. On April 12, 2016, the Connoquenessing Fire Department voted to proceed with these discussions. A representative from Council was requested to attend a meeting on May 19, 2016, at 7 pm. Lou Zimmerman provided additional information and stated that many fire departments in the area are merging due to fewer volunteers and funding.

Emergency Management Coordinator

Dan Cox stated he had attended several training sessions at Butler County. Both Connoquenessing and Forward Townships are acting on appointing their own Emergency Management Coordinators. He also stated that he will be attending the 2016 PEMA Emergency Management Conference in Seven Springs on May 14-18.

Linda Schoettker informed Council about a recent gas line explosion.

Marsha Sack reiterated the hazards of pipelines and suggested taking action to prevent future gas and oil development.

Sewage Plant Update

Bocci provided information stating the Plant was in normal operation mode.

Hilliard motioned, Smith seconded, to approve the meeting minutes of April 5, 2016. Motion passed.

Smith motioned, Kaufman seconded, to accept the submitted March 2016 Treasurer’s Report. Motion passed.

Smith motioned, Hilliard seconded, to approve the bills as submitted. Motion passed.

OLD BUSINESS:

Code Enforcement/Zoning

Pat Gauselmann reviewed the services he is capable of providing. He stated that he had made observations of the properties involved with the complaint submitted at the May meeting and indicated that the ordinances were more than adequate to deal effectively with the complaints. He suggested taking action initially on one or two of the complaints but requested guidance from Council as to which to start with and to what degree he should proceed with enforcement. Discussion included converting the Complaint Form to a form called “Request for Investigation” which could include a fee for filing the form to offset the expense of investigation and enforcement. Discussion also included the need to develop a better system to address zoning issues in the Borough, including but not limited to inspections for all new structures, driveways, stormwater issues. Gauselmann had submitted a form to be used for these issues for review by Council. Fees would need to be determined associated with this zoning application. Procedures would have to be revised pertaining to applications for building permits. Council agreed to review information and table until the June meeting.

1206 Evans City Road – Sewage Tap-Rental Property

Inspection that was to take place was not done due to illness and was to be rescheduled.



Kaufman questioned if the state had contacted the Borough regarding the water issue at the intersection of Main Street and Route 68. Two contacts had been made to PennDOT, and the Borough was waiting for information from them.

Park Grant – Butler County Parks and Recreation

The grant was awarded to the Borough to improve the walking trail in the Park. The award amounts to \$7,500 with a match of \$2,500 from the Borough. The grant can also be used as leverage funding when seeking the DCNR grant.

Recycling/Cleanup Day

Kaufman will provide transportation for the work detail provided by the Butler County Prison. The event will take place at the Forward Township location, Saturday, May 7, 2016, from 8 am to 1 pm.

NEW BUSINESS:

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Fire: No Report

Law and Order: No Report

Streets: The Street Committee met with Dick Knapko, PennDot, to identify the work to be done on South Main Street. This work will be advertised in the Butler Eagle and bids will be opened at the June meeting.

Zoning/Planning: No Report

Borough Building: No Report

Park: Smith reported that the tree creating a safety issue in the Park would be removed tomorrow.

Sewage Financial: No Report

Hilliard motioned, Smith seconded at 10:10 pm to adjourn the meeting. Motion passed.

Respectfully submitted,

Vickie L. Forbes

Vickie L. Forbes
Borough Secretary/Treasurer