



## **CONNOQUENESSING BOROUGH**

**November 2, 2015**

The public meeting of the Borough Council of Connoquenessing was called to order at 7:30 pm at the Connoquenessing Borough building.

Those present were Council members Lloyd Leslie, Pete Kaufman, Mitch Leech, Francis Smith, Steve Miller, and Mayor Harold Rader.

Also present were Dave Bocci, Linda and Len Schoettker, Karen Diehl, Marcia and Joel Sack, and Vickie Forbes.

Linda Schoettker spoke to comparing the health risks of falling trees and fracking.

Karen Diehl of Diehl Accounting reviewed details of performing the annual audit as an “Agreed upon Procedure” for the Borough. She indicated that the Pier Review Board would give permission to conduct the “Agreed upon Procedure” as described by the Auditor’s Guide provided by the DCED. She stated that she had performed this audit for Franklin Township in the past.

### **Sewage Plant Update**

Dave Bocci stated that because of the favorable weather, they had begun bagging sludge again. He stated that he had done tap inspections for a patio home in Leslie Farms.

Kaufman motioned, Miller seconded, to approve the meeting minutes of October 6, 2015. Motion passed.

Smith motioned, Miller seconded, to accept the submitted September 2015 Treasurer’s Report. Motion passed.

Miller motioned, Leech seconded, to approve the bills as submitted. Motion passed.

### **OLD BUSINESS:**

#### Complaint - 242 Constitution Avenue

Council reviewed the information sent to the property owner by the Solicitor. The property owner stated that she was working on cleaning up and making repairs to the property. She indicated that she would continue to make progress as long as the weather permitted and requested additional time to do so. Council indicated that they would allow time as long as progress was being made.

#### Audit for 2015

Miller motioned, Kaufman seconded to authorize the preparation and advertising of an ordinance by the Solicitor allowing a change from elected auditors to an independent auditor. Motion passed.

Four auditing firms were contacted to provide costs to prepare the 2015 audit. Two responses were received. Miller motioned, Leech seconded to accept the Diehl proposal to complete the Borough audit for 2015. Motion passed.

#### Bonded Streets - Repairs

Discussion on repairs to Borough streets before removing bond.

#### Leaf Collection/Bagging System

The Borough tractor was taken to Turner Tractor for assembly of the leaf collection system. A time will be set up for training instruction.

### **NEW BUSINESS:**

#### Street Lights

A contact was made with Geoffrey Bristow regarding a workshop that he had conducted to inform municipalities about the opportunity to transition to LED street lights thru their electrical suppliers. Bristow did an analysis of the Boroughs street lights and determined that the Borough could realize as much as \$3,900 a year in power savings by converting to LED street lights. The Penn Power representative has been contacted to initiate this change. Information has been provided, and the representative will provide details to continue with the conversion process.



Emergency Management Training

Correspondence from Butler County Department of Emergency Services regarding training for emergency management coordinators was discussed. The Borough's coordinator stated that he would like to be replaced and was investigating other options for representation for the Borough.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

- Fire:** The Halloween Parade was held on Sunday, October 25, 2015.
- Law and Order:** Rader reported that he had been contacted by the State Police as a result of the letter they received from the Borough.
- Streets:** NR
- Zoning/Planning:** The alternate position for the Zoning Hearing Board will be posted at the Post Office.
- Borough Building:** NR
- Park:** Smith reported: Some trees were removed. Upon inspection, additional trees must be removed in 2016 due to liability issues. An eight (8) foot section of one trunk was left standing for carving. Materials were received thru a Park grant to meet safety requirements in the swing area. Work will begin in the next week. Work was done to improve water flow in drainage areas and to reduce drop-offs around the tennis court and shelters. Reflectors were posted to identify drainage areas.
- Bids were reviewed for the electrical project in the Park. Smith motioned, Miller seconded to accept the Slater bid if it meets code and specifications. Motion passed
- Sewage Financial:** No Report
- Code Enforcement:** No Report
- 2016 Budget:** Preliminary budgets for all funds were examined.

At 10:15 pm Leech motioned, Miller seconded to go into executive session to discuss wages. Motion passed.

At 10:30 pm Leech motioned, Miller seconded to come out of executive session. Motion passed.

Leech motioned, Smith seconded to raise the Park Caretaker and Secretary/Treasurers wages by 2% for 2016. Motion passed.

Miller motioned, Leech seconded to advertise the proposed 2016 budget and tax Ordinance 23-16. Motion passed.

Leech motioned, Smith seconded at 10:35 pm to adjourn the meeting. Motion passed.

Respectfully submitted,

Vickie L. Forbes  
Borough Secretary/Treasurer