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CONNOQUENESSING BOROUGH

April 2, 2013

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

Council members present were Lloyd Leslie, Pete Kaufman, Mitch Leech, Francis Smith, Don Clingensmith, and Mayor Harold Rader.

Also present were Dave Bocci, Katie Douthett, Della Marshall, Keith Karns, Anita Galko, Tom Thompson, and Vickie Forbes.

Della Marshall expressed concern about the Vogel trucks speeding on the streets in the Borough. Clingensmith motioned, Francis seconded to send a letter to Vogel requesting a contact be made with the Vogel drivers reviewing the speed limits posted in the Borough. Motion passed.

Sewage Plant Update

Dave Bocci reported a truck will be brought in to clean out the pump station and clean up debris at the Plant. The repairs have been made putting the chart recorder back into operation at the Plant. The Franklin Miller grinder hasn't been working for years and is costly to replace so currently a bar screen is being used to pull sludge. As volume increases, the grinder issue will need to be addressed. Bocci stated he is using his own trash pump to pull sludge which had to be replaced and is part of the equipment he supplies.

Clingensmith motioned, Smith seconded, to accept as presented the March 5, 2013, meeting minutes. Motion passed.

Leech motioned, Kaufman seconded, to accept the submitted February 2013, Treasurer's Report. Motion passed.

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

OLD BUSINESS:

DCNR Recreation and Conservation Grant

Tom Thompson, Borough engineer, reviewed the details of the proposed Trail Project which would begin with the portion of the current trail installed in the Park in 2012, and would continue through the set back area of adjacent properties eventually ending at the Rt 68 at Lloydmont Blvd. intersection. At this intersection there is a dedicated crossing at the traffic signal allowing for a safe pedestrian crossing access. The Joint Comprehensive Plan completed in 2007 established improvements in the Park and supported a trail with a high ranking level of importance. Because the trail enters into Forward Township, it becomes a regional system. The current estimated cost of the project is approximately \$100,000 and the grant would require the Borough to support 20% of the cost of the project. The Borough's 20% match could include cash or services or contributions from individuals or groups. The deadline for application is April 10. Thompson stated that the Borough had succeeded in passing all environmental issues. An inquiry was made requesting any public comment.

Pastor Keith Karnes questioned the type of materials to be used to construct the trail. Thompson stated that the trail would be a gravel surface. Pastor Karnes question liability issues on their portion of the trail. Thompson indicated that the Borough would provide state level insurance which would cover the trail. Signs could be posted by the Borough to close the trail during hunting season. Pastor Karnes stated that he would require a minimal amount of trees taken down for the trail. He also questioned the liability of fallen trees or branches and who would be responsible for maintenance. Thompson indicated that the Borough would maintain the trail, and the trail would navigate around mature trees. Thompson explained that ultimately the Borough would need an easement that would be recorded in the Court



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House. On an interim basis, a non-binding Public Value and Use Form would need to be signed indicating approval and support of the project. The Grant agency will establish the deadlines, and the construction work will be issued through a public bid process and would need to be completed in a specified time frame.

Katie Douthett questioned about donations for benches and also if motorized vehicles would be permitted. Thompson will provide information on a local supplier for bench and garbage can selection. He indicated that motorized vehicles would be prohibited from using the trail and the proper signage would be placed along the trail

Thompson proceeded with reviewing various documents and policies requiring Council's approval to be filed with the application.

Smith motioned, Leech seconded to approve and support the proposed Park Trail project application for grant funding to connect the Park with the traffic light at Rt. 68 and Lloydmont Blvd., as is consistent with the multi-municipality comprehensive plan adopted February 5, 2008. Motion passed unanimously.

Leech motioned, Kaufman seconded to accept the Title VI Nondiscrimination Policy and the Title VII Sexual Harassment Policy. Motion passed.

Leech motioned, Smith seconded to accept and approve the Agricultural Land Preservation Policy, the Certification Page, the Execution of the Grant Agreement Signature Page and the Trail Supplemental Information Form. Motion passed.

Leech motioned, Kaufman seconded to adopt Resolution 2013-05 authorizing the Council President to sign the Grant Agreement Signature Page. Motion passed.

Smith motioned, Leech seconded to approve Tom Thompson as Project Coordinator for all grant applications for the Trail Project. Motion passed.

Street Sweeping

Street sweeping will be done on Tuesday, April 30, 2013. Kaufman stated he would post the 'No Parking' signs. The Street Committee will identify the catch basins that will need to be cleaned.

Attorney Lope – Dry Town

Attorney Lope's response to the inquiry at the March 5, 2013, meeting about changing the "dry town" status, was reviewed by Council.

Recycle/Cleanup Day

Recycle/Cleanup Day will be held Saturday, May 11, 2013, at the Forward Township property. Tires will be taken by Lawrence County PA Greenway. Cost per tire will be \$2, last year the collection fee was \$1. Council discussed increasing the collection fee to \$2. Council discussed the new law prohibiting the collection and disposal of covered electronics in landfills. The Secretary/Treasure is investigating alternatives for collection of these devices.

NEW BUSINESS:

Bronder Technical Service

Clingensmith motioned, Leech seconded, to approve the annual agreement with Bronder Technical Service covering the period of March 1, 2013 to February 28, 2014. Motion passed.



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COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Fire: No Report

Law and Order: No Report

Streets: Leech reported on a complaint from a resident on Dogwood Lane concerning the snow plow damaging grass on his property.

Leslie stated that a drain pipe would need to be installed under the park road at the lower end of the circle. Council agreed to have the work done as part of Park maintenance.

The Secretary/Treasurer reported on a call to the office regarding the road cut on Constitution Avenue near the Schultheis property and on another call regarding the truck traffic on Constitution Avenue.

The Road Committee will inspect all roads and determine what repairs need to be made in 2013.

Zoning/Planning: Clingensmith inquired about whether the new construction on Harmony Street had been cleared of zoning issues. The Secretary/Treasurer indicated they had.

Borough Building: No Report

Park: Clingensmith requested clarification on the comments of the March meeting regarding the Park. Smith indicated that the Boy Scouts along with the Fire Department would be burning the brush pile in April.

Sewage Financial: No Report

Code Enforcement: No Report

Kaufman suggested adding a per capita tax for Borough residents. Council requested more information on per capita tax from the solicitor and tabled discussion until a later meeting.

Clingensmith motioned, Kaufman seconded to adjourn the meeting at 9:25 pm. Motion passed.

Respectfully submitted,

Vickie L. Forbes
Borough Secretary/Treasurer