



CONNOQUENESSING BOROUGH MINUTES

AUGUST 4, 2009

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, Ronald Kaufman, Ryan Graham, Francis Smith, Don Clingensmith, Harold Rader, and Mayor Curt Harter.

Also present were Dave Bocci, Tom Thompson, Frank Spagnolo, and Vickie Forbes.

Frank Spagnolo addressed Council and asked to remove the storm sewer easements from Lots 127-137 as shown on the revised Phase 1 Final of the Leslie Farms PRD. Tom Thompson recommended approval since there wasn't any anticipated impact to the storm sewer collection or retention system based on the requested change for the elimination of the storm sewer easement, storm sewers and inlets from lots 127 through 137 and also the deleting of one inlet, pipe and easement on Lot 125 due to the change from townhouses to patio homes. Graham motioned, Kaufman seconded to accept the revision as per Thompson's recommendation. Motion passed.

Spagnolo stated that the street signs had been ordered and will be installed. Leslie Lane was scheduled to be tar and chipped on July 27, 2009, but was rescheduled because of rain. Smith requested that the sign be removed from the end of Leslie Lane. Clingensmith inquired as to whether the contractors were aware of the days and times the contractors were permitted to work. Spagnolo requested times and days. Leslie questioned the cuts across the road surface. Spagnolo stated that the original crossings were put in for the townhouse layout. When the change was made from townhouses to the patio homes, the requirements changed. Boring was explored but expensive. The open cuts were filled. Thompson explained another final coat of paving is required; and before that is done, the cuts should be given time to settle.

Clingensmith motioned to accept the minutes from the July 7, 2009 meeting. Graham seconded. Motion passed.

The Secretary/Treasurer addressed a question from Clingensmith concerning Landlord Fees. Clingensmith motioned to accept the June 2009 Treasurer's Report as submitted. Smith seconded. Motion passed.

Graham motioned to accept the bills as submitted. Clingensmith seconded. Motion passed.

Sewage Plant

Update: Bocci stated that after testing all components at the Pump Station, he concluded that the rebuilt pump and the other original pump were not working. The rebuilt pump is warranted for a year. Council discussed rebuilding the second pump against the approximate cost of purchasing a new one at \$5,300. Thompson stated that the pumps were over-rated for what they need to do. Clingensmith motioned, and Smith seconded to buy a new pump and to have the rebuilt pump repaired under warranty.



Bocci stated that he had put the stone under the dumpster box to satisfy the comments from the West Nile Virus inspector.

Bocci questioned how he should handle requests from PA One Call to mark lines in Leslie Farms since he does not have the “as built drawings”. The Secretary stated that since the Borough had not adopted the lines in either development, the lines are the responsibility of the Developers. Thompson suggested writing a letter indicating the Borough does not own the facilities and that the Borough will not be marking the lines and that the Developer has the responsibility to mark the lines for his Builders.

Council discussed the posts for the taps in Leslie Farms. Thompson commented that they will be removed to grade and the laterals need to be marked on the “as built” drawings.

OLD BUSINESS:

2009 Community Development Block Grant

The Secretary stated that the Borough had been notified that a survey would be needed to receive the allotted grant monies. The portion of Main Street discussed for sidewalk replacement at the July meeting using the information from the surveys completed in 2005 would qualify for CDBG funding @ 75% LMI. Graham motioned, Smith seconded to replace the sidewalks beginning at Harmony Street and continuing south on the west side of Main Street. Motion passed. Council discussed paving the driveway crossings and types of retaining walls.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Fire: No Report

Law and Order: Mayor Harter discussed vehicles using the Park late in the evening.

Streets: Council discussed the snow removal contract which had been renewed for the past three years. Clingensmith questioned the specifics on the prices for the different categories. The Secretary/Treasurer gave examples of a competitor's pricing from 2006 and also indicated that during the Liquid Fuels audit that the auditor mentioned that they would prefer having contracts rebid each year. Council discussed the cost to the Borough for advertising the bid as well as the possibility of the rates increasing if the contract was rebid. Council directed the Secretary/Treasurer to contact Voelker Paving to see if the contract could be renewed for another year at the current pricing.

Clingensmith commented on unsightly boats/vehicles sitting on Main Street.

Zoning/Planning: Council discussed the vacancies on the Zoning Hearing Board. Mayor Harter suggested Don Clingensmith. Leslie appointed Clingensmith to the Zoning Hearing Board.

Borough Building: Leslie discussed bidding the 2010 Insurance Package for the Borough. The Secretary/Treasurer addressed questions concerning the policy from Clingensmith. Clingensmith motioned and Rader seconded to renew the 2010 Insurance Policy through C. W. Howard Insurance Agency. Motion passed.



Park: Smith reviewed the bids for the improvements to the Park shelter. The Secretary/Treasurer indicated that Gary Pinkerton from Butler County Parks and Recreation requested that the bids be submitted using a uniform bid sheet. Smith and Clingensmith will meet with the Secretary/Treasurer to revise a bid sheet and issue to the current bidders.

The Secretary/Treasurer stated that she had a conversation with Jake Friel and had reviewed the information regarding the use of the baseball field at the Park by the Meridian Boosters. Friel had indicated that he will provide schedules for all games in the future. Council discussed special mowings of the baseball field for games.

Sewage Financial: The Secretary/Treasurer reviewed the Sanitary Sewer Taps purchased and inspected in Leslie Farms and Hidden Springs and addressed questions from Clingensmith about tap fees.

NEW BUSINESS:

Council: Leslie stated he had met with Jim Switzer, and they had looked at the property on Sunset Drive. Switzer stated that he and his crew could do the work but would need an agreement from the property owner that gives permission to do the cleanup and also protects him from liability. A dumpster would also be required to dispose of the trash. Council discussed and decided to create a legal document which would be signed by the homeowner, the Council President and Jim Switzer.

Leslie suggested that during the review of the Fee Schedule for 2010, that Council may want to discuss exceptions for sewage charges such as a water line breaks.

Secretary: Graham motioned, Smith seconded to adopt Resolution 2009-06, the Municipal Records Manual for Records Disposition dated December 16, 2008. Motion passed.

The Secretary/Treasurer summarized information received on HB1858 proposing a 1% sales tax to be split between the County and the municipalities. The ½% which would go to the municipalities would be distributed according to weighted tax revenues and population. Council discussed and elected to review for further discussion.

Beth Knauer will take care of the Halloween Parade, and Trick or Treat will be Saturday, October 31, 2009.

Butler County Boroughs Association Fall Dinner Meeting will be held Thursday, September 17, 2009. Anyone interested, contact the Secretary/Treasurer and she will make the reservation.

The Secretary/Treasurer reviewed the letter received from the Western Land Services, Inc. concerning a possible Oil & Gas Lease on Borough property. Council concurred to have the Secretary/Treasurer contact them and request they attend the next meeting to discuss.

The International Swine Flu Conference to be held August 19-20, 2009, was reviewed.



Clingensmith commented on the information the Secretary/Treasurer had mailed to Council regarding upcoming classes that she would like to attend. Clingensmith motioned, Smith seconded to approve the Secretary/Treasurer's attending of the classes noted. Motion passed.

Graham made the motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:30 pm. Smith seconded. Motion passed.

Respectfully submitted,

Vickie L. Forbes
Borough Secretary/Treasurer