



## **CONNOQUENESSING BOROUGH MINUTES FEBRUARY 3, 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, Ryan Graham, Francis Smith, and Harold Rader.

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

**Sewage Plant Update:** Dave Bocci stated that the plant was running well and the flows were good despite the cold weather. Bocci has been working with Thompson on the Act 537 Plan.

Graham motioned to accept the minutes from the January 6, 2009 meeting. Rader seconded. Motion passed.

Graham motioned to accept the December 2008 Treasurer's Report as submitted. Smith seconded. Motion passed.

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

### **OLD BUSINESS:**

**Sewage** Thompson provided information on how other municipalities handle rate increases. Discussion continued on average monthly billed amounts, average monthly rates of customers from other municipalities, frequency of rate increases, and what portion of tap fees should be set aside for future plant expansion. The group discussed having a plan prepared for possible opportunities to expand, even in segments, and being prepared for possible grants and having the necessary funding to pursue these possible grants.

Leslie questioned the information submitted by Thompson for the Act 537 Sewage Facilities Plan Update suggesting involvement with Connoquenessing Township and Forward Township. Thompson explained that the DEP has mandated on the Act 537 process consideration of a regional approach. Thompson stated that a draft of the plan should be available to be reviewed at the March meeting. There will be a 30-day period for public comment, and then the plan will go to the DEP for review.

**Hidden Springs** Thompson explained the change made to the lot sizes in Hidden Springs and that the square footage did not add up to the total on the original plan. He indicated that the changes did not create issues with ordinance requirements. Smith motioned, Graham seconded to approve the lot line revisions for Hidden Springs contingent on correcting the total square feet or acreage of the plan. Motion passed.

**PAW Shut-Off** The Secretary summarized information concerning the PA American Water Shut-Off Agreement and Attorney Lope's response to that Agreement. Council discussed the Shut-Off Agreement verses the current procedure for pursuing unpaid sewage debt. Leslie requested the Secretary summarize the required steps to be taken to shut off the water. The Secretary will also attempt to get feed back from others using the Pa American Water Agreement.



**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**Fire:** No Report

**Law and Order:** Council discussed an amendment to Ordinance 10 to make a change to the vegetation height restriction on properties zoned agricultural. Council decided to review it and prepare to act on the amendment at the March meeting.

Leslie stated he had talked to an individual about getting the scrap metal at the property at 113 Sunset Drive and the individual indicated he would contact the property owner once the weather improves.

**Streets:** No Report

**Zoning/Planning:** Hidden Springs Plan revision was addressed earlier in the meeting.

**Borough Building:** No Report

**Park:** Council discussed the 2009 Butler County Park Renovation grant application and decided not to make application due to budget limitations.

**Sewage Financial:** Council will further discuss a rate increase next month.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**Council:** Graham motioned, Rader seconded to adopt Resolution 2009-03 – Agreement to Access Penn Dot Systems. Motion passed

**Secretary:** Council discussed becoming a member of the PA Borough Councils Association and elected not to join at this time.

The Secretary explained that according to Howard Insurance Agency and Pennsylvania State Association of Boroughs the amount of bond required for the Secretary/Treasurer is determined by the largest amount of money in the Secretary/Treasurer’s control at any one time. Council determined that the current bond amount of \$15,000 was adequate.

The Secretary stated that Forward Township had responded to Council’s request for a sign on the south end of Main Street indicating the bend in the road ahead. Manor Development will place a sign at this location.

Rader indicated he would attend the meeting of the Butler County Boroughs Association on February 17, 2009.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Vickie L. Forbes  
Borough Secretary/Treasurer