



MINUTES

CONNOQUENESSING BOROUGH

February 4, 2014

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 Len Schoettker, Linda Schoettker, Diane Sipe, Mittie Kaufman, Chad Pakozdi, Kelly Noronha, Cindy Princeler, Don Princeler, Katie Douthett, Della Marshall, Kim Paskorz, Dave Bocci, Alice Miller, Attorney Chris Reese, and Vickie Forbes.

Comments were taken from some of those attending the meeting. Linda Schoettker, Len Schoettker, Kelly Noronha, Alice Miller, and Diane Sipe all expressed safety and health concerns about gas drilling in the Borough and surrounding areas. Fracfocus.com was referenced as a website with information regarding gas wells.

Chad Pakozdi stated that he was a Life Scout with Troop 19 and was interested in suggestions from Council for ideas for his Eagle Scout project. Leslie stated that he should meet with Smith and Miller to discuss different options in the Park.

Leech motioned, Miller seconded to appoint Leonard Schoettker to the position of auditor by Resolution 2014-05. Motion passed.

Leonard Schoettker was sworn in by Mayor Rader.

Cindy Princeler presented a summary of the completed 2013 Audit. Council extended their thanks to the Auditors for the work they performed for the community.

Sewage Plant Update

Bocci informed Council of minor repairs that had been done at the Plant, some due to weather. He stated that he was working on the Chapter 94 Report, and it would be available for review at the March meeting. Leslie questioned the timing of the replacement of the grinder pump. Bocci said he would have the Franklin Miller rep come to the Plant once the weather improved to make an evaluation of the Plant's needs.

Leech motioned, Kaufman seconded, to accept as presented the January 6, 2014, meeting minutes. Motion passed.

Smith motioned, Miller seconded, to accept as presented the January 21, 2014, meeting minutes. Motion passed.

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

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

OLD BUSINESS:

Recreation and Conservation Grant 2014

Tom Thompson provided easement agreements for the Douthett and Church properties and suggested that these agreements be hand delivered and be completed with any changes requested by the property owners. The solicitor will need to review and have the agreements recorded by April, when the application for the grant is to be filed.



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Massey Ferguson Tractor

Turner Tractor has notified the Borough that the tractor is in and can be scheduled for delivery. Council requested that two 5-gallon diesel containers be purchased and a garage key be given to Mr. Schultheis. Smith will organize the delivery and have Mr. Schultheis available for a demonstration by the dealer.

Voelker Paving-Constitution Avenue

Tim Spangler of Voelker Paving contacted the Borough office on January 21 in response to the letter he received regarding the complaint about the repair to Constitution Avenue in the area of the pump station. Tim stated that he would take care of the problem when weather conditions permitted the repair.

Oil and Gas Ordinance

Council reviewed the proposed ordinance provided by Attorney Lope. Attorney Chris Reese addressed questions and made notes of suggested changes and additions. Attorney Reese did indicate that the ordinance may not be enforceable with the Shipley Well. Leslie requested a copy of Resolution 2014-02 be sent to Rex Energy indicating the development of the ordinance. Attorney Reese clarified the portion of Act 13 that was upheld by the Supreme Court which ruled on the environmental rights amendment. Chapter 32 is the section of Act 13 which remains unchanged. Attorney Reese agreed to make changes to the proposed ordinance and have revised copies available for Council's review. Council discussed the need for a public hearing to review the ordinance and the requirements for advertising. Attorney Reese indicated that he would advertise the ordinance to be reviewed at a public hearing at the next schedule meeting in March.

NEW BUSINESS:

PSAB Membership Listing-Who's Who

Council discussed and elected not to pay the invoice for \$40 to publish the Borough's information in the Who's Who publication.

Association of Mayors

With the Mayor in agreement, Council elected not to pay the membership fee for the Association of Mayors of the Boroughs of Pennsylvania.

Vacancy Board

Miller motioned, Smith seconded to appoint Vickie Forbes as the registered elector of the Borough to the Vacancy Board. Motion passed.

Butler County Boroughs Association

Rader stated that the annual reorganization meeting would be held Saturday, March 1, 2014, at the Butler Little Theater. Michael Kelly will be the speaker.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Fire: The Officer Installation & Member Appreciation Dinner will be held February 22. Miller will attend.

Butler County – Department of Emergency Services letter will require training for the Emergency Management Coordinator in 2014.

Law and Order: No Report

Streets: Discussion on snow removal.



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Zoning/Planning: Leech motioned, Miller seconded to appoint Donald Princeler to fill the vacancy on the Zoning Hearing Board. Motion passed. Council discussed the vacancy of the alternate position and requested a notice for this position be placed in the Post Office.

Borough Building: No Report

Park: Leslie stated that the water run-off problem in the Park would be repaired when the weather improves.

Sewage Financial: No Report

Code Enforcement: No Report

Katie Douthett inquired as to whether the Borough had received the grant for replacing the sidewalks on Constitution Avenue. The Borough was not successful in 2013 but had reapplied for 2014.

Leech motioned, Kaufman seconded at 9:45 pm to adjourn the. Motion passed.

Respectfully submitted,

Vickie L. Forbes
Borough Secretary/Treasurer