



CONNOQUENESSING BOROUGH

March 4, 2014

The public hearing and 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, Dave Bocci, Attorney Chris Reese, Andrew Babay III, Nina Babay, Andrew Babay IV, Jessica Fisher, and Vickie Forbes.

President Leslie outlined the process for the Public Hearing indicating Attorney Reese would speak first, and then the court stenographer from MG&H Stenotype Reporters would swear in any residents who would provide comments. General discussion would follow.

Attorney Reese announced that the reason for the public hearing was the proposed amendment to Ordinance 27 Zoning. He stated the proof of publication had been provided and indicated that a summary of the proposed amended ordinance had been published on February 18 and February 25 which he then read.

The court stenographer then swore in those residents wishing to make comment.

Leslie questioned whether any member of Council had any changes they wanted to make to the amended ordinance. Council reviewed and discussed questions and changes suggested by the members. Attorney Reese noted the changes.

Leslie opened the public meeting to public comment.

Linda Schoettker read her statement regarding her concerns about the Shipley Well and other possible wells in the area.

Len Schoettker questioned each member of Council, Attorney Reese, and the Mayor about their personal financial affiliation with gas and oil companies.

Leslie asked for any other public comment. None was provided, and the public hearing was then closed.

Andrew Babay stated that he lived at 911 Evans City Road in Connoquenessing Township, just outside the Borough boundary. His concern was the excessive speed allowed on Rt. 68 and referenced the frequent accidents. He stated that he was a Boy Scout and working towards his communications badge. Leslie replied that Rt 68 is a State highway, and there are parameters the State uses to determine speed limits. A study had been done several years ago in the Borough portion of Rt 68 with the results of the study supporting the current speed limit. Andrew also stated that he was in agreement with the concerns of fracking.

Council continued with discussion on adopting the amended ordinance. Further discussion included screening with shrubs, noise levels, light levels, dust suppression, inspections, and third-party inspections and monitoring. Smith motioned, Kaufman seconded, to adopt the amended Ordinance 27-04 with the discussed changes recorded by Attorney Reese. Motion passed unanimously.

Linda Schoettker stated that employees of the DEP are becoming employees of the gas and oil companies. Leech stated that on a positive note regarding this transition of employees, these individuals are in the environmental business because of their dedication to conservation and the environment and that desire hopefully is carried forward in their new employment.



MINUTES

Sewage Plant Update

Bocci stated that the Chapter 94 Report had been completed and was ready to be submitted to the DEP. He reviewed the average flows by month, the flow projections for a ten year period, and the monthly organic loading. He indicated that there had been some minor ice damage at the Plant.

Leech motioned, Miller seconded, to accept as presented the February 4, 2014, meeting minutes. Motion passed.

Smith motioned, Miller seconded, to accept the submitted January 2014 Treasurer's Report. Motion passed.

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

OLD BUSINESS:

Massey Ferguson Tractor

As discussed at the February meeting, Turner Tractor has notified the Borough that the tractor is in and can be scheduled for delivery and are requesting payment. Smith will organize the delivery in the coming week and coordinate a training session with Mr. Schultheis.

Butler County Boroughs Association-March 1, 2014 Meeting

The meeting with Congressman Kelly was cancelled. The business as rescheduled for the same date at a different location.

NEW BUSINESS:

Bronder Technical Service

Miller motioned, Leech seconded to approve the annual maintenance agreement with Bonder Technical Service. Motion passed.

Peoples TWP-2014 Road Paving Schedule

A letter received from Peoples TWP requesting road construction activities and hard surface restoration requirements for Borough roads and streets for 2014 was reviewed. Peoples TWP should be notified of the potential work on Dogwood Lane.

PA American Water-Double Check Valve Assembly

The Borough received notification of an annual inspection requirement for the backflow double check valve assembly at the Sewage Plant. Upon discussion with Dave Bocci, he indicated that he would take care of arranging for the inspection and the completion of the required form.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Fire: Miller attended the Officer Installation & Member Appreciation Dinner held February 22, 2014.

Law and Order: No Report



MINUTES

- Streets:** Council discussed the possibility of repairs to Dogwood Lane and requested updated spec information from Knapko of PennDot, along with the bid package. Leech will contact the property owners sharing Holly Lane and discuss their intent to cover the cost of the repair. Council also discussed how the Borough will pay for the road repair for Dogwood Lane.
- Zoning/Planning:** Kaufman motioned, Leech seconded to appoint Barb Rader to fill the vacancy of the alternate position on the Zoning Hearing Board. Motion passed.
- Borough Building:** Council discussed the pipe freezing in the basement leading to the commode in the bathroom.
- Park:** Smith attended the public open house held by Butler County Parks. Much of the meeting focused on trails and creating and connecting them in Butler County.
- Sewage Financial:** A request for a sewage credit because of a broken underground waterline was revisited by Council. Because of a broken water line being an accident, Council agreed a credit to the sewage bill would apply. The formula to be used to figure the credit will be to determine the average monthly bill using the average of six months, three months before and three months after the month(s) the accident occurred. The average monthly usage will be doubled and that amount will be used to determine the credit or adjustment. Leech motioned, Miller seconded to apply a credit to the account using this formula. Motion passed.
- Code Enforcement:** No Report

Rader questioned the cost of the amended ordinance.

Leech motioned, Miller seconded at 9:40 pm to adjourn the. Motion passed.

Respectfully submitted,

Vickie L. Forbes
Borough Secretary/Treasurer