



**CONNOQUENESSING BOROUGH MINUTES
MAY 5, 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, Harold Rader, Francis Smith, Don Clingensmith, and Mayor Curt Harter.

Also present were Katie Douthett, Della Marshall, and Vickie Forbes.

Mrs. Douthett inquired as to whether Council still wanted her and Mrs. Marshall to operate the concession stand at the baseball field for the upcoming baseball season. Council indicated their appreciation for their volunteer work.

Kaufman motioned to accept the minutes from the April 7, 2009 meeting. Smith seconded. Motion passed.

Kaufman motioned to accept the March 2009 Treasurer's Report as submitted. Rader seconded. Motion passed.

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

Sewage Plant

Update: No report

OLD BUSINESS:

Resolution 2009-04

Sewage Rates Smith motioned to adopt Resolution 2009-04 increasing sewage rates 6% which was approved at the April 7, 2009, meeting. Kaufman seconded. Motion passed.

Ordinance 18-2

Sewage Council reviewed the changes to Ordinance 18-2. The Secretary stated it was advertised April 24, 2009. Kaufman motioned to adopt Ordinance 18-2 as amended. Smith seconded. Motion passed.

Shut-Off Agreement

Council discussed the terms and conditions of the Shut-Off Agreement. Clingensmith inquired about the \$30 shut-off fee, the \$30 turn-on fee and the amount charged by PA Water for the estimated loss of water revenue resulting from the shut-off. The Secretary indicated that according to the sewage Ordinance 18, costs associated with turning the water off/on for unpaid sewage bills would be the responsibility of the customer. Smith motioned to approve the Shut-Off Agreement. Rader seconded. Motion passed. The Secretary asked Council about two customers who have been following the initial procedure dealing with unpaid sewage bills and who were now in process for Sheriff Sale. The Secretary questioned whether these properties should proceed to Sheriff Sale or should they now follow the Shut-Off Agreement procedure. Council agreed that they should now follow the Shut-Off Agreement.

**Complaint –
113 Sunset Drive**

Council reviewed the complaint on 113 Sunset Drive, including the steps taken so far which included having the Code Enforcement Office look at the property and talk to the property owner. Rader indicated that the Corrections of Butler County spoke at a Butler County Boroughs Association meeting and stated that work crews from the prison could provide services to municipalities free of charge. The Secretary was directed to investigate whether a crew could be available to remove the garbage from this property and what the Borough's responsibility would be.



**Building Permits/
Inspections**

The Secretary briefly reviewed some of the competitive information submitted by the various inspection groups. Council discussed the fees as compared to Middle Department Inspection Agency. Clingensmith motioned to approve the Addendum to the Agreement for the increased fees submitted by Middle Department Inspection Agency. Smith Seconded. Motion was passed by all except for one “No” vote from Rader. Leslie requested that the Secretary investigate the terms of the contract with MDIA and report back at the next meeting.

**Amended Fee
Resolution 2009-05**

The Secretary stated that the Amended Fee Resolution 2009-05 included the increased rates from MDIA on pages 6-13 and it also included the Overweight Vehicle Permit fee of \$15. Kaufman motioned, Clingensmith seconded, to adopt the Amended Fee Resolution 2009-05. The motion was passed by all except for one “No” vote from Rader.

**Cleanup/Recycle
Day**

Kaufman questioned whether the event had been advertised. The Secretary indicated that it had been in the Butler Eagle. Kaufman volunteered to pick up and drop off the work release individuals and stay to help. Clingensmith volunteered to help at 10 AM.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Fire: Kaufman stated the Fire Department was investigating adding on to the back of the Fire Department.

Law and Order: No Report

Streets: Kaufman stated that on Main Street near where it intersected with Constitution Avenue a “No Parking” sign seem to have disappeared.

Council discussed the street sweeping that took place on Friday, May 1, 2009.

Zoning/Planning: Clingensmith questioned the information about using the \$305 balance left from the sidewalk grant for planting trees/shrubs.

Borough Building: Clingensmith mentioned the hand rail was missing on the steps entering the side of the building. The Secretary will contact Mr. Schultheis to repair. Kaufman stated that there were two collection boxes on Constitution that needed attention. Leslie said he would look at them.

Park: Clingensmith questioned whether there was any stimulus money available to the Borough to pave the Park road. The Secretary stated that she had been watching the information published on stimulus money and also had conversation with Tom Thompson on moneys available that may benefit the Borough. At this time there isn't anything available. The Secretary indicated that she had attempted to contact Butler County several times about the grant money awarded to the Borough last year for Park improvements.

Sewage Financial: No Report



NEW BUSINESS:

Council: Smith questioned whether there was going to be a community garage sale this year. The Secretary indicated that Mr. Dermond was not going to handle it. Mrs. Marshall indicated that she might be able to help organize it.

Clingensmith commented on the possibility of the Borough buying back the water company.

Secretary: The Secretary stated that a delegate from each municipality was required to be part of the Act 32 of 2008 Earned Income Tax committee. Kaufman noted that Carol Kaufman was interested in being the delegate for the Borough. Leslie appointed Mrs. Kaufman as the delegate.

The Secretary informed Council that since Jeff Kopinski resigned from Council that the Borough no longer had a representative to attend the Butler County Watershed Plan Advisory Committee meetings. Tom Thompson attended the recent meeting and he provided information to review by Council. In this information was a list of problem areas that Council needed to review and determine if there were accurate. Smith discussed the water run off coming from Drushel which flows along the west side of Route 68. Rader and Smith will be the representatives for the Borough for future meetings.

Council discussed the Application for Township Road Occupancy Permit received from T.W. Phillips to make a repair creating two small holes at 237 Main Street. The Secretary had reviewed with Tom Thompson, and he indicated that Council needed to make a formal approval. Smith indicated that the repair had been done, and the two small holes along side the road which had been filled with gravel had washed out. Kaufman motioned, Smith seconded to approve the repair. Motion passed. Council requested that they be contacted to repair the washed out areas.

The Secretary stated that a call had been received at the office requesting signs be posted in the Borough requiring individuals walking their dogs clean up after them. The individual also stated that the lights in the medium on Lloydmont were extremely bright. Council agreed that no action would be taken on the signs or the lights at this time.

The Secretary informed Council that an audit of the 2007-2008 Liquid Fuels moneys had been conducted on April 30, 2009.

Clingensmith comment on the letter from the developer of Leslie Farms concerning hours charged to them by Gannett Fleming, Inc.

Clingensmith made the motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:45 pm. Smith seconded. Motion passed.

Respectfully submitted,

Vickie L. Forbes
Borough Secretary/Treasurer