



**CONNOQUENESSING BOROUGH MINUTES  
NOVEMBER 3, 2008**

The public meeting of the Borough Council of Connoquenessing was called to order at 7:30 pm at the Connoquenessing Borough Building.

Harold Rader and Jeff Blank expressed interest in the opening on Council vacated by Kopinski. They each presented information about themselves. Clingensmith made a motion to appoint Rader to fill the current vacancy. Smith seconded. Motion passed. Kaufman motioned, Clingensmith seconded, to adopt Resolution 08-05 appointing Rader to the vacated Council position until the first Monday in January, 2010. Motion passed. Mayor Curt Harter issued the oath of office to Rader.

Council members present were Lloyd Leslie, Ronald Kaufman, Francis Smith, Donald Clingensmith, Harold Rader, and Mayor Curtis Harter.

Also present were Dave Bocci, Steve Miller, Jeff Blank, Robert Blose, Tom Thompson , and Vickie Forbes.

**Sewage Plant Update:** Dave Bocci updated Council on the problem he was having with the grinder. Bocci stated he had sent a part to be repaired but it had not yet been returned. Everything is good with the DEP.

Leslie asked Thompson about the progress on the Act 537 update. Thompson stated that information should be available at the next meeting.

Clingensmith motioned to accept the minutes from the October 7, 2008 meeting. Kaufman seconded. Motion passed.

Clingensmith questioned a negative balance on the Treasurer's Report. The Secretary explained that there was not an issue with a potential penalty charge by the bank. Checks had not been mailed, only set up in the system in preparation for approval for the meeting. The proper transfer of funds was completed prior to checks being mailed. Clingensmith motioned to accept the September 2008 Treasurer's Report as submitted. Smith seconded. Motion passed.

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

**OLD BUSINESS:**

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**Fire:** No Report

**Law and Order:** Council continued discussion regarding the complaint filed on 1283 Evans City Road. Ordinance 10 was discussed. Rader stated the Borough should mow the area owned by the Borough located at the Sewage Plant. He stated he would look at the area in question and



investigate methods to have it mowed and report back to Council at the December meeting.

**Streets:** Council discussed an issue involving a dumpster box on Main Street. Mayor Harter talked with the individual who indicated that it was there to do a roofing job.

Leslie questioned the status of the snow-removal contract. The Secretary stated that the contract had been completed for the 2008-2009 winter season.

**Zoning/Planning:** Council reviewed the revised zoning map. Several corrections to the map were suggested. Thompson will revise and issue a final copy.

The Secretary stated that the new appointment to Council created a vacancy on the Zoning Hearing Board for the alternate position. Council directed the Secretary to contact Jeff Blank and also post a notice in the Post Office.

**Park:** Smith indicated that he had contacted the Butler County Park and Recreation Department about the 2008 County Park grant and was told that the project work would take place in the spring of 2009.

**Borough Building:** Clingensmith motioned with regret to accept Cindy Princeler's resignation as a Borough Auditor. Rader seconded. Motion passed. The Secretary stated that she had inquired through an outside auditing firm and had received an estimated cost of \$5000 to have the audit done by a commercial firm. Steve Miller indicated he was still interested in conducting the audit, if the Borough could find another individual. Council directed the Secretary to contact Jeff Blank to let him know of the open position and also to post a notice in the Post Office.

**Sewage Financial:** Council reviewed the Resolution, Payment Plan Agreement and e-mail document sent by Attorney Lope. The Resolution included the information outlined by the Sewage Financial Committee. Clingensmith motioned to adopt Resolution 08-06. Kaufman seconded. Motion passed. The Secretary indicated that the Payment Plan Agreement submitted by Attorney Lope seemed to center only on unpaid sewage debt and did not reference other debt owed to the Borough. Council had further discussion on this issue and indicated revising the Payment Plan Agreement was necessary.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**Council:** Council requested that the Secretary get a card to be sent to Cindy Princeler thanking her for her work done as auditor for the Borough.

Tom Thompson presented a request by the developer of Hidden Springs asking for a reduction in the tap fee. Thompson explained that what is typical for a developer is that once he builds a sewer system and turns it over to the Borough to own and operate that any of the buildings that he builds off of that system, he would be relieved of a portion of the fee. Clingensmith motioned and Smith seconded to waive the connection fee



of \$699 from the tap fee of \$3500 for the Hidden Springs developer. Motion passed.

Thompson questioned Council on additional areas to be included in the scope of work for Borough sidewalks to be ADA compliant for the application for the 2009 Community Development Block Grant Program. Council suggested including parking areas for handicapped in the Park, ramps into the Borough building, and access to the restrooms in the Park.

Thompson stated that Phase 1 of Leslie Farm Development currently includes townhomes that the developer has indicated he wants to convert to a different style of home. This would reduce the density for Phase 1. Thompson indicated that the Developer will possibly have a proposal ready for the next meeting. Smith suggested adding a sidewalk to Leslie Lane for access to the development.

Thompson reviewed with the Developer the damage to Leslie Lane. He indicated that the damage had been done by someone who lived on the lane. Thompson requested documentation and will meet with him and property owners to resolve the issue.

Thompson indicated that the Developer had submitted a bonding request. He reviewed the details of the bond amount and the completed items covered by the security. Smith motioned and Kaufman seconded to send a letter to Fifth Third Bank releasing \$438,625.51 of the security bond. Motion passed.

Thompson presented a request by the Developer to install street lighting and a sign in the entrance to the Development. Council discussed the location of the sign and suggested that it may be less confusing for those coming on to Main Street if the sign was installed back further on Lloydmont Blvd., however, the sign is located on Forward Twp. Council further discussed the need for reflectors or an arrow sign indicating the bend in the road at the top of Main Street as it approaches Lloydmont. Thompson stated he would notify the Developer of the Borough's concerns.

The Secretary reviewed information from Attorney Lope regarding Speakerphone participation at Council meetings. Council discussed and requested more information for the December meeting.

**Secretary:**

The Secretary reviewed information on items mailed to Council including International League of Cities, Pennsylvania State Association of Borough Conference, and the Connoquenessing Creek Watershed Conservation Plan.

Council discussed setting aside portions of the tap fees for future sewage plant improvements.

Council reviewed the proposed 2009 Budget. Clingensmith motioned and Kaufman seconded to increase the hourly rate of the Secretary by



5% beginning January 1, 2009. Motion passed. Clingensmith motioned and Smith seconded to increase the monthly salary of the Park Caretaker by 5% beginning January 1, 2009. Motion passed.

Council reviewed the millage options, and Clingensmith motioned and Smith seconded to change the millage for 2009 to 2.4 mills for the Borough and .75 mills for the Fire Department and to have Attorney Lope prepare a resolution to reflect the new millage. Motion passed.

Kaufman motioned and Rader seconded to advertise the 2009 Proposed Budget. Motion passed.

Clingensmith made the motion to adjourn the meeting at 11:15 pm. Smith seconded. Motion passed.

Respectfully submitted,

Vickie L. Forbes  
Borough Secretary