



**CONNOQUENESSING BOROUGH MINUTES
OCTOBER 6, 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, Ryan Graham, Francis Smith, Don Clingensmith, Harold Rader, and Mayor Curt Harter.

Also present were Dave Bocci and Vickie Forbes.

Clingensmith motioned to accept the minutes from the September 1, 2009 meeting. Graham seconded. Motion passed.

The Secretary/Treasurer addressed questions from Clingensmith concerning accounts in the General Fund and Sewage Fund.

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

The Secretary/Treasurer addressed a question from Leslie regarding the income reported in the Sewage Fund from the Capital Improvement Fund.

Clingensmith shared information with Council concerning the interest rates paid on Borough accounts.

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

The Secretary/Treasurer addressed a question from Smith regarding how the contractor would be paid for the work done at the Park shelter.

Sewage Plant

Update:

Bocci reported that both rebuilt pumps were working well at the Pump Station and everything was running smoothly at Sewage Plant. Bocci questioned what steps were required to be prepared for grant monies that may come along before the plant expansion.

Kaufman questioned whether Bocci had received a One-Call for marking the sewage lines starting at Rt. 68 proceeding in the direction of Main Street between the Fire Department's property and St. Paul's Church. Bocci commented that he had received the call and had marked the sewage line.

OLD BUSINESS:

**Shut-Off
Agreement**

The Secretary/Treasurer reviewed the changes to the new Shut-Off Agreement received from PA American Water. Graham motioned, Smith seconded to approve the Shut-Off Agreement. Motion passed.



Western Land Services, Rex Energy

Council discussed the contract and proposal made to lease the Borough property by Western Land Services and elected to table a decision.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Fire: Kaufman reported that there will be a Buckwheat Supper on November 14, 2009. He also stated a purchase order had been issued for a new rescue vehicle.

Law and Order: Mayor Harter comment on the Park usage by questionable visitors had stopped. He also stated that a speed sign on was down on Constitution Avenue.

Council discussed traffic traveling on Main Street and Harmony Street.

The Secretary/Treasurer read a complaint filed involving property lines and also a request to change the ordinance to apply the three (3) foot rule to all structures near property lines. Council discussed and agreed not to change the ordinance.

Council discussed the details involving a judgment placed against a property located at 135 Harmony Street in 2004.

Streets: Graham motioned to approve, Kaufman seconded, the request by T. W. Phillips for the Township Road Occupancy Permit to install a new gas line from Rt. 68 to Hidden Springs Drive on Constitution Avenue. Motion passed.

Smith motioned, Graham seconded, to make application to the 2010 Community Development Block Grant Program. Motion passed.

Clingensmith motioned, Rader seconded, to renew the snow removal contract dated September 5, 2006, extending the terms of that contract for Fall 2009 and Spring 2010. Motion passed.

Zoning/Planning: Clingensmith commented on the Zoning meeting he attended in September.

Borough Building: No Report

Park: Clingensmith and Smith comment on the improvements made to the Park shelter.

Leslie commented on speaking with Jim Switzer from the Department of Community Corrections of Butler County concerning painting and other work at the Park as well as resolving the complaint at 113 Sunset Drive. Switzer indicated that because of the budget impasse, he had been unable to coordinate work schedules and further work by his group would probably not occur until 2010.

Sewage Financial: The Secretary/Treasurer reviewed an inquiry from a property owner involving the sewage charges for his duplex which uses one water meter



for both units. While researching the information, it was discovered that a number of duplexes, triplexes, and a single family home were being charged incorrectly.

Addressing the inquiry concerning discontinuing sewage billing for vacant units, Graham motioned, Kaufman seconded to require a water meter for each unit for property owners requesting sewage billing to be “turned off” for a vacant unit.

Addressing the issue of the single-family home being billed incorrectly, Council determined that the current balance would be reduced to zero and the amount owed by the Sewage Company to the property owner would be settled at the time the property owner resolved the lien for their un-paid tap fee. A letter will be sent to the property owner.

Addressing the issue of the duplexes and triplexes currently being billed incorrectly, Council directed the Secretary/Treasurer to correct the rate billing structures for these units with Pa American Water effective with the November billing. A letter will be sent to the property owners.

Addressing the billing calculation to determine amounts owed for sewage in duplexes and triplexes using one water meter, Council determined a separate water meter would be required for each unit to resolve any challenges by property owners involving the billing method.

NEW BUSINESS:

Council: Council discussed the paper alleys in the Borough.

Secretary: The Secretary/Treasurer reviewed the Butler County Boroughs Association Dinner Meeting notice.

The next Council meeting will be held Monday, November 2, 2009 because of Election Day on Tuesday. Council discussed.

Graham made the motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:15 pm. Smith seconded. Motion passed.

Respectfully submitted,

Vickie L. Forbes
Borough Secretary/Treasurer