



**CONNOQUENESSING BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING**

**November 06, 2023**

The public meeting of the Borough Council of Connoquenessing was called to order.

Present were Council members Lloyd Leslie, Rob Campbell, Francis Smith, and Mayor Raymond Betz.

Also present were Catherine Steffler, Andy Pepe, Dave Bocci and Vickie Forbes.

Catherine Steffler, one of the executors of the estate of Joyce Hayes, informed Council of a donation left by Ms. Hayes to the Connoquenessing Borough Park. She indicated that Joyce would have wanted the funds to be used for an additional piece of playground equipment to partner with the equipment identified to be installed using the recently DCNR grant awarded to the Borough. Steffler stated that the Tight Robe Climber, which includes a slide, would be her preference. Campbell motioned, Smith seconded to approve signing the documents to accept the donation from the Hayes estate. Motion passed.

Andy Pepe introduced himself as the pastor of the Berean Bible Chapel located at the former Methodist Church location. He indicated that he would like to work with Council to support all community efforts.

**SEWAGE PLANT UPDATE**

Bocci reported on continued tap inspections in Hidden Springs and normal operations and flows at the Plant.

**BUSINESS**

Campbell motioned, Smith seconded, to approve the meeting minutes of October 3, 2023. Motion passed.

Smith motioned, Campbell seconded, to approve the submitted September 2023 Treasurer’s Report. Motion passed.

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

**OLD BUSINESS:**

Multi-Use Building Village Center Land Development-Castillo

Smith motioned, Campbell seconded to approve the revised Multi-Use Building Land Development plans as submitted. Motion passed.

E. Blackburn Plan Subdivision

Campbell motioned, Smith seconded to table a decision on the E. Blackburn Plan Subdivision until the December 2023 meeting. Motion passed.

Leslie Farms Phase 3 – Bond Release #4

Smith motioned, Campbell seconded to approve Bond Release #4 only after receiving approval from the Borough Engineer. Motion passed.

Winter Maintenance – Lloydmont Blvd.

Campbell motioned, Smith seconded to approve the Winter Maintenance Agreement between Forward Township and Connoquenessing Borough with Connoquenessing Borough doing winter maintenance on the portion of Lloydmont Blvd located in Forward Township. Motion passed.

Forward Twp.-Connoquenessing Borough Subdivision

Campbell motioned, Smith seconded to have the solicitor notify the contractor, Pitell Homes, making him aware of the boundary issues with certain lots located on Edgewood Drive. Motion passed.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

Resolution 2023-06 – Appointment of Auditor

Campbell motioned, Smith seconded to approve Resolution 2023-06 appointing Bonus Accounting as auditor for the 2023 Connoquenessing Borough audit. Motion passed.



## MINUTES – 11/06/2023

### Solicitor Proposal

Council reviewed information presented from Stepanian & Menchyk, LLP and may consider for 2024.

### Liquid Fuels Audit 2021-2022

Council reviewed audit findings.

Smith motioned, Campbell seconded to approve the purchase of computer equipment per the quote estimate MobileTech #14245 dated 9/25/2023 for the amount of \$2,239.96. Motion passed.

### **COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**Emergency Management:** Betz stated that the CVREMA budget had been made available to all municipalities.

**Fire:** No Report

**Law and Order:** No Report

**Streets:** Smith stated that an issue with the stop sign at Harmony and Connoq Main Streets continues. Pricing for a flashing sign will be investigated.

**Zoning/Planning:** Discussion continued on a proposed ordinance for managing solar/wind energy projects in the Borough. The Planning Committee will meet to develop an ordinance for Council to review at the December meeting.

**Borough Building:** No Report

**Park:** No Report

**Sewage Financial:** No Report

### **2024 Preliminary Budget**

Council discussed details and requirements for hiring a person to be trained as Secretary.

Council reviewed the preliminary budget presented.

Smith motioned, Campbell seconded to go to executive session at 8:50 pm to discuss pay raises. Motion passed.

Smith motioned, Campbell seconded to come out of executive session at 9:05 pm. Motion passed.

Campbell motioned, Smith seconded to increase the Code Enforcement/Zoning Officer to \$25/hr.; to increase the Secretary/Treasurer and the Park Caretaker wages by 5%; and to make the starting pay for a new hire in the secretarial position \$20/hr., with a \$2/hr. increase after six months. Motion passed.

### **MISCELLANEOUS:**

Campbell motioned, Smith seconded to adjourn the meeting at 9:15 pm. Motion passed.

Respectfully submitted,

*Vickie Forbes*

Vickie L. Forbes  
Borough Secretary/Treasurer