

The regular monthly meeting of the Borough Council of Lewisburg, Union County, Pennsylvania, was held on **Tuesday, May 15, 2012** in the Council Chambers, 55 South Fifth Street. Present: Council President Bergonia; Councilmembers Casimir, Cox, Mahon, Morris, and Robinson; Mayor Wagner; Manager/Treasurer Smith; Solicitor Lyons; and Secretary Garrison. Councilmember Baker arrived at 7:05 PM. Councilmember Strosser was absent. Also present: Chief Paul Yost, State Representative Fred Keller, Darwin Swope, and Fire Board Chairman Larry Erdley.

CALL TO ORDER: Council President Bergonia called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM, followed by the pledge of allegiance.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Motion was made by Councilmember Morris, seconded by Councilmember Cox, to approve the minutes of the regular Council meeting held April 17, 2012 and the special Council meeting held April 26, 2012. ON THE QUESTION: Councilmember Casimir said he thought there was more detail on the use of a smart phone in his motion regarding Poetry in Motion, but Ms. MacCallum did meet with the Planning Committee to discuss this matter further so he will address this during his Planning Committee report. Motion was unanimously approved.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION: Larry Erdley, Fire Board Chairman for the William Cameron Engine Company, distributed and presented the Operations Report for January 1, 2012 to March 31, 2012, highlighting all the activity. There are challenges ahead as the employees recently voted to be represented by the International Association of Firefighters. A contract through collective bargaining will be negotiated, and we will seek competent, experienced legal counsel for guidance. We have been actively searching for an Administrative Chief that will be a full-time management employee; the fire company is a \$1.5 million operation. To date we have received eight (8) applications. We are also receiving proposals from consultants to help with our strategic plan. Councilmember Morris said she always thought we had a volunteer fire company, but recently found out we do not. Mr. Erdley said it is a combination fire company. Councilmember Morris asked how many volunteers there are. Mr. Erdley said approximately 40, and during the daytime we might be able to have four (4) available. Councilmember Morris said we are then working with a paid fire company. Councilmember Casimir said you are showing 3575 hours on your report; what are the paid hours during that same time period? Mr. Erdley said he will guess approximately 500 for the EMTs and firefighters. Manager Smith clarified that we do not have paid firefighters; we have volunteer firefighters who are paid EMT staff who receive a stipend while acting as volunteer firefighters; that is at least for purposes of workers compensation. Mr. Erdley agreed, but stated he anticipates that will change. Mayor Wagner thanked Mr. Erdley for all his hard work.

The Honorable Fred Keller, State Representative, stated he was glad to have this opportunity to stop in; anyone needing any assistance from his office should feel free to call. He introduced Darwin Swope, his assistant, who handles municipal issues.

POLICE COMMITTEE: No meeting.

PLANNING COMMITTEE: Councilmember Casimir made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Morris, to approve HARB applications a and b, as submitted and recommended by HARB. Motion was unanimously approved.

a. Bucknell University/103 University Avenue/Fence. An application was submitted to and reviewed by HARB for a fence. A motion was made by Kim Walter, seconded by Elaine Wintjen, to recommend approval of the placement of a fence as submitted in the HARB application under project description and per the attached drawing/photographs: black metal Jerith, 48" high, 2 gates. Motion as unanimously approved.

b. Robert Lack/29 South Second Street/Siding. An application was submitted to and reviewed by HARB for siding. A motion was made by Mary Mastascusa, seconded by Elaine Wintjen, to recommend approval of the replacement siding as submitted in the HARB application under project description: hardee plank siding, molding scraped/painted/restored (no replacement), 5" lap to siding/smooth not wood grain, steps to be painted, and shrubbery trimmed. Motion as unanimously approved.

Councilmember Casimir stated Shara McCallum of Poetry in Motion did come before the Planning Committee providing representations of their boards which now include the text of the poems. It was realized that if a poem was lengthy, no one would want to stand to listen for a long period. With regard to placement and construction of the signs, it was made clear that our Borough Manager had to be involved.

Councilmember Casimir asked the status of the Community Garden agreement. Manager Smith indicated nothing yet. Solicitor Lyons said he received no negative feedback, which is good.

Councilmember Casimir made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Morris, to approve a thirty (30) extension request by HRG, Inc., on behalf of Diakon Lutheran Social Ministries, for land development plan review and approval process, per letter dated May 1st. Motion was unanimously approved.

ATTENDANCE

CALL TO ORDER

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION
LARRY ERDLEY**

**THE HONORABLE
FRED KELLER**

POLICE COMMITTEE

PLANNING COMMITTEE

**BUCKNELL
UNIVERSITY**

ROBERT LACK

**POETRY IN
MOTION UPDATE**

**COMMUNITY
GARDEN UPDATE**

**30 DAY
EXTENSION
REQUEST FOR
DIAKON
LUTHERAN
SOCIAL
MINISTRIES**

Tuesday, May 15, 2012

PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE: Councilmember Robinson made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Casimir, to change the meeting time of the Public Works Committee meeting from 5:00 PM to 5:30 PM. Motion was unanimously approved.

FINANCE COMMITTEE: Councilmember Casimir made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Baker, to approve payment of bills from 04/14/12 through 05/11/12 in the amount of \$343,865.88. Motion was unanimously approved.

Councilmember Casimir indicated the revision to the LARA Intergovernmental Agreement hasn't been signed by East Buffalo Township (EBT) yet; however, it was brought to our attention that EBT did send LARA their money. LARA contacted the Borough indicating they would like to receive this money, but our Manager was not comfortable sending it until the actual agreement has been signed. There was **much** discussion. It was the sense of Council to support the Manager's decision to *not* release funds until the agreement has been signed.

MAYOR: Mayor Wagner reported Ron Stern, our DCED representative, indicated that out of the three regional departments that formed this year, the Buffalo Valley Regional Police Department is clearly far above the others; he credits Paul Yost for the good job. She reported she participated in a press conference last Wednesday and had the honor of announcing the South Sixth Street Hazard Mitigation Grant (HMG) award in the amount of about \$3 million. Present were Pete Bergonia, Kathy Morris and Chad Smith. This was a complicated process, and our Manager did excellent work, along with our Elm Street Manager, Dan Greene. This is something to be very proud of and we are grateful to FEMA, PEMA, Representative Keller, Senator Yaw, and Congressman Marino for their help in getting the Borough funding. These homes will be demolished in 2013 and 2014; this project was started in 2002 and she distinctly remembers former Councilmember Barbara Krohn's statement, "This will be the greatest project in 25 years." Councilmember Casimir said tax revenue has been a concern, but we need to remember that Bucknell University is in the Post Office generating tax revenue, and there is increased mercantile revenue as a result of the Barnes and Noble Bookstore; so we are making up these differences. He commented hopefully the rail/trail will continue its progress into the Borough so we should have this expanded park matching up with the trailhead across Market Street. Mayor Wagner commented all this will enhance the values of the properties on the west side of Sixth Street. There was **much** discussion.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT: Council President Bergonia reminded everyone this will be a busy weekend as Bucknell University students graduate.

SOLICITOR: Solicitor Lyons advised the ordinance amending the number of members of the Lewisburg Area Joint Sewer Authority (LAJSA) has been duly advertised and is ready for Council action.

Councilmember Casimir made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Morris, to approve Ordinance No. 1015, an ordinance reducing the number of members of the Lewisburg Area Joint Sewer Authority (LAJSA) to nine (9) and the number of such members appointed by the Borough to four (4). Motion was unanimously approved.

Solicitor Lyons reported an executive session is needed at the end of this meeting on legal issues regarding the 43 North Eighth Street property.

MANAGER: No report.

OTHER COMMITTEES: Council President Bergonia reported LARA is preparing to open the pool and training for the life guards will occur on Friday.

Councilmember Morris reported the Lewisburg Downtown Partnership (LDP) is doing all kinds of things, and strongly suggested everyone check out their website. She shared upcoming events with Council.

Mayor Wagner stated the last quarterly meeting of the Town and Gown Committee was held May 9th. There are only four (4) meetings a year and indicated another representative is needed on this committee.

Council President Bergonia reported there was nothing new at the LNC meeting; Dan Greene updated everyone on the Hazard Mitigation Grant (HMG). Manager Smith said he, along with Dan Greene, will be meeting with the Sixth Street property owners Tuesday the 22nd at 6:30 PM; PEMA will also be in attendance. Confirmation of the second grant was received and we are waiting on the agreement. He stated he would like to commend Dan Greene for a good job, as this is an area he has never had to deal with before. There was **much** discussion relative to the HMGs.

**PUBLIC WORKS
COMMITTEE
CHANGE IN
MEETING TIME**

**FINANCE
COMMITTEE
PAYMENT OF
BILLS**

**DISCUSSION OF
REVISION TO
LARA IGA**

MAYOR

**COUNCIL
PRESIDENT**

**SOLICITOR
NUMBER OF
MEMBERS OF
LAJSA REDUCED**

**(ORDINANCE NO.
1015)**

**EXECUTIVE
SESSION NEEDED
ON 43 NORTH
EIGHTH STREET**

MANAGER

**OTHER
COMMITTEES
LARA**

LDP

TOWN AND GOWN

LNC

Tuesday, May 15, 2012

Councilmember Casimir reported the Shade Tree Commission held the Arbor Day celebration in Soldiers Park and it went very well. The Lions Club donated and helped plant trees in April. We continue with the follow-up of our delinquent plantings; as a result, there have been four (4) new trees planted. The Shade Tree Commission is asking a lot more from the Manager, Secretary, and especially the Borough crew, so he would like to take this time to thank all of them for all their work.

Council President Bergonia reported the Central Keystone-Council of Governments (CK-COG) is looking to expand their coverage north and he will keep Council informed on their progress.

Chief Yost provided Council with the Buffalo Valley Regional Police Department's monthly report, and briefly reviewed same. This is National Law Enforcement Week, so if you see an officer, thank him for his services. There was **much** discussion.

Councilmember Morris updated everyone on the status of the community garden. There were 35 applicants for the garden and 22 plots. It was decided to split some of the plots allowing everyone that applied to have one. Water has been provided, and a shed has been delivered by Yoder Builders. Councilmember Casimir commented without a signed agreement, everything they are doing now is not allowed. He has been critical of this project, and noted this lack of an agreement would be the kind of thing that would make us pull the plug in October. Solicitor Lyons commented this was in Wayne Bromfield's hands, there has been administrative approval, and last he knew it was with their insurance representatives for review. He will continue to reach out to Mr. Bromfield. Councilmember Morris said as Council's representative, she consistently reminds people of what they are supposed to be doing, and who they are supposed to be talking to, etc.

OLD BUSINESS: None.

NEW BUSINESS: None.

WRITTEN REPORTS: Councilmember Casimir made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Mahon, to acknowledge receipt of the Budget Index; Parking Report, Zoning Officer Report, and Code Enforcement Officer Report. Motion was unanimously approved.

WORK SESSION: There was discussion relative to whether a work session was needed on Tuesday, June 12, 2012. Councilmember Morris asked if there are any other groups that need to come in to meet with Council. Council President Bergonia directed the Manager to do some research and then simply notify Council if a work session is needed.

Councilmember Morris made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Casimir, to hold an executive session on legal issues regarding 43 North Eighth Street property. Motion was unanimously approved.

Council President Bergonia called for a five minute recess at 7:50 PM. Council returned at 7:55 PM.

Council entered executive session at 7:55 PM. Council returned at 8:25 PM.

There being no further business, Councilmember Baker made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Mahon, to adjourn the meeting. Motion was unanimously approved. Meeting adjourned at 8:25 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia M. Garrison
Borough Secretary

STC

CK-COG

BVRPD

COMMUNITY GARDEN

OLD BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS

WRITTEN REPORTS

WORK SESSION

43 NORTH EIGHTH STREET

RECESS

(EXECUTIVE SESSION)

ADJOURNMENT