

The regular monthly meeting of the Borough Council of Lewisburg, Union County, Pennsylvania, was held on **Tuesday, September 18, 2012** in the Council Chambers, 55 South Fifth Street. Present: Council President Bergonia; Councilmembers Baker, Casimir, Cox, Mahon, Morris and Strosser; Mayor Wagner; Manager/Treasurer Smith; Solicitor Lyons; and Secretary Garrison. Absent: Councilmember Robinson. Also present: Joseph Snyder, Dan Remley, Martha Barrick, Julie Tilton, County Commissioner John Showers, Nada Gray, Hank Baylor and Matt Farrand.

**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 Strosser, seconded by Councilmember Baker, to approve the minutes of the regular Council meeting held August 21, 2012. Motion was unanimously approved.

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:** County Commissioner John Showers and Nada Gray shared that 2013 marks the Bicentennial for Union County, and asked for the Borough's support and participation. The celebration officially starts on March 22, 2013, with an opening ceremony at the original courthouse in New Berlin, through November 22, 2013 when there will be a closing ceremony at the courthouse here in Lewisburg. They presented the Borough with a banner which is being gifted to every municipality in the County. Arrangements have been made for a banner to be placed across Market Street.

Hank Baylor, representing the Sunset Rotary, explained that each year a simplified grant is created and projects are selected. The two selected this year are both in Lewisburg: 1) to paint the railings on both sides of the Bull Run bridge on Market Street between Fifth and Sixth Streets, and 2) to place park benches on the west side of Bull Run. We will be applying for a \$2,000.00 grant. The cost estimate received for the railing was between \$500.00 and \$600.00. And, we were not sure of the type of benches the Borough would like, so he would ask for the Manager's input to determine what would be most appropriate. He asked if the Borough would be willing to participate, noting there may be a need for some help from the Borough crew. He also asked if the Manager would work with him on the application language so he can meet the application deadline.

Councilmember Casimir made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Morris, to accept the Sunset Rotary's offer to paint the railings along the Bull Run bridge on Market Street and to purchase as many benches as the grant will allow. Motion was unanimously approved.

**POLICE COMMITTEE:** No meeting.

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

**a. Scott Bank (Alan Barrick)/30-32-34 South Seventh Street/Windows.** An application was submitted to and reviewed by HARB for replacement windows. A motion was made by Ted Strosser, seconded by Mary Mastascusa, to approve one over one windows, noting all windows should maintain current size and location, windows as described in the HARB application under project description and as shown in the attachments. Motion as unanimously approved.

**b. Mike/Lois Purcell (Tonya Hotaling)/611 Market Street/Signage.** An application was submitted to and reviewed by HARB for replacement sign. A motion was made by Robert Cook, seconded by Phoebe Faden, to approve this sign as described in the HARB application under project description. Motion as unanimously approved.

**c. Adrian Pinter/518 Market Street/Renovations.** An application was submitted to and reviewed by HARB for renovations. HARB asked the parties present to meet with them on Tuesday the 18<sup>th</sup> at 4:30 PM to discuss ways to make the door and ramp work better for all parties. A motion was made by Ted Strosser, seconded by Phoebe Faden, to table this matter until the next HARB meeting, Tuesday, October 9<sup>th</sup>. Motion was unanimously approved.

**d. Chris Wheeler/221 North Fourth Street/Windows.** An application was submitted to and reviewed by HARB for replacement windows. A motion was made by Phoebe Faden, seconded by Mary Mastascusa, to approve the replacement windows, noting all windows should maintain current size and location, as submitted in the HARB application under project description and as shown in the attachments.. Motion as unanimously approved.

Councilmember Strosser stated he would like to update Council on HARB's item c; a meeting was held today and a solution was reached so that the renovation work at 518 Market Street can take place. This application will be before Council at the October 16<sup>th</sup> meeting.

Councilmember Casimir indicated the need for an executive session at the end of this meeting to discuss a real estate issue.

**PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE:** Councilmember Strosser made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Mahon, to award the Cherry Alley Drainage Replacement Project, in the amount of \$7,450.00, to Dave Gutelius Excavating, Inc. Motion was unanimously approved.

**ATTENDANCE**

**CALL TO ORDER**

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION  
JOHN SHOWERS/  
COUNTY COMMISSIONER &  
NADA GRAY**

**2013  
BICENTENNIAL  
FOR UNION  
COUNTY**

**HANK BAYLOR**

**SUNSET ROTARY  
GRANT**

**POLICE COMMITTEE**

**PLANNING COMMITTEE  
HARB**

**S BANK**

**M PURCELL**

**A PINTER**

**C WHEELER**

**UPDATE ON 518  
MARKET STREET**

**EXECUTIVE  
SESSION/REAL  
ESTATE ISSUE**

**PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE**

Tuesday, September 18, 2012

**FINANCE COMMITTEE:** Councilmember Casimir made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Cox, to approve payment of bills from 08/18/12 through 09/14/12 in the amount of \$260,317.35. Motion was unanimously approved.

Councilmember Casimir stated the Finance Committee looked at the preliminary budget and decided there wasn't enough to warrant holding a meeting yet, but it looks like we are in pretty good shape, given our planning for 2012, to go into 2013 with probably money for a street project and probably no need for a tax increase.

**MAYOR:** Mayor Wagner indicated everyone should have a copy of the BVRPD's monthly report. Since Chief Yost is attending a conference today, she updated Council on the BVRPD, noting budget figures held up very well this year, in spite of all the work that needed to be done to the building and all the things that had to be purchased for a unified Police Department. The Commission will hold a budget workshop meeting the fourth Wednesday of this month with the intent to have a budget to the Manager by October 1<sup>st</sup>.

**COUNCIL PRESIDENT:** No report.

**SOLICITOR:** No report.

**MANAGER:** Councilmember Casimir made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Morris, to approve the Minimum Municipal Obligation (MMO) of \$135,210.00 for the Non-Uniformed Employee Pension Plan for year 2013, as detailed in the letter submitted to the Council President dated September 10, 2012. **ON THE QUESTION:** Manager Smith said every year we have an actuarial study done and must submit to the State our Minimum Municipal Obligation for the pension funds. This year we are not doing the Uniformed Pension as that will be taken care of by Conrad Siegel on behalf of the BVRPD. Motion was unanimously approved.

**OTHER COMMITTEES:** Council President Bergonia reported, on behalf of LARA, that the pool is now closed. There is progress being made on the removal of the ties as a result of the railroad bridge fire. He provided Council with a brief written report.

Councilmember Morris said the LDP has been working with the Lewisburg Neighborhoods Corporation exploring ways to collaborate more efficiently for both organizations.

Mayor Wagner said the Town and Gown Committee meeting was not well attended. She would like to see the Town and Gown Committee membership expanded to give a better idea of all the issues involving Bucknell University and the neighboring communities, not just the Borough and East Buffalo Township with Bucknell University. Someone in the public noted Evangelical Hospital is also included on the Town and Gown Committee. Councilmember Casimir asked what needs done to make that change. Mayor Wagner indicated the Chairwoman is Martha Barrick and she is present this evening. Martha Barrick explained it is just not well attended anymore; there was a time when there was representation from merchants and more representation from East Buffalo Township. She is not sure whether people have lost interest, but it would be nice to reach out to new people. We used to meet once a month, but changed it to four times a year thinking that would help attendance, but it did not. Dan Remley commented in his 15 years, this is his 7<sup>th</sup> Dean of Students, so there has been a lack of continuity from the Dean of Students side and that turnover has created a challenge to keep the committee stable and to keep the momentum. He agreed it may be time to sit down with the Dean of Students to see how we envision this committee. He also noted that Wayne Bromfield will be retiring in June 2013, so people that have been longstanding and active will no longer be present. Mrs. Barrick said she believes it is time to restructure.

Councilmember Strosser stated there was a joint meeting of the LDP and LNC, attended by the Pennsylvania Downtown Center and DCED, to talk about our area application for next year. The State changed the Elm Street and Main Street Programs, so we had the ability to be a Keystone Community putting them both under the same funding stream; that sounded like a great thing. However, the LDP wants to maintain its identity as a Main Street community. Also, it was recognized that the funding scenarios of the two organizations are very different. Since the LNC is eligible for one more year of funding through the old New Communities Grant for the Elm Street Manager's salary, it was decided that Main Street will remain Main Street and Elm Street will remain Elm Street. And, sometime during the next year we will need to figure out how we are going to fund the Elm Street Manager position if we want it to continue on, i.e. Borough funding, Bucknell contribution funding, and/or fundraising similar to the LDP. Councilmember Morris commented there is always the possibility of another neighborhood. Councilmember Strosser said it was discussed that the Borough be broken down into smaller pieces, similar to our wards, allowing us to work in one neighborhood at a time. We are in Ward III now, so maybe Ward II could be the next neighborhood. There was **much** discussion. Councilmember Strosser stressed the people we met with from the State are extremely pleased with Lewisburg Borough and feel we have done great things. Dan Remley reminded Council of the vacancies coming up on the LNC, two of which are Borough Officials.

**FINANCE  
COMMITTEE**

**2013 BUDGET**

**MAYOR  
BVRPD UPDATE**

**COUNCIL  
PRESIDENT**

**SOLICITOR**

**MANAGER  
2013 MINIMUM  
MUNICIPAL  
OBLIGATION  
(MMO)**

**OTHER  
COMMITTEES**

**LDP**

**TOWN AND GOWN**

**LNC**

**Tuesday, September 18, 2012**

Council President Bergonia stated he would like to appoint Councilmember Cox to fill one of the upcoming vacancies on the LNC.

Councilmember Morris said the Bull Run Neighborhood is a critical component of the LNC and they are trying to maintain an identity; they have agreed to work with the Kiwanis Club this year on the Woolly Worm Festival, which is Saturday, October 6<sup>th</sup>.

Councilmember Casimir asked if there is an update as a result of the meeting held to discuss the new rooming/lodging house regulations. Solicitor Lyons said this is in the hands of Matt Sauers, Zoning Officer, and he doesn't believe there is anything to report yet. Manager Smith stated Mr. Sauers has received five applications so far, and questioned if Council wants to continue to hold the public hearings during the regular Council meeting, or due to the number of applications, hold them another time. Solicitor Lyons said the issue is the same with all of them; he doesn't believe they will take that long. Councilmember Casimir said it was a very good meeting and he hopes this process gets easier as time goes by. Dan Remley said of the 41 properties identified by the CK-COG, the majority are located in RT1, which is a concern, and the second issue seems to be the distance of the parking from the property which is now 200 yards. Solicitor Lyons confirmed that the issues will be dealt with, but whether we will be able to accommodate everyone is the unknown. There was **much** discussion.

Councilmember Casimir reported the Shade Tree Commission has been working on the North Fourth Street Project, trying to coordinate with Pennsylvania American Water Company. It appears this will now be a spring planting project due to the timing.

Council President Bergonia indicated the CK-COG is looking into converting some of their vehicles to natural gas. Also, the CK-COG's annual membership meeting is scheduled for October 11<sup>th</sup> at 7 PM.

Councilmember Morris reported the Community Garden Committee is doing a Harvest Festival this Saturday. And, they will be present at our October Council meeting per the agreement.

**OLD BUSINESS:** None.

**NEW BUSINESS:** None.

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

**WORK SESSION:** Council President Bergonia reported there will be a work session held on Tuesday, October 9<sup>th</sup>.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:** Councilmember Casimir made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Mahon, to hold an executive session to discuss a real estate issue. Motion was unanimously approved.

Council President Bergonia called for a five minute recess at 7:50 PM. Council returned at 8:00 PM.

Council entered executive session at 8:00 PM. Council returned at 8:35 PM.

Council President Bergonia stated he is appointing Councilmember Baker to fill the existing vacancy on LARA; term expiration date of 12/31/15.

There being no further business, Councilmember Mahon made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Strosser, to adjourn the meeting. Motion was unanimously approved. Meeting adjourned at 8:40 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia M. Garrison  
Borough Secretary

**RECOMMENDATION  
OF APPOINTMENT  
OF ED COX TO LNC**

**BULL RUN  
NEIGHBORHOOD  
UPDATE**

**ROOMING/LODGING  
HOUSE DISCUSSION**

**SHADE TREE  
COMMISSION**

**CK-COG**

**COMMUNITY  
GARDEN**

**OLD BUSINESS**

**NEW BUSINESS**

**WRITTEN REPORTS**

**WORK SESSION**

**EXECUTIVE SESSION  
ON REAL ESTATE  
ISSUE**

**RECESS**

**(EXECUTIVE  
SESSION)**

**APPOINTMENT OF  
KEN BAKER TO  
LARA**

**ADJOURNMENT**