

The regular monthly meeting of the Borough Council of Lewisburg, Union County, Pennsylvania, was held on **Tuesday, November 18, 2014** in the Council Chambers, 55 South Fifth Street. Present: Council President Bergonia; Councilmembers Baker, Cook, Cox, Faden, Mahon, Morris and Strosser; Mayor Wagner, Solicitor Lyons, Manager Smith, Secretary Garrison and BVRP Chief Yost. Also present: Matt Farrand, Samantha Pearson, Teri Provost, Jim Mathias, Dan Remley, Martha Barrick, Kevin Gardner, John Gardner, Rachel Sussman and Trey Casimir.

**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 Mahon, to approve the minutes of the October 21, 2014 regular meeting. Motion was unanimously approved.

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:** Kevin Gardner stated he is present to speak about the budget. He understands there is a ½ mill increase being proposed for 2015. Council President Bergonia said it is a ¾ mill increase. Mr. Gardner said that is about a 10 ½% increase. Manager Smith indicated it is a 7% increase. Mr. Gardner said last year it was a 28% increase, so that is almost 40% in two years; how much further can this go. He indicated he has been in attendance at the last several Finance Committee meetings and there have been some really well thought out suggestions made. Council President Bergonia indicated this budget was reviewed several times and we made as many cuts as possible. Councilmember Morris said we have heard Mr. Gardner's suggestions and we are setting up two committees to thoroughly review the Parking Fund and the Refuse Fund during 2015 for the 2016 budget. Mayor Wagner stated she was going to veto the budget unless committees were formed for the review of the two funds just mentioned. Since that will be taking place, putting Council in a position of making decisions based upon facts, she feels comfortable. Mr. Gardner pointed out he is renting a small cape on South Sixteenth Street and when he asked the woman why she sold her house in the Borough where she has lived for 59 ½ years, she shared through tears that she couldn't afford the oil or the taxes any longer. You are talking about meeting next year, but that is another year away. Council President Bergonia explained we have tried to keep the tax increase as low as possible. Mr. Gardner commented he heard that our Mayor recently went to her friend's public sale and spent \$2800.00 of the Borough's money for the rock out in the garden; something is very wrong. Mayor Wagner said the cost was \$2700.00. Councilmember Morris indicated the millstone acquisition was approved by Council as it holds historic significance for this Borough; we wanted the millstone in the Borough.

Samantha Pearson updated Council on the Flood Impact Task Force progress, indicating there are three subcommittees meeting on: 1) certificates of elevation, 2) public outreach, and 3) banking and insurance. Later this week we will be networking with other River Towns, as well as meeting on tax base and realty impacts. The whole Task Force meets again December 10<sup>th</sup> at 7 PM and Council is welcome to participate. The River Town team met November 6<sup>th</sup> and it was a very well attended meeting. She will email Council the comments from the subgroups for review; there were four groups set up and all four came back with almost identical proposals, which was interesting. Councilmember Cook said all these meetings have been well attended and it's been a pleasure.

**POLICE COMMITTEE:** Council President Bergonia said there was no meeting in November and everyone should have received the Chief's monthly report.

Councilmember Faden said she received a letter from the residents of 16 St. George Street, Ward II residents, which she read. A fourth grade student was hit by a car, and these residents, along with others in the neighborhood, are concerned about bypassing drivers' habits such as speeding and disobeying traffic regulatory signs, all of which endanger local residents and children and pets. Councilmember Faden indicated she isn't sure if the Police Committee or the Traffic Committee will be dealing with the concerns noted in this letter, but she concurs that there are some dangerous intersections in town and a fair amount of speeding and dangerous driving. She would like to see these safety issues/concerns addressed.

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

**a. Laura Prosseda/512 Market Street/Signage.** An application was submitted to and reviewed by HARB for a new sign. A motion was made by Ted Strosser, seconded by Rob Cook, to recommend approval of the new sign, as stated in a letter attached to the HARB application and as shown in the drawings provided. Motion was unanimously approved.

**b. Robert-Jill Gotoff/54 South Second Street/Addition.** The Gotoff's were before HARB in August of this year for the removal and reconstruction of a back porch enclosed area. They shared the revised drawings, along with their old drawings, so HARB could clearly see the changes being proposed. The revised drawings were reviewed by HARB. A motion was made by Ted Strosser, seconded by Rob Cook, to recommend approval of the revised drawings as presented. Motion was unanimously approved.

**ATTENDANCE**

**CALL TO ORDER**

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

**KEVIN GARDNER**

**SAMANTHA PEARSON**

**POLICE COMMITTEE**

**CONCERN EXPRESSED OVER DRIVERS' SPEEDING/ DISOBEYING SIGNS AND ENDANGERING RESIDENTS/ CHILDREN/PETS**

**PLANNING COMMITTEE HARB**

**L PROSSEDA**

**R/J GOTOFF**

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Councilmember Strosser made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Mahon, to direct the Solicitor to prepare and advertise zoning ordinance amendments to: 1) remove conversion of a single-family dwelling into a rooming or lodging house under Section 360-21, and replace with rooming or lodging house; 2) change definition of rooming or lodging house to an owner-occupied, single-family dwelling in which lodging without meals is provided on a monthly basis and in which more than three (3) unrelated persons may live; and 3) amend zoning district map to reflect all the area from Market Street south to James Alley, and from the east side of South Sixth Street to Bull (Limestone) Run to be open space. ON THE QUESTION: Councilmember Strosser indicated the first two amendments are at the recommendation of our Planning Commission. With removal of the homes along South Sixth Street, due to FEMA regulations we cannot ever build there. Since we are already considering an amendment of the zoning ordinance, we may as well rezone the South Sixth Street area. Solicitor Lyons asked if the intent is for the drafting of the ordinance for review or for the intent of having a public hearing; have you gone through the review process with both Planning Commissions, ours and the County Planning Commission. Manager Smith said no, the Union County Planning Commission hasn't reviewed this. Solicitor Lyons explained they must be given thirty days to review the proposed zoning ordinance amendment, so this motion is fine and at the next meeting you can direct that an advertisement be placed for a public hearing to be held in January. Motion was unanimously approved.

**SOLICITOR TO PREPARE/ ADVERTISE ZONING ORDINANCE AMENDMENTS**

Councilmember Strosser made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Morris, to direct the Solicitor to advertise the following 2015 meeting dates and times: Work Session: 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of each month – 7:00 PM; Council Meeting: 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of each month – 7:00 PM; Traffic Advisory Committee: 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday of each month – 12:00 Noon; Lewisburg Planning Commission: 1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday of each month – 6:00 PM; Shade Tree Commission: 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of each month – 7:00 PM; HARB: 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of each month – 5:00 PM; Zoning Hearing Board: 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday of each month – 7:00 PM; Finance Committee: 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday of each month – 4:00 PM; Police Committee: 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday of each month – 5:00 PM; Public Works Committee: 1<sup>st</sup> Monday of each month – 5:30 PM (except for September, which will be the 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday); Planning Committee: 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of each month – 5:00 PM (except for January, April, July and October, which will be the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday). Motion was unanimously approved.

**SOLICITOR TO ADVERTISE 2015 MEETINGS**

Councilmember Strosser made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Morris, to reappoint Peter J. Bergonia, Jr. to the Buffalo Valley Recreation Authority (BVRA) to serve a five year term 01/01/15 through 12/31/19. Motion was unanimously approved.

**REAPPOINTMENT OF P BERGONIA/BVRA**

Councilmember Strosser made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Mahon, to reappoint Judith T. Wagner to the CATV Advisory Committee to serve a five year term 01/01/15 through 12/31/19. Motion was unanimously approved.

**REAPPOINTMENT OF J WAGNER/CATV ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

Councilmember Strosser made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Mahon, to reappoint Steve Snook and Robert Cook to the Historic Architectural Review Board (HARB) to serve a three year term 01/01/15 through 12/31/17. Motion was unanimously approved.

**REAPPOINTMENT OF S SNOOK/RCOOK TO HARB**

Councilmember Strosser made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Morris, to reappoint Nada R. Gray and Thomas K. Egan to the Planning Commission to serve a four year term 01/01/15 through 12/31/18. Motion was unanimously approved.

**REAPPOINTMENT OF N GRAY/T EGAN TO PLANNING COMMISSION**

Councilmember Strosser made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Mahon, to reappoint Trey Casimir to the Shade Tree Commission (STC) to serve a five year term 01/01/15 through 12/31/19. Motion was unanimously approved.

**REAPPOINTMENT OF T CASIMIR TO STC**

Councilmember Strosser made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Morris, to appoint Steven Beattie to the Zoning Hearing Board (ZHB), to fill the existing vacancy, with a term expiration of 12/31/14; and reappoint Steven Beattie to the Zoning Hearing Board (ZHB) to serve a three year term 01/01/15 through 12/31/17. Motion was unanimously approved.

**APPOINTMENT/ REAPPOINTMENT OF S BEATTIE TO ZHB**

Councilmember Strosser made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Morris, to reappoint Susan P. Mahon to the Buffalo Valley Regional Police Commission (BVRPC) to serve a two year term 01/07/15 through 01/07/17. Motion was unanimously approved.

**REAPPOINTMENT OF S MAHON TO BVRPC**

Councilmember Strosser made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Morris, to accept the resignation of Jack E. Solomon, effective 11/01/14, from the Lewisburg Area Joint Sewer Authority (LAJSA), with deep regret. Motion was unanimously approved.

**RESIGNATION OF J SOLOMON FROM LAJSA**

Councilmember Strosser made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Mahon, to accept resignation of Vicki Caudullo, effective immediately, from the Traffic Advisory Committee (TAC), with regret. Motion was unanimously approved.

**RESIGNATION OF V CAUDULLO FROM TAC**

Councilmember Morris made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Mahon, to accept resignation of Ted Strosser, effective immediately, from the Traffic Advisory Committee (TAC), with deep regret. Motion was unanimously approved.

**RESIGNATION OF T STROSSER FROM TAC**

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Councilmember Strosser made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Morris, to accept resignation of Ken Baker, effective immediately, from the Lewisburg Neighborhoods Corporation (LNC), with regret. Motion was unanimously approved.

Councilmember Strosser made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Morris, to appoint Rob Cook to the Lewisburg Neighborhoods Corporation (LNC), to fill the unexpired term, with a term expiration of 12/31/15. Motion was unanimously approved.

Councilmember Strosser indicated he has a few FYI's for Council. The South Sixth Street open space will now be considered to be part of our existing Hufnagle Park. The Borough is in receipt of a zoning application for a change in use to rooming or lodging house for the property known as 625 St. Catherine Street; conditional use public hearing has been scheduled for December 16, 2014. And, current vacancies are as follows: one on Vacancy Board, two on Planning Commission, one on the CATV Advisory Committee, one on the LAJSA, and two on the Traffic Advisory Committee.

**PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE:** Councilmember Baker made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Strosser, to approve of budget modification of Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 2012 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program submittal to the Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development (DCED) as follows: Heiter Community Center Before School Care: Current Budget \$14,000.00; Modification \$14,000.00 = Modified Budget \$0.00; and Lewisburg Borough-wide curb cuts: Current Budget \$10,000.00; Modification \$14,000.00 = Modified Budget \$24,000.00. ON THE QUESTION: Councilmember Morris asked why we cut out the Heiter Center. Teri Provost of SEDA-COG indicated she had numerous conversations with Andrea Tufo regarding her ideas; unfortunately Ms. Tufo's ideas were not fundable from a CDBG perspective, i.e. low to moderate income individuals due to fair share accounting. The Before School Care Program was taken over by the School District so you can't use CDBG funding for something that has already been done as there has to be a need for the public service. This money must be spent by October. Manager Smith said Ms. Tufo understands and acknowledges that her ideas would not work, so it made sense to move the money to a street project that requires ADA curb cuts. Motion was unanimously approved.

Councilmember Baker indicated he has two FYI's for Council. 2015 Street Projects will include: St. Anthony Street from North Third Street to North Water Street, including intersections and ADA curb cuts; St. Anthony Street (cul-de-sacs); Terrace Drive and Meadow Lane micro-resurfacing; with a financial commitment for St. Paul Street west of Fairground Road. Manager Smith indicated we have let bids for resurfacing work several times and have been unsuccessful, so we will be letting bids again in the spring. The actual cul-de-sac is the project as they have not been maintained. And, we are building our budget to be able to do the St. Paul Street work in 2016. Councilmember Baker also indicated Borough Management met with Citizens' Electric to discuss the Boulevard Lights (three-globe light standards), electric use, costs, etc. with no significant savings found; the recommendation was made for long-term replacement of CFL light bulbs with low impact LED light bulbs in Boulevard Lights. Manager Smith explained it would be more expensive to try to change them all out now vs. the ten year savings we would see. We will, over time, budget to replace them. For comparison purposes, on the corner of South Fifth Street and St. Louis Street that street light standard holds the current compact fluorescent light bulbs, the one directly outside the Council Chamber door holds the standard LED light bulbs, and as soon as we get the low impact LED light bulbs, we will put them in the next street light so you will be able to see the differences in the lighting of each, if there is a difference. Councilmember Morris said Mr. Winslow of Citizens Electric spoke to the Kiwanis Club and she understands that in 2015 we will be able to go to another company for the distribution charges or generation charges. Although she doesn't fully understand, one of these charges will always be with Citizens Electric, so going with someone else for the other charge will not hurt Citizens Electric and may be beneficial to the customer. Councilmember Strosser said we also want to evaluate the lighting in the alleys as there are places where we have added three globe lights, so we could possibly remove an alley light, which would be a savings.

**FINANCE COMMITTEE:** Councilmember Morris made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Baker, to approve the payment of bills from 10/18/14 through 11/14/14 in the amount of \$294,801.05. ON THE QUESTION: Manager Smith said in addition to the standard expenses, we had a workers compensation transfer, a payment to BVRA, engineering costs for projects and we received our \$55,000.00 loan payment, which we transferred. That amounts to around \$90,000.00; if you subtract that, we are basically right in the ballpark of what we pay on a monthly basis. Motion was unanimously approved.

Councilmember Morris made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Mahon, to approve the proposed 2015 budget with millage rates as follows: General Fund 9.430; Street Light Fund 0.465; Fire Protection Fund 0.500; Shade Tree Fund 0.165; Recreation Fund 0.340; and to direct Solicitor to advertise proposed 2015 budget for final consideration and adoption of Council on Tuesday, December 16, 2014. ON THE QUESTION: Councilmember Strosser said this equates to .50 millage increase to General Fund, .125

RESIGNATION OF K  
BAKER FROM LNC

APPOINTMENT OF  
R COOK TO LNC

MISCELLANEOUS  
UPDATES

PUBLIC WORKS  
COMMITTEE

BUDGET  
MODIFICATION OF  
FFY 2012 CDBG  
PROGRAM  
FUNDING

MISCELLANEOUS  
UPDATES

FINANCE  
COMMITTEE  
PAYMENT OF BILLS

PROPOSED 2015  
BUDGET WITH NEW  
MILLAGE RATES  
APPROVED AND  
SOLICITOR  
DIRECTED TO  
ADVERTISE SAME

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millage increase to Street Light Fund, and .125 millage increase to Shade Tree Fund. The increase to the Shade Tree Fund should be a one-time increase to deal with the Emerald Ash Borer, and you will see later tonight that we are considering removal of ash trees. Motion was unanimously approved.

Councilmember Morris made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Mahon, to direct Solicitor to prepare and advertise the necessary tax ordinance (General Fund 9.430; Street Light Fund 0.465; Fire Protection Fund 0.500; Shade Tree Fund 0.165; Recreation Fund 0.340; total millage of 10.900 for 2015). Motion was unanimously approved.

Councilmember Morris made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Strosser, to direct Solicitor to prepare tax resolution regarding the realty transfer tax, the earned income tax, the local services tax, the business privilege tax, and the per capita tax for 2015. Motion was unanimously approved.

Councilmember Morris made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Cox, to contribute up to \$12,800.00 to the Lewisburg Little League for the concession stand upgrades, along with a request that the Lewisburg Little League contact East Buffalo Township requesting a contribution toward this project also. ON THE QUESTION: Manager Smith said the concession stand needs some work and the Little League has a potential "silent" contributor and can run with this project quicker and more efficiently than the Borough. They asked for a commitment or guarantee from the Borough and this motion gives them that. Councilmember Strosser asked if Little League is contributing anything toward this project. Manager Smith said yes; the potential cost of this project is upwards of \$40,000.00. Councilmember Morris asked the Manager to follow-up with the Little League to be sure that they ask East Buffalo Township for funding.

Councilmember Morris said there is an FYI; the 302 North Third Street property owner requested a refuse reimbursement back to July 8, 2008, which the Finance Committee denied, recommending that the Borough follow the standard procedure/protocol and grant refuse reimbursement of one quarter billing.

**MAYOR:** Mayor Wagner said it's been a very busy month. The stone that was referred to earlier this evening is a millstone. The Union County Historical Society published a book, 2014 Heritage, *Water-powered Gristmills of Union County Pennsylvania*, which reveals the development of Union County through the history of its gristmills. It features a picture of the original gristmill built by Ludwig Derr, who is credited with founding our Borough. She was proud to acquire it and keep it in this Borough. She also donated three stones from the old opera house that burned around the turn of the century, as they are also part of Lewisburg's heritage. She stressed we need to value our past in order to go forward into the future. A second millstone has been located and we are pursuing that. She recently attended a Community Relations Board meeting at the penitentiary, as well as the Susquehanna Valley Visitors Bureau's annual breakfast. She suggested everyone tour the Visitor's Bureau as it is quite impressive.

**COUNCIL PRESIDENT:** Council President Bergonia said there have been a lot of communication regarding the brush clearing along the riverbank at Soldiers Park. Councilmember Cook commented he believes the clearing at the park was done in what was thought to be in the best interest of the Borough, not necessarily in the best interest of some of the residents. It's unfortunate, but forgivable. He shared a letter dated November 16<sup>th</sup> from Michele Kittell, who was unable to be present tonight. He explained that through all the discussions, he believes good is going to come from this. Even those that were quite upset are looking at this more positively now. He explained that Ms. Kittell has agreed to become involved in some of our groups concentrating on the river, and he believes her input will be valuable. He clarified he isn't advocating one way or the other. Councilmember Strosser said there have been discussions in committee relative to the bank clearing and our Manager had a price of \$12,000.00 for this work to be performed; no one wanted to see that amount of money spent to remove what will grow back by summer anyway. So, when an opportunity came up for this work to be done at no cost to the Borough, the Manager took advantage of it. Manager Smith said when the municipality that was helping us along another section of Bull Run had the equipment here and indicated they had the time available, he asked them to remove the brush from Soldiers Park. He has had the opportunity to read the letter from Michele Kittell and he can't disagree that the piece of equipment used was the wrong piece of equipment, but it did the job of cutting the brush back. This was a lesson learned, and he likes hearing that this is being viewed positively now. Our Borough crew was there today cleaning up that area, which we always intended to do. We couldn't get there until today because we have prescheduled decorating for the Holidays work yesterday and this morning. He contacted the Conservation District and their comment was it was important that we maintain a root structure, which we did. However, they didn't support what was done. Plus, BVRA has been doing work along the railroad bridge, so this tied in with all the discussions and work taking place down there already. Mr. Mathias commented there is a striking difference in the appearance of the river bridge because of the work BVRA did on the bridge itself. PP&L actually did all that work in accordance with DEP processes. This work was long overdue and a great first step in maintaining the integrity of the structure. Although there are two projects that occurred, together they make a huge difference in the overall

**SOLICITOR DIRECTED TO PREPARE/ ADVERTISE TAX ORDINANCE**

**SOLICITOR DIRECTED TO PREPARE TAX RESOLUTION**

**APPROVAL OF CONTRIBUTION TO LITTLE LEAGUE FOR CONCESSION STAND UPGRADES**

**MISCELLANEOUS UPDATES**

**MAYOR**

**COUNCIL PRESIDENT**

**DISCUSSION OF CLEARING OF SOLDIERS PARK**

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appearance there. Manager Smith commented there was actually a third project there; an Eagle Scout wanted to do a trail where BVRA is coming in and out with wood, so we weren't necessarily supportive of that project, so we offered him a couple of other options along Soldiers Park. He choose to clear out the bridge abutment and the monuments can now be seen. Councilmember Morris said moving forward we can get a better sense of coordination for the work there, but she has to share that she has received a lot of positive comments about people that are happy to be able to actually see the river. Mayor Wagner agreed, and stressed that we all treasure Soldiers Park. Councilmember Cook asked Ms. Pearson if the greenway group was going to help come up with a plan and funding sources. Ms. Pearson said the process now that we have public input, is we need Council input, and then hopefully we will be in a position of determining what we want to ask for, i.e. planning funding for this park or for more than just this one area along the river, etc.

**SOLICITOR:** Solicitor Lyons indicated he needs an executive session at the end of this meeting to discuss two legal issues.

**MANAGER:** Councilmember Morris made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Mahon, to adopt Resolution No. 14-11, authorizing a Tax and Revenue Anticipation Note in the amount of \$400,000.00 for year 2015. Motion was unanimously approved.

Councilmember Baker made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Cook, to adopt Resolution No. 14-12, placement of 2015 banners across State Highway (Market Street) and submit to PennDOT. Motion was unanimously approved.

Councilmember Strosser made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Cook, to approve per capita tax exonerations for 2014 (2014-01) in the amount of \$140.00, as submitted by the Tax Collector. Motion was unanimously approved.

Councilmember Strosser made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Cook, to award the Ash Tree Removal Bid to Dincher & Dincher Tree Surgeons, Inc. in the amount of \$23,980.00 (base bid) for the removal of 125 ash trees in Hunt Park. ON THE QUESTION: Manager Smith said the Shade Tree Commission (STC) has taken a position that the Borough should reject all bids. They would like to see the Borough work with a forester to determine the value of the ash tree wood first, then try to get a logging company in to purchase the wood and deal with the tree trimming and stump grinding and subsequent earth moving. Hunt Park is the property between the car wash and St. Lawrence Street (Section A), then you have the center of the park (Section B), then you have the west side of Fifteenth Street (Section C). We originally attempted to do Sections A, B and C, but the dollar amount would have been six figures and we were not financially prepared to deal with that. We did a bid addendum for Section A, which is the largest portion. The STC's current position is that the center of the park is where the children play and the playground equipment is located, so that should be a priority before Hunt Park. The decision needed is do we take as many as we can or do we concentrate on the center of the park. Councilmember Morris asked if there is a need to award this now or could we follow the STC's recommendation and research the other aspect. Manager Smith said he isn't sure how long we have to award this bid, but the contractors submitted bonds/securities and they cannot be held indefinitely. Councilmember Cox asked if we are selling what gets cut down. Manager Smith explained for clarification that a tree trimmer trims, a logger logs, and landscapers do earthmoving. So the tree trimmers that bid, did not submit bids for the other work. With this particular bid the tree trimmer will cut down the trees, piling the saleable wood on one side and the burnable wood on the other side, and the rest would be chipped.

Rachel Sussman, representing the STC, commented if we could get a significant amount of money for the trees in Hunt Park, it would help offset some of the very high costs of taking down the trees in the central part of the park. The STC's discussions with various foresters has led us to believe that we can make back a significant amount of the money that we have to spend. Councilmember Morris commented saving the wood and piling it off to the side would be the same thing. Ms. Sussman stated that the trees need to be standing in order for the assessment to take place. Councilmember Strosser said the critical part is removal of trees in the area where the kids play and that wasn't even included in this bid. Manager Smith explained that anything over \$25,000.00 brings prevailing wage with it and when you add that you are adding at least a third to the cost. When we were talking about Sections A, B and C, he was told it could be anywhere from \$100,000.00 to \$130,000.00. Our tree trimmers, when they saw the 42 page bid packet, simply said we have no interest. Councilmember Morris said this section allows us to remove the majority of the ash trees, correct? Manager Smith said yes; that leaves approximately 50 remaining. Councilmember Strosser said the 125 in this bid are the easy ones to take down; he is sure the others will be much more expensive because of their location. Manager Smith said we always have the ability to award this bid, and then take the remaining trees in groups of two or three. Councilmember Morris commented that stump grinding is extremely expensive; to bring someone in for just for the stump grinding would cost much more than the amount bid. Manager Smith said yes, because there would be mobilization costs and we are requiring a depth of 12" or greater as we want to be able to replant.

**SOLICITOR**

**MANAGER**  
TAX AND REVENUE  
ANTICIPATION NOTE  
(TRAN) (RESOLUTION  
NO. 14-11)

PLACEMENT OF 2015  
BANNERS  
(RESOLUTION NO.  
14-12)

APPROVAL OF 2014  
PER CAPITA TAX  
EXONERATIONS

ASH TREE  
REMOVAL BID

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Ms. Pearson stated she talked to the forester about this issue a year ago and he recommended logging companies as the way to go. She said the forester also indicated stump grinding runs approximately \$2.00 per diameter. She questioned the value of the wood to the Borough; if the wood has significant value to the Borough, then going with the tree trimmer makes sense. Manager Smith said all of this was looked at and talked about in great detail. The earthmoving portion of this work could be performed by the Borough; although he didn't want to have to do it. The Borough doesn't have chippers that are needed for that portion of the work. And, yes, there are some hazardous limbs in the Section B area of the park, which were to be cut back, as he spoke to the BVRA about them. The thought was that trimming would allow us time to be able to get to the tree removal later. Councilmember Strosser suggested we could wait a month on the award of this bid, giving the Manager time to contact the forester and see what could be done per the STC recommendations. Mr. Mathias, Chairman of the BVRA, said he believes the other areas where the active playground, pool and tennis courts are located should get the attention first. Manager Smith shared that our STC Chairman, Trey Casimir, found out that the forester will charge approximately \$2,000.00 to provide assistance and act as a project manager. If we reject this bid, we will have to advertise again, which will be an additional \$400.00 to \$500.00. Mr. Mathias commented he isn't sure we need to grind stumps, because we don't know what the use of that property will be; having them sit around for a couple of years, might not be a bad thing. Manager Smith said Mr. Mathias is referring specifically to Hunt Park. Mr. Matthias said there are all kinds of issues in Hunt Park, i.e. flooding, wetlands, etc., so until a decision is made as to what makes the most sense, why would we spend the money for stump removal. Councilmember Morris said Trey Casimir just arrived. She asked if he has anything to add. Mr. Casimir said not knowing the future of Hunt Park, he agrees that leaving the stumps would be a cost saver and it might make sense. Our only urgency is where we will put the 100 trees we got the grant for. He reiterated the role the forester, Scott Carey, would play with a new bid should we reject this bid, pointing out this will be a multi-phase project. There was **very much** discussion. Manager Smith asked Council if they wish to reject this bid or simply table it at this point.

Councilmember Morris made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Mahon, to table the award of the Ash Tree Removal Bid at this time, and direct the Manager to continue to move forward with the investigation of proceeding with the STC's recommendation, having information for Council at their next regular monthly meeting in December. Motion was unanimously approved.

**OTHER COMMITTEES:** Council President Bergonia said the BVRA's pool is closed for the winter.

Councilmember Morris indicated the LDP is gearing up for their Christmas festivities. A personnel policy has been finalized for the LDP and Linda Sterling will be presented with her first employment letter since 2001. Renelle Spagnoletti will be retiring from the LDP in December; there has been some restructuring of the job and Ellen Ruby will continue to do the accounting work she has been doing and also take over the responsibilities previously handled by Ms. Spagnoletti.

Council President Bergonia said we heard from the LNC this evening.

Councilmember Morris indicated the Town and Gown Committee met and it was a productive meeting.

Council President Bergonia said we also heard from the STC earlier this evening.

Council President Bergonia reported there is nothing new to report on the CK-COG.

Councilmember Morris stated the Community Garden coordinators produced a calendar that is absolutely beautiful.

Manager Smith said last month Mr. Gwynn was present asking for pedestrian crossing signs to be placed on Market Street at Water Street. He said these will not work at that precarious intersection, and he is looking for assistance from PennDOT. Ms. Pearson said the Traffic Advisory Committee has made numerous recommendations for that intersection, in addition to the signs. She asked where she should send that information, to the Public Works Committee or Council. Councilmember Strosser said they should be sent to the Manager and he will make sure the Public Works Committee gets them. He commented these things used to go to the Police Committee, but now that we do not have one, he feels the Public Works Committee would make the most sense. Councilmember Morris stressed it is important for the Chief to stay involved with this issue. Councilmember Strosser invited the Chief to attend the Public Works Committee meeting.

Mayor Wagner indicated the Lewisburg Area High School Repurposing Committee expects to have the Request for Proposal (RFP) out in January. By September she hopes to have three solid proposals for submission to the School Board. Kevin Gardner questioned where the bus transfer is going to be; he hasn't been able to get an answer.

**ASH TREE REMOVAL  
BID TABLED**

**OTHER COMMITTEES  
BVRA**

**LDP**

**LNC**

**TOWN AND GOWN  
COMMITTEE**

**STC**

**CK-COG**

**COMMUNITY GARDEN**

**TRAFFIC ADVISORY  
COMMITTEE**

**HIGH SCHOOL  
REPURPOSING  
COMMITTEE**

November 18, 2014

Councilmember Strosser said he thinks it is still going to be at the high school on the Dale Alley side, but that really hasn't been discussed any further. Mayor Wagner said this would definitely have to be in the RFP for the bus transfer to remain there.

Councilmember Cook said the next meeting of the Flood Impact Task Force will be December 10<sup>th</sup>.

**OLD BUSINESS:** None.

**NEW BUSINESS:** Councilmember Cox said the Fire Company group is meeting Thursday night and there are interviews scheduled.

Mayor Wagner said she understands that Sunday, November 30<sup>th</sup> at the WCEC there will be an honorarium for Bob Stackhouse and David Arrant. She indicated she would email the specifics to Council.

**WRITTEN REPORTS:** Councilmember Morris 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 indicated there will not be a work session December 9<sup>th</sup>. Manager Smith said if something should come up that requires Council action, he would certainly contact everyone.

Councilmember Mahon made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Baker, to hold an executive session to discuss two legal issues and a personnel issue. Motion was unanimously approved.

Council President Bergonia called for a five minute recess at 8:25 PM. Council returned at 8:30 PM.

Council entered executive session at 8:30 PM. Council returned at 9:15 PM.

There being no further business, Councilmember Morris made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Mahon, to adjourn the meeting. Motion was unanimously approved. Meeting adjourned at 9:15 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia M. Garrison  
Borough Secretary

**FLOOD IMPACT TASK FORCE**

**OLD BUSINESS**

**NEW BUSINESS**

**WRITTEN REPORTS**

**WORK SESSION**

**LEGAL ISSUES/PERSONNEL ISSUE**

**(RECESS)**

**(EXECUTIVE SESSION)**

**ADJOURNMENT**