

**GRATZ BOROUGH COUNCIL
N CENTER STREET
PO BOX 305
GRATZ, PA. 17030**

July 10, 2024

The Regular Meeting was held in the Gratz Boro Meeting Room at 7:00 P.M. with the following, persons attending: President Kylie Bender, Jem Jeffries, Mayor David Norris, Lynn Schadle, Bruce Wolfe Absent William Reed

JHA: Pete Fleszar Absent

Solicitor: Sean Logsdon, Esq

Lehigh Engineering: Absent

Citizens: Lori Williard, Troy Schadle, Tim Leshner, Brian Novinger

Bid Opening: For North St from Spruce Street to Center Street and North Street from West Street to A Point (Directed by Municipality)

First Bid: Meckley's Limestone bid \$45,568.00

Second Bid New Enterprise Stone & Lime Co. Inc. bid \$39,342.29

On a Motion made by Lynn Schadle and second by Bruce Wolfe the bid went to New Enterprise Stone & Lime Co. Inc for \$39,342.29. Motion Carried.

This meeting is being recorded.

Pledge to the Flag

On a motion made by Kylie Bender and second by Jem Jeffries the minutes were approved as read Motion Carried

Report of Engineer: Pete Fleszar was absent

Citizens to be Heard: N/A

Community Center: David said that Cindy contacted Zartmans who did the roof at the Community Center, Cindy said that the roof was done back in November of 2006 for \$91,341.36 Zartman is going to go back and see if there was a contract.

Tim talked to Andy Ney and Andy feels that to put replacement screws in or put a rubber roof on.

Cindy redid the Rental Agreement for the Community Center and gave to the Council to review, if any addition or correction are needed, please let Cindy know.

Code Enforcer and Zoning/Bldg Permits: Cindy mention to the Council that Thomas Williard had a zoning application for the purchase of Land on his grandparents' land. After going back and forth with the Engineers Thomas decided to withdraw his application. Thomas gave the Borough a check for \$1,000.00. The cost of the Lehigh Engineering was \$165.00. Cindy felt that

Thomas should have a refund of \$835.00 since he did not go any further on his application. On a motion made by Lynn Schadle and seconded by Kylie Bender to refund the monies. Motion Carried. Bruce Wolfe abstained from voting.

Sewer Authority: Brian reported that Tim Leshner is putting together a gaming grant and Tim has a meeting on Friday, Brian wanted to know if the Borough was going to put in a gaming grant, because if not the water could get twice as much. Bruce ask what they are going for, Tim said fencing, valves, meters, testing equipment. Lynn was thinking the Borough should be considering putting in the gaming grant for the Community Center, which needs new ceiling, bathroom updates, Lynn said that you do not need any audits for this grant. Lynn said we could ask for \$75,000.00 and then next year ask for more.

Bruce ask if to get a gaming grant do they need the Borough to sponsor them. Tim said yes. Kylie said you would get a letter from the Borough.

Brian reported on the audits. Brian ask Sean if they were promised by the end of the year they would be completed and they are not. Is there anything they can do. Sean said you would have to see the agreement with the auditors. Lynn said they have not received anything, or any return phone calls and Tracey has been texting and emailing and no response. After further discussion, Tracey will email the information to Sean so Sean can address the issue.

Brian had another question for Sean, got a bid from a contractor to do the hydro excavation work. Brian said there is no timeline for the contractor to get this completed, can this go on for years. Brian said that they are halfway through the project and are not coming back till later in the Summer. Tracey will send the Contract and information to Sean.

Brian reported that he got a call from our website regarding being ADA compliant. Asking Sean when do we have to have this done. Brian said they are working a price of \$1000.00 one-time Sean told Brian that what he saw on the website is legit and would have to be done.

Brian reported that he got an email regarding the Swift alert, the renewal is October 1st in the amount of \$1,337.50, this is the automatic caller. The Water, Sewer pay one half and the Borough pays the other half. Brian said there is no limited times we can use it.

Brian reported that the Erie Insurance Company is reviewing the Boroughs policy. Brian will get with Cindy with the question they have. Should have a quote for the August meeting. If Comps come in higher, they will not waste their time, if come in lower she will have that information for the Boro to review. Erie will handle everything that needs to be done if we go with them.

Bruce ask about the Article of Incorporation. Brian said there was a Master Service Agreement that went thru Karpowich's office, and he feels that they are not doing anything wrong. After further discussion Bruce will set up some meetings.

Planning Commission: Monthly scheduled meeting which have been advertised.

Report of Waterworks and Pumping Station Attendant: No Report

Mayor's Report: David reported that last month there was complaints about the dumpster on Market Street. Tim said that the dumpster is moved.

COMMITTEE REPORT

Recreation: Kylie had a question for Sean, can we legally put-up speed bumps that we can move around back at the park. Sean mentioned that temporary speed bumps can be stolen. Sean said about speed bumps that can be temporary fasten to the street. Sean said we would also need signage. Sean said we must be mindful regarding the liability.

Jem mention that a child is driving around on a mo-ped that is going to get hit. Tim talked to him. Tim said he is leaving; he is here visiting.

Cogs: Dave reported that the meeting for July 18th will be discussing Solar Farms. There was a survey that Cogs would like all municipalities to fill out. Dave and Lynn filled the survey out. Lynn will go to the meeting.

Highway: Kylie reported that Tim did the cross walks with a paint roller. There is still more to do.

Patching will be done.

Information Committee: No Report

Ag Security: No Report

Budget and Finance Committee: Bruce briefly looked over the audit Brian gave him.

Insurance: Erie Insurance will give us a quote for August meeting.

Solicitor's Report: Sean reported on the Battery Extension Project the extension will be for September 30, 2024, and we will need a motion for that Extension. Sean said they are still working on the water line issue. On a motion made by Lynn Schadle and second by Kylie Bender to have them extended to September 30, 2024, Motion Carried.

Sean reported they are looking at the zoning map and if Council would like for them to change or amend the map and this can only be done by the Borough Council.

Lynn said the areas that are totally land locked with no water or sewer on them should never have been zoned Residential. Lynn said that is the case for Jim Hepler. Lynn feels that should be changed.

Sean explained the advertising process on doing these changes. Lynn ask Sean if we would want to change the property for Jim Hepler what would need to be done. Sean said that we would need the specific, such as the Pin #, the properties around his property. On a motion made by Lynn Schadle and second by Bruce Wolfe to amend the zoning map to reflect 7 acres to an A1, of Jim Hepler. Motion Carried. Sean will get that process moving and to let the Planning Commission know as well.

Sean said that Bill Reed had questions on the burning ordinance and since he is absent, Sean said we could say that we do not want no burning, after further discussion, this will be tabled.

Sean had talked about the Engineer Brake Prohibition. This has to do with PennDot. Sean said that we would have to ask Penndot permission, and he does not know if they would give permission, since we do not have a police force. Asking what part of town or if we want the whole town. After further discussion, Kylie said see if we can get permission.

Sean reviewed the Municipal Notification of Planned Land Development for Chapter 102

Permits. Sean said it was filled out at the Planning Commission meeting, just needs a Municipal Representative to sign and then they will send it. David Norris signed on behalf of the Borough.

Other Business: Bruce ask Tim if they were good for the Strategic Meeting on the 29th of July. Tim said the Fire House would be available. Bruce has an agenda.

Lynn wanted to bring up Karen Trynoski, the end of July is what we given her to get things fixed. Lynn said they never had the inspection when they did the area of the back. They have no permit. Sean will look into it and send us an update.

Treasurer's Report: The Treasury Report was read on a motion made by Lynn Schadle and second by Kylie Bender to pay the bills.

Expenses to be Approved: The Expenses for the month were read. On a motion made by Lynn Schadle and second by Bruce Wolfe to pay the bills. Motion Carried

Adjournment: No further business and the meeting was adjourned at 8:36 P.M. on a motion made by Lynn Schadle and second by Jem Jeffries. Motion Carried

Respectfully Submitted:

Cindy L Shade
Borough Secretary

These notes are intended as an overview of the meetings discussions and not intended as an exact word account of what was said. So, if there are any comments or concerns or objections to what is written within this report. Please forward those comments and we will gladly make any adjustments after the approval of the Gratz Borough Council Meeting.