

Borough of Waterford Council

Meeting Minutes – May 2, 2016

Opening

Council President Jeff Horneman called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm followed by the Pledge of Allegiance, Invocation.

Council Members Present

Jeff Horneman, Harry Latta, Judy Cline, Dave Zaffino, Tim Williams, Garry Sargent. Also in attendance solicitor Ed Betza and Secretary Stacy Mattson.

Others in Attendance

Una Mae Van Dyke, Michael Pennock, Benny Hunt, Hazel Thomas, Ken Thomas, Stephanie Cox, Susan Osborn, Dan Williams, Bill Joslin, Robb Yapple and Donna Rose.

Public Comment

Discussion was initiated by Robb Yapple concerning 9 acres of land located on Smedley Road, deeded to Waterford Borough by Sam & Mary Hall in memory of their son killed in WWII. Their concern is that the property remains in the hands of the Borough and to be continued to be used by the Boy Scouts. Council has continued to okay the usage by the Boy Scouts. Ed Betza stated that it is restricted as to how it can be used. It cannot be used for commercial or residential use, it is to be used as a park. A suggestion was made concerning improvements to the park, such as a pavilion. Ed stated that it should be brought before Council to be approved, but sees no issues with it. Issue was raised that it needs to be logged – thinned out. Ed stated that it would have to be approved by the Borough. Garry Sargent volunteered to work with Rob and be his contact. Harry confirmed that we have the deed and it is in the safety deposit box. Liability would be the same as any park in the Borough. A schedule will be done to inform when the park is being used and by whom and will be communicated through Garry.

Una Mae Van Dyke asked if the Mayor would be riding through town checking things out as there has been some activity going on and questioned the 4 wheelers riding through town, doing wheelies and going through the cemetery. Jeff stated that for the 4 wheelers to call the State Police. Jeff stated that he could ask the Mayor but that we do have an ordinance enforcement officer that does ride around the Borough in the evenings.

Bill Joslin discussed 151 and 161 West 2nd Street and stated he owns these properties and wants to move the lot line 10 feet to the west to give them a little bit more of a driveway and when he gets ready to sell the corner property, which is 161 West 2nd St, that there won't be any questions. He submitted this to the Planning Commission and they approved it. Jeff checked with Ed Betza as we don't have a planning committee, and it is to go directly to Council to approve. Harry motioned to accept the sub-divided request, Judy Cline seconded the motion, all in favor, motion passed. Plans were signed also.

Minutes

Judy asked that Brian Smith/PennDOT be added to the list of attendees. Also add that Tim Williams made the motion to accept the lights and Dave seconded the motion. Judy made a motion to accept the minutes from the April 4th meeting and the April 25th meeting with the changes. All in favor, motion carried.

Bills

Dave questioned the extra \$2,000 for the truck repair. Harry stated it was for hoses, fittings, etc. Jeff requested we pay \$10,772.27 out of the PLGIT fund for the major repair. Judy made a motion to pay the bills with the \$10,772.27 for the truck repair coming out of the PLGIT fund. Dave seconded the motion, all in favor, motion carried.

Mayor's Report

Per Justin Blose, who was unable to attend, the following blighted properties were reported on: 600 block of East Street, the bank is looking to foreclose and it will still be monitored for high grass, etc. The property located at South Hazel St. that is abandoned and collapsed, the owner has been contacted by BIU and a letter was sent to the current owner. Ed Mills is the owner and it was sent to the District Justice per Stacy – months ago. 124 East 1st Street is also going up for foreclosure and is on the roster for sheriff's sale. 3rd & Chestnut St. – the building

is falling down, garbage and varmints. Letter was sent to the owner, giving him 3 weeks to get it cleaned up. Ted Gall is the owner and it was sent to the District Justice and he pled guilty and a fine was paid. The District Justice said we need to start over again if we want to pursue further. It was stated that Don Spence will actively follow up on these properties including 214 East 4th St., the Van Dyke property, and 115 East 3rd St. and 112 East 2nd St. These properties may also be turned over to the committee of Judy, Dave and Justin to continue on. Judy is scheduling a meeting. Another property is 102 High Street which will be discussed later in the meeting.

Harry then discussed the Borough Code 249-4 for trees, stating that there is a notice for a 90-day removal, 30 day clean-up, a 6-month removal of stump and a 1-year replacement for the tree. Jeff stated that we need to send letters and state the ordinance, but we would have to financially back this and we are not ready to do this yet. Jeff stated that we need to draft a letter and have it approved.

President's Report

Jeff spoke to Amy from the planning committee and she is confident that we will get approval for the grant change of \$25,000 towards the demo of the Porter Park Bridge. She is waiting on signatures and it is not guaranteed yet but hopefully it will go through. Jeff spoke to Urban Engineers and he feels it will be late May or early June before they are ready to do the bid for the bridge removal and we would have to wait until September anyway because of the fish in the water, etc. so this should coincide well. Gary Brown approached council about putting his utilities in the right-of-way on Water Street. Council went ahead and gave him approval to put his utilities there. Gary is asking for renewal of this as it is up for sale and he has a buyer. Ed looked at it and made a couple of corrections. Ed stated that this is a private right-of-way and a paper road, and we should not be granting permission to do this, we should state that we do not object to it. Dave Zaffino motioned to sign the changed agreement, Garry seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried. LED lighting was discussed and Tim has agreed to attend the seminar and bring back more information. Ordinance for parking on Second St. was discussed. Judy motioned to accept the ordinance as presented, Dave seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried. Jeff and Harry will look at the bridge report Stacy received. Jeff stated that, if there are no objections, he will vote for the proxy for PLGIT.

Streets

Harry stated the #1 truck is back after repairs and the streets guys have started ditching and doing patching repairs. East circuit St. has been repaired with the cooperation of the Township. Grading has also been done by the Township, with the cooperation of the Borough. We did get our bucket for the ditching and the guys have been working on it. The Streets committee will meet this month and go over all the proposals, based on Urban Engineers report and have a formal proposal in June. The money that remains in the PLGIT account will be used for some of the major projects. Jeff states that \$70,000 - \$80,000 be used from this account for repairs. Harry noted that we have new pedestrian crosswalk signs from Penndot. We have a quote from Seal-n-Stripe for doing the lines for streets and crosswalks for \$2400.00. The goal is to have it done before Memorial Day week-end. Tim motioned to approve the work for \$2400.00, seconded by Garry. All in favor, motion carried. Harry discussed the repairing of some of the alleys, notifying the owners of the repairs on 1st Alley and 2nd Alley. Millings will be put down and packed with a roller, and in the future a tar-and-chip coating on top.

New and Old Business

Jeff questioned the Waste Management bill and Stacy stated that it is a quarterly charge. Benny Hunt then discussed his property, suggesting to possibly transfer the deed to the Borough. Benny is still talking to people concerning their interest in participating in an authority owning the building, or possibly a partnership. He has talked to the bank and several other people, including PHMC who discussed buildings that were owned by a public entity. Benny stated his lawyer has asked where is the letter from the Borough stating that the property is to be demolished and Benny stated he has not received anything like that and will continue to meet with him as the building needs to be torn down. Benny would still like to save the building and the attached structures. Jeff stated our main concern is to protect the community from falling bricks and he had BIU come in and inspect it. BIU did basically state that it was in grave order. Discussion was held on whether it was a common wall or not. Benny stated that he also hoped to meet with Jeff Kidder for some ideas and recommendations. Jeff stated that more information and consideration needs to be had before a decision was made to deed the building to the Borough. Discussion was held about quotes presented last year to the Borough with several different options. Benny is also waiting for information from BIU. We need to get the report from BIU. Harry will follow up on this.

Jeff stated that the Borough would ultimately like to save the building and also for Benny to obtain some bids from contractors and see if the wall could be saved.

Dave asked if the Yield sign could be moved and it was mentioned that this is a crosswalk. Dave also asked about the stripes being painted. Discussion was also held about the school renovation. Jeff discussed the apartments – 16 initially and 60 total and up to 100 units. The next one to be built is further to the north.

Question was posed whether there would be another entrance to the apartments. Jeff stated that as of now, the state has no requests to do so.

Question was posed about parking in the wrong direction and Harry stated that would be the State Police and they are not willing to do this. The only thing we can do is between 2am and 7am violations.

Question was posed about the traffic light and discussion was held about where it would be located and Circuit St having stop signs.

Garry motioned to adjourn and Judy seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried. Meeting was adjourned at 8:32 pm.