

Borough of Waterford Council

Minutes, October, 26, 2015 Special Meeting

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**Council Members Present:**

Judy Cline, Karen Molitor, Marian Burge, Barry Pugh

Also in attendance, borough solicitor Ed Betza.

**Other attendees:**

Darlene Powell, Sandy Loop, Arnold Loop, , Renee Reynolds, Patrick Molitor, Zona Miller and streets workers, Scott Greggs and Craig Grey

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Meeting was called to order at 6:30 with Pledge of Allegiance and moment of silence.

October 12, 2015 – Motion to approve. All in favor.

September 13, 2015 minutes. Motion to approve. All in favor.

Karen Molitor gave an update on various streets projects. Urban Engineers had advised that McCormick will finish up the Walnut Street paving project by end of this week, but may need to work on Saturday. Motion to okay Saturday work if needed. All in favor.

McCormick is also working on the catch basin @ 4<sup>th</sup> & High. And will need to order a PA certified catch basin, then this project can be completed. Catch basin near 641 Walnut will need additional repairs due to a problem with the storm sewer pipe.

Discussed at length the Hazel Street Bridge project. We are still in limbo with the lowest bid the project is now approximately \$50,000 over the grants approved. The borough has offered to cover \$20,000 if additional funding can be made by the County and also the State. Urban is working with the state and the governor's office, but with the budget impasse, not sure if this will fall through. The County believes they can give \$12,000 in additional funding, however it will not be until next year and the borough would need to come up with the funding up front due to the project deadline date. After much discussion, need to wait for more information and will discuss again at the regular November meeting.

Discussed sidewalks at The Pour House, 3<sup>rd</sup> and Walnut, Russell's and auto business at northeast corner of North Park Row and High St. Even though several businesses have asphalted sidewalks, it was decided with the council prior, that once the asphalt fails and a new sidewalk is installed, that it must conform to the borough ordinance and cannot be asphalted as before. It was mentioned that at Russell's, some handicapped individuals must go out into the road to go around the parked cars and into traffic at the northeast corner of North Park Row & High and do not have painted lines and will need to be addressed. 3<sup>rd</sup> & Walnut, Urban reviewed and suggested that the property owner bring a new sidewalk up to grade to help prevent the puddling of water. The Pour House asphalted their sidewalk over the existing asphalted sidewalk, and is not conforming to the borough sidewalk requirements and should be replaced. Council needs to discuss easement with Russell's.

Judy Cline talked about the hours for the compost yard. Some residents had asked when it would be open. Because of the amount of items that are being dumped in the compost yard that are not allowed and the time it takes to remove them, etc. Scott and Craig and left it open during working hours only. Judy Cline asked if we could leave it open maybe on Saturdays, and discussion was held on various hours. It was decided that since the dumping of pallets, building materials, cement, garbage seems to have leveled off that the compost yard would remain open until problems arise again.

Livestock ordinance. Judy Cline discussed reasons that council decided to have a livestock ordinance drafted, one being that there was no ordinance currently in the books for livestock and right now anyone would be able to put a cow, horse or other farm animal in their yard. The livestock ordinance will not allow typical farm animals including chickens and roosters with the exception of a resident that has a minimum of 6 acres of land. If there is 6 acres of land, only 3 animals would be allowed. Motion passed. All in favor. Ordinance effective immediately.

Public comment opened up as executive session will be held afterwards. Renee Reynolds discussed loud music, Sandy and Arnold Loop asked about more information regarding the Hazel Street Bridge project, Darlene Powell suggested that we have all meetings on Monday evenings. There are several problems with inconsiderate neighbors for those in the audience as well as several council members mentioned the problem with inconsiderate neighbors with piled up garbage, burning during non-approved hours and burning items that should not be burnt, loud music, dogs barking.

Executive Session called at 7:20 to discuss the 2 full time streets employees complaints of doing the zoning and enforcement duties.

7:30 p.m. In open session Council president told the 2 employees of council's decision to seek someone to fill the position of zoning and enforcement duties, however they would be required to continue handling the zoning and enforcement duties until the position could be filled. A motion was made to advertise for a zoning and enforcement officer and seconded, no vote taken. Extended conversation took place between the 2 employees and council whereby the employees repeatedly refused to continue with any zoning or ordinance responsibilities. They were asked several times to continue those duties and the response was no. Then two weeks was acceptable to them, however it was mentioned that it could take as long as 3 to 4 weeks and the response by them was no, only two weeks. They were asked to take 24 hours to make a decision on continuing the zoning and enforcement. The street workers told council they were leaving their keys at the garage and walked out. A motion was then made to advertise for the streets positions, passed all in favor. Motion made to advertise for zoning and enforcement position. All in favor. Motion made to use temps to handle the streets department duties until positions were filled. All in favor. Meeting adjourned at 7:50, meeting opened back up at 7:51 to discuss personnel issues.

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Meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m. and opened up again immediately after at 8:01 p.m. Barry Pugh discussed the burning ordinance amendment which was discussed and voted on for solicitor Ed Betza to draft to ban all burning in trash barrels because of numerous complaints. It was decided to leave the open burning ordinance as it now stands for the time being and have the ordinance more strictly enforced and the subject may be addressed again at our next meeting.

Meeting adjourned again at 8:05 p.m.

