

## COOPERSBURG BOROUGH COUNCIL

### Regular Meeting Minutes

May 20, 2014

The meeting of the Coopersburg Borough Council was held on Tuesday, May 20<sup>th</sup>, in the old EMS Building behind Borough Hall. The meeting was posted and relocated due to the Primary Elections. The meeting was called to order by Council President Felch at 7:00 p.m.

#### OPENING CEREMONIES

No Opening Ceremony.

Roll call was taken by Manager Paashaus. Also present were Mayor Hovis, Council Members Balascak, Greenland, Pica, Thrapp, Solicitor Gittinger, and Engineer Erdman. Council Members Lundy and Mack were absent.

#### AGENDA

**The Agenda was ordered adopted without any changes or objections.**

#### PUBLIC COMMENT

John Zeller (457 Linden Street) requested information regarding the Brinley Court Subdivision. Felch stated that the project was located in Upper Saucon Township and the Borough would only be involved in the water and sewer discussions. The project includes over 200 townhouses. Zeller asked about the sewer markings on Linden Street. Paashaus stated that it was due to the upcoming sewer work for the CDBG rehabilitation project and unrelated to the subdivision in Upper Saucon.

#### CONSENT AGENDA

A Motion was made by Thrapp and seconded by Pica to receive the Monthly Financial Statements, receive first quarter pension report, receive the Monthly Reports (Council information, Police report, Vehicle Roster), and approve the Previous Meeting Minutes from April 15, 2014. **Consent Agenda passed by a vote of 5-0.**

#### SPECIAL REQUESTS

1. Rails to Trails – Linda Minarik explained that the Rail Trail would be having a clean-up day on May 31<sup>st</sup> and that Springfield Township would be willing to continue the trail south. A Motion was made by Balascak and seconded by Pica to have the manager send a letter of support to Springfield Township to continue the trail south. **The Motion passed by a vote of 5-0.**
2. Station Avenue Bridge – Carl McGloughlin from Borton Lawson, representing Penn-Dot, gave a project summary of the future rehabilitation project of the Station Avenue Bridge. Penn-Dot considers the bridge to be a contributing factor to Station Avenue's Historic District and the project will be rehabilitation rather than a replacement. McGloughlin explained that the Bridge was not unsafe but considered structurally deficient, gave information regarding the detour route, and is seeking the input from residents and council regarding the project. The project is estimated to begin in 2016. There was further discussion regarding the 4-6 month project timeframe, the storm water drainage issues, flooding concerns, right-of-way needs, bridge load capacity, and historical nature of the bridge. Council was concerned about the flooding that occurs in front of 411 Station Avenue. McGloughlin introduced other representatives from Penn-Dot. The representatives explained that the storm water management was outside the scope of the project, but they would consider solutions for the flood issues on Station Avenue. On behalf of the Historical Society, Felch thanked the representatives for including resident and council interaction for the project.

3. Pinebrook Manor – No representation present.

### **ACTION ITEMS**

1. A Motion was made by Thrapp and seconded by Pica to request Fire Police for assistance at the Coopersburg 5k on May 24, 2014. **The Motion passed by a vote of 5-0.**
2. A Motion was made by Thrapp and seconded by Greenland to request Fire Police for assistance at the Fireman’s Parade on June 14, 2014. **The Motion passed by a vote of 5-0.**

### **REPORTS OF COMMITTEES**

1. Infrastructure
  - a. Septic – Council Member Balascak reported that the Infrastructure committee took Pica and Thrapp on a field trip at the May 5<sup>th</sup> Council Workshop. They gave an overview of the sewer history and observed both a manhole and the sewer metering station. Balascak stated that there was a significant rain event around May 1<sup>st</sup> that allowed an extensive I&I investigation. The event showed issues at West State Street, Linden Street, and John Alley/Locust Street. Some of the issues will be addressed immediately by the CDBG project this year. Keystone gave Council an explanation of sewer plant operation percentages over a 20 year period. The Borough was in line with their average usage. Balascak stated that the CDBG work was starting this week.
  - b. Highway – Council Member Balascak reported that there was a study on the Fairmount Street Bridge. The bridge has a few minor repair needs and would be re-inspected every 2 years. It is safe and does not have any restriction. Balascak stated that the Public Works Department was repairing potholes, spraying weeds, and street sweeping. The Oil & Chipping project is planned to be completed in early June. Balascak stated that the Landis Street project is waiting on a consultant to finish the mix design for the base of the street.
  - c. Water – Council Member Balascak reported that the Water Authority passed a resolution to add a penalty to homeowners that are delaying the completion of the water meter project. Property owners who do not schedule their meter replacement within 30 days will receive a \$100 fine and potential additional penalties. There are less than 10 meters left to be changed. Balascak stated that the Water Authority was pursuing a grant to replace 1600 linear feet of water-line in the Borough. There was an update on the progress of the inter-municipal agreement between Upper Saucon and the Borough regarding the water blending at the location of Well #3. The Well would then be shut down completely and emergency water could be purchased from Upper Saucon. Balascak stated that the water leak on Main Street was fixed in a timely manner. The Water Authority is requesting millings to improve the driveway at the State Road Well property. Council affirms the use and will have the Manager authorize the use of materials.
2. Public Safety/Governmental Relations
  - a. Mayor Hovis stated that the Police Committee gave a response the Police Union Representative regarding the upcoming contract negotiations. They will be meeting in the near future. Hovis also stated that the new Police Chief is a good fit, the officers are taking several trainings to further their knowledge, and he feels the department is being run very well.
3. Administration and Finance
  - a. No additional report.

### **REPORTS OF PROFESSIONAL ADVISORS**

1. Solicitor: Solicitor Gittinger received a letter from RCN regarding their franchise agreement with the Borough. The Administration and Finance Committee will review the letter.
2. Engineer: No additional report.
3. Borough Manager: Manager Paashaus stated that there were 4 different applications for sewer

allocations for lots on West Oxford Street. There was further discussion regarding distribution protocol, administrative functions, larger subdivision differences, and the fact that this would reduce the pool of sewer EDU's. Paashaus was instructed to work with Gittinger on an agreement for each application.

### **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

1. Compost site will remain on the Agenda.

### **COUNCIL COMMENTS**

Mayor Hovis stated his concern over the growing issues of property maintenance in the Borough. Many properties have violations of weeds, unregistered cars, refuse, and dilapidated structures. Paashaus requested that if any Council members notice any issues to notify the office and the office will attempt to rectify the situation before the Code enforcement officer is sent out. Several properties have been posted in the last few days.

Council Member Thrapp stated that she appreciated the Borough Facebook updates and information.

Council Member Balascak stated that the Borough Hall needs to have all the entry doors replaced. The Manager will get quotes for replacement. Balascak also stated that he would continue research on an electronic sign for the Borough.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

Council Member Balascak made a motion to adjourn which was seconded by Felch. The meeting was adjourned at 8:24 PM.

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Timothy Paashaus – Borough Manager

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John Felch, Jr. – Council President