

COOPERSBURG BOROUGH COUNCIL
Regular Meeting Minutes
September 21, 2021

The meeting of the Coopersburg Borough Council was held in Borough Hall on Tuesday, September 21st, & was called to order by Council President Balascak at 7:00 p.m.

OPENING CEREMONIES

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

All present were Mayor Hovis, Council Members Balascak, Dietz, Ellenberger, Kane, Poot, Thrapp, Solicitor Capehart, Manager Paashaus, Engineer Erdman, Solicitor Ulrich, & Police Chief Struss. Council Member Craig was absent.

AGENDA

A Motion was made by Thrapp & seconded by Dietz to approve the Agenda as written. **The Agenda was adopted by a vote of 6-0.**

PUBLIC COMMENT

Seth Pellegrini, Oxford Ridge, expressed his concern regarding the storm water management & rain gardens in the Oxford Ridge Development. Pellegrini stated that the developer was in violation of the Developer's Agreement, Section 22B. Balascak stated that the issue would be discussed more during the Infrastructure Report.

CONSENT AGENDA

A Motion was made by Thrapp & seconded by Dietz to receive the Monthly Reports (Monthly Financial Statements, Council Information, Police Report, & Fire Company Report), & approve the previous meeting minutes from August 17, 2021. **The Consent Agenda was approved by a vote of 6-0.**

ACTION ITEMS

1. A Motion was made by Thrapp and seconded by Poot to approve a temporary closure of a portion of Landis Street (from Main Street to the corner of Sage Alley) for an event on October 2, 2021 from 3:30pm to 8:30pm. Francis Felix, Foster Fitzgerald Foundation, gave a summary of the event & the goal of the foundation. There was further discussion regarding helping local families, scholarships, & the event. Council had concerns regarding parking, the benefit to the area, the location of the event, & safety. Council members expressed their appreciation for the foundation's goals. Felix stated that they were promoting the event and could expect over 100 people to attend. **Resolution 2021-9 passed by a vote of 5-1 (Dietz = nay).**

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

1. Infrastructure – Council Member Dietz gave updates on the following:
 - a. Violation letters were sent to both Lehigh County Conservation District & the developer about storm water management at Oxford Ridge. There was further discussion regarding the NPDES permit, how a rain garden works, the possibility of withholding future building permits, & how to resolve the concern. Hovis requested a timeframe for resolution of the issue.
 - b. Liberty Bell School has submitted a Planning Module Mailer & will be submitting a plan for review.
 - c. Ashford Reserve (WB Homes) submitted a development plan for review. There was further discussion regarding the storm water concerns, a public meeting, & other detail.
 - d. MSK has an approved plan that should be recorded soon.
 - e. Tuskes is almost finished with the Stone Harvest punch list.
 - f. The culvert on the Liberty Trolley Trail needs full replacement. PPL will need to be involved in the discussion due to an easement & any construction requirement.

- g. Dietz stated information regarding the Borough's MS4 requirements, an update to the storm water ordinance, and that the state inspection went well. All documents have been given to the Engineer to file with the state by September 30, 2021.
 - h. Council President Balascak gave updates on the water system, meter replacements, the timber harvesting.
2. Public Safety – Mayor Hovis stated that the Fire Company report and financial report were given to Council members. Hovis stated that they had 14 pump-outs, 3 water rescues, and a house fire in the last few weeks. Police Chief Struss gave an update on the Police Department. Struss stated that officers participated in a 9/11 Ceremony, that the school board appreciated their visibility at the bus stops, that the bussing company appreciated their traffic calming (specifically red-light violations), & DOT enforcement. There was discussion regarding placing large, painted speed limit notices on the road surface at the entrances to town (e.g. Hamburg). Balascak thanked the chief for a greater police presence on West State Street.
 3. Administration & Finance – Council Member Poot gave information regarding the 2022 Budget process and upcoming hearing.

REPORTS OF PROFESSIONAL ADVISORS

1. Solicitor: No additional report.
2. Engineer: No additional report.
3. Borough Manager: No additional report.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Council held an Executive Session regarding a personnel issue at 8:17 PM.

Council returned to Regular Business at 8:44 PM.

No Action was taken.

NEW BUSINESS

No New Business

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

1. Ordinance *** – Vacating several borough roads – will remain on the Agenda.
2. Update to the Borough Employee Policy Manual – will remain on the Agenda.
3. RFP results for Borough Engineer – will remain on the Agenda.

ADJOURNMENT

A Motion was made by Thrapp & seconded by Kane to adjourn. The meeting adjourned at 8:44 PM.