

## Laurel Mountain Borough

August 19, 2020

A regular meeting of the Laurel Mountain Borough Council was held on Wednesday, August 19, 2020 by Zoom. The meeting was called to order at 7:37 PM by Vice President Sharon Detar.

Council members present were Sharon Detar; Tom Campbell; Matt Thomas; Ty Honhart. Others present were Mayor Philip Light, Solicitor Mark Sorice, and Robin Roberts, Secretary/Treasurer. Pledge of Allegiance was said.

### **ZOOM TIME SPECIFICATIONS**

Secretary Roberts explained that the zoom meetings for 40 minutes are free. You can pay a monthly fee to use the zoom for longer sessions. Our first zoom meeting is extended passed 40 minutes complimentary. The basic fee would be \$14.99 per month. She noted that most meetings run between 1hour to 1 ½ hours. A motion to pay the monthly fee of \$14.99 for zoom to allow over 40 minutes for council meetings was made by Sharon Detar, second by Tom Campbell, passed unanimously.

### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Sara Rayman, 19 Locust, announced the Laurel Mountain Park Association would be having a get together for the community on August 22<sup>nd</sup>, from 2:00-6:00 at the pool house. There will be free swimming and refreshments.

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

The Minutes of the July 15, 2020 meeting were presented. A motion to accept the minutes as presented was made by Matt Thomas, second by Tom Campbell, passed unanimously.

President Crouse entered the meeting and took over the meeting.

### **TREASURER'S REPORT**

The July 2020 Treasurer's Report was presented. A motion to accept the June Treasurer's Report as presented was made by Sharon Detar, second by Ty Honhart, and passed unanimously. The disbursements for August 2020 were presented. A motion to approve the disbursements as presented was made by Ty Honhart, second by Matt Thomas, and passed unanimously.

### **MAYOR'S REPORT**

Mayor Light reported there was 1 call for service in July. There were 57 routine patrols. The total time spent for July was 7 hours and 47 minutes. There was a tree down on Locust Road on power lines. Many people tried to report the incident. It is best to contact Phil because he has a contact person for West Penn Power.

## **SECRETARY'S REPORT**

Robin reported on the Liquid Fuels Audit Reports received. There was one finding for 2018, Late Receipt Of Allocation. There was also one finding for the 2019 audit, Idle Funds Held In A Noninterest-Bearing Account. Both were findings to be approved upon and no penalties were made.

Robin gave an update on the website. We currently have a domain name:  
boroughoflaurelmountain.com

Phil took some pictures and one was sent in for the front page. It is of the front entrance to the Borough. The website is progressing.

## **OUTSTANDING BUSINESS**

Jess Naugle volunteered for the Zoning Hearing Board Vacancy. A motion to approve Jess Naugle for the Zoning Hearing Board Vacancy was made by Sharon Detar, second by Ty Honhart, passed unanimously. Shane Greenwood volunteered for the Code Enforcement officer, however, Solicitor Sorice explained the certification needed for this position. It was decided to discuss the matter of an Officer with Ligonier Township.

It was decided to discuss the Emergency Manager position with the Township also.

## **COUNCIL MEMBER'S REPORTS**

Matt – Matt reported he still has been trying to reach Mr. Stahl from Cheap Trees. He will try again next week. Tom said he got a quote from Sanner Tree Service from Somerset. Sanner's bid for \$1,100 would be removal of tree, leave a 1' stump, chip brush, cut wood and leave stacked beside the road. A motion to approve the bid of \$1,100 from Sanner Tree Service, contingent on receiving the liability insurance, was made by Ty Honhart, second by Matt Thomas, passed unanimously.

Tom – Tom reported the diversion belts have been installed. There have been complaints already regarding the height of the belts. Susan will check with Dave Herrholtz and have the issued resolved. Tom reported that Gozmo is still interested in working on the pillars if and when Council is ready for that project. Susan commented that the borough will need to apply for a grant for that project.

Ty & Matt – Ty stated the pipe project on white Oak Road has been completed.

Sharon- Sharon reported Bob Mccolly, a Forester, will be checking on trees to refer to an Arborist to be taken down around the shelter house. They are meeting Friday, October 1<sup>st</sup> at 8:30 AM. He cuts pines for the Amish. The cutting will not begin till after the pool closes. The funds to be received, from the trees, will be used to clean up the debri remaining. Sharon noted the pool has been going well and the association is continuing the work at the shelter house.

Susan - Susan commented on concerns regarding signs pertaining to the upcoming election. She referred to Ordinance no. 602 of 2005-7-20 and Section 602 of Amended Ordinance no. 01-92-07. Solicitor Sorice stated we can not legislate political signs. We can legislate the size and the time duration. The state law regulates the time frame for state and local political signs. It was discussed the need to make clear the size regulations, fees and duration of political signs. The placement of the signs on private property can not be disputed unless they are an obstruction for safety. Sorice recommended an amendment which would need to be advertised to make changes.

Susan also reported on the speed limit enforcement issue. She priced speed limit signs at \$45 per sign

and approximately \$1800 for poles and installation. The question being do we currently want to spend this much money on speed control. Sorice suggested a committee to explore further. Ty will talk to some people and get some interested residents to help with a committee. A committee of at least 3 participants was suggested.

### **SOLICITORS REPORT**

Solicitor Sorice explained the State and Westmoreland County Conservation's involvement and concerns for the Storm Water Ordinance. It states that any changes or obstruction to storm water drainage or run offs may not create an issue for others. We will need to adopt the County Ordinance.

### **CORRESPONDENCE**

Comcast sent information regarding a program they are providing "Internet Essentials for Back to School". They will provide 2 months free internet for families in need. There is an application process. Susan will email the information to the emails she has on her list.

### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

None

### **ADJOURNMENT**

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Ty Honhart, second by Matt Thomas, passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 8:25 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Robin Roberts, Borough Secretary/Treasurer