

## Laurel Mountain Borough

January 20, 2021

A regular meeting of the Laurel Mountain Borough Council was held on Wednesday, January 20, 2021 by Zoom. The meeting was called to order at 7:35 PM by President Susan Crouse.

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

### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

None

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

The Minutes of the December 16, 2020 meeting were presented. A motion to accept the minutes as presented was made by Matt Thomas, second by Sharon Detar, passed unanimously.

### **TREASURER'S REPORT**

The Treasurer's Report for December 2020 was presented. A motion to accept the December's Treasurer's Report as presented was made by Sharon Detar, second by Tom Campbell, and passed unanimously.

The disbursements for January 2021 were presented. A motion to approve the disbursements as presented was made by Tom Campbell, second by Sharon Detar, and passed unanimously.

### **MAYOR'S REPORT**

Mayor Light reported all wires from the snow storm are back up and snow has melted. There was one call for service reported in December. There was 8 hours and 26 minutes patrolled in the Borough for the December. The total hours for 2020 were 83 hours and 20 minutes.

### **SECRETARY'S REPORT**

Roberts read the Covid-19 Vaccination plan that was sent from the PSAB with the State Health Departments information.

Roberts reminded everyone they were sent the Statement of Financial Interests. She asked that they be completed and returned to her. A reminder was stated that these are for prior year reporting 2020.

Roberts presented a letter from Rennie & Associates recommending he conduct a review engagement with the Statements on Standards for Accounting and Review. A unanimous vote to follow the recommendations for the audit was approved.

### **OUTSTANDING BUSINESS**

Code Enforcement Officer – Options were reviewed pending compensation to be set. Ligonier Borough is now looking for a new officer as well.

Emergency Manager – Steve Barron has showed interest if the Borough does not need a major re-write of the Emergency Plan. Solicitor Sorice will discuss further with Mr. Barron. A discussion was had regarding the need for updated fee schedule. No further action was taken.

### **MEMBER'S REPORTS**

Matt: Matt stated he has not initiated a meeting with the committee at this time. We will contact Robin when he has a date and time to schedule a zoom meeting for them.

Matt does not know of an engineer with the experience the Borough needs to help with the Storm Water Ordinance. President Crouse stated she has contact for an Engineer that has helped the Borough in the past. Solicitor Sorice said he has most of the information for the Storm Water Ordinance, but still needs information tailored to our Borough. He is waiting for information from Kathy Hamilton for some examples of similar Boroughs.

Tom: Tom stated there are lots of potholes. Matt asked if there is a quick temporary fix. Tom replied a grader could be used for a quick fix. However, the plows take the gravel away. It just is not a good time of year for gravel roads.

Comments were made of the FedEx and UPS trucks traveling at an unsafe speed throughout the Borough. A statement was made that the GPS doesn't necessarily show the correct speed limits. Our 15 MPH signs should be up soon. Then the 15MPH Speed Limit can be enforced.

Sharon: Sharon shared the Laurel Mountain Park Association is now collecting the 2021 dues. Crouse encouraged the Association to use the grant money to finish projects so the final grant report can be completed in a timely manner.

Ty: Absent

Susan: Susan reported that all the supplies for the signs have been received. DT Contracting will install the signs, according to the map provided by Penndot, as soon as time and weather permits.

Crouse is still waiting for responses to the grant applications.

Susan presented the Westmoreland County Hazard Mitigation Plan Update. Solicitor Sorice urged the council to complete the Resolution. A motion to approve the Westmoreland County Hazard Mitigation Plan Update Resolution was made by Sharon Detar, second by Matt Thomas, passed unanimously.

Regarding neighborhood events, Susan thanked Mayor Light for handling the tree on the wires during the snow storm. There was a fire hydrant hit by the pool. The person did not stop. Susan had Hydrant Doctor come out to inspect the hydrant. There have been concerns regarding children on bikes, motorbikes, and segways. Susan was able to determine it is legal to operate such devices up to 50cc on borough roads. The children should use safety measures and wear helmets.

### **SOLICITORS REPORT**

Solicitor Sorice commented on the concerns for the storm water ordinance. We have 60-90 days to be final with our extension. He said Ligonier Township had an engineer for their plan. However, we do not need many of the items in a plan like theirs. He would like to compare plans with similar Boroughs. These thoughts need to be specific to be lived with for some time.

Another question was brought up regarding home business and how the need for that is growing.

At this time, we do not have any set fees but should share this concern with the committee being initiated for the communities concerns.

### **CORRESPONDENCE**

Roberts shared correspondence from K2 Engineering Inc. and Noah Building Permit Service. Susan commented people are not using building inspectors. Inspection should be done on projects for safety. Even installing a hot water tank should be inspected. The Borough does not have the funds for most of the building permit companies. Robin will check with Ligonier Borough as to who they use and costs.

Robin asked for assistance on the form for the Election Bureau regarding the May Primary. It was determined the following positions are up for election. Mayor, 3 Council Seats for 4 years, and the Tax Collector. Mayor Light and Tax Collector David Fleming had previously informed council they will not be running for another term.

### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

None

### **ADJOURNMENT**

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

Respectfully submitted,

Robin Roberts, Borough Secretary/Treasurer