

## Laurel Mountain Borough

July 15, 2020

A regular meeting of the Laurel Mountain Borough Council was held on Wednesday, July 15, 2020 at the shelter house. The meeting was called to order at 7:30 PM by President Susan Crouse.

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

### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Daneen Kinsey, 28 Walnut, has concerns with the bonfire at the shelter house property. She feels everyone will want to have one there and is concerned for safety of the community. President Crouse commented that an email went out to everyone that she has email addresses for regarding the burning issues.

Andrew Rayman, 19 Locust, said the fires were on the cleanup day the Laurel Mt Park Association had. However, others did bring debris to burn as well.

Emily Honart, 29 Maple, commented the Association did burn limbs and brush on their cleanup day. She said there was at least one neighbor put debris on the fire. She believed there was not an ordinance against the burning of limbs and brush. The Association will put signs up to discourage others from burning at the site.

Mayor Light, stated there is an outside burning ordinance. You can burn wood, paper, brush at the discretion of the Mayor. He goes by the National Weather Service. If he made a ban on burning, people would be notified by signs and/or emails.

Solicitor Sorice, asked how to look up ordinances? Currently ordinances are at the shelter house. We are hoping to have a website soon to make these more accessible.

Emily Honhart, 29 Maple, said the Laurel Mt Park Association wants to be careful and work with the Borough.

Sherry Naugle, 9 Hemlock, said the Association will be scheduling another cleanup day, do they need to ask permission ahead of time? Council replied that would not be necessary.

Matt Thomas, noted the DCNR normally has a fire burning notice at their building. However, not lately due to the layoffs caused by the pandemic.

Emily Honhart, 29 Maple, added the Association has scheduled an adult neighborhood gathering for August 8<sup>th</sup>. There will be acoustic guitar and appetizers. All are invited.

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

The Minutes of the June 17, 2020 meeting were presented. A motion to accept the minutes as presented was made by Sharon Detar, second by Matt Thomas, passed unanimously.

### **TREASURER'S REPORT**

The June 2020 Treasurer's Report and invoices to be paid for July were presented. A motion to accept the June Treasurer's Report as presented was made by Sharon Detar and Matt Thomas simultaneously; It was agreed to be second by Matt Thomas and passed unanimously. A motion to pay the July disbursements as presented was made by Matt Thomas, second by Sharon Detar, and passed unanimously.

## **MAYOR'S REPORT**

Mayor Phil Light reported there were no incidents or emergencies in June. There were 50 patrols totaling 7 hours and 6 minutes. Regarding the fireworks issue, Light commented this is a state law not a Borough ordinance. 911 should be contacted immediately for the State Police to enforce. Mayor Light commented the Traffic Control Study was well written.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

Matt commented on the tree removal project, everyone he has spoken to is backed up for months. He has been playing phone tag with Scott Matson. He will continue working on getting someone. Sherry Naugle stated they had someone from Somerset remove trees for them. She will give the contact information to Matt.

Tom said Herrholtz did not forget about the water diversion belts to be installed. They have been very busy.

Matt reported on the pipe installation bids. Ty had received a bid from DT Contracting. The bid totaling \$1,617.80 for the pipes, 6 tons 2A stone, and labor is \$1,617.80. The \$350 for the pipes is to be paid by the homeowners. The remaining balance of \$ 1,267.80 is the responsibility of the Borough. A motion to accept the bid from DT Contracting for \$350.00 paid by the homeowners and \$1,267.80 paid by the Borough was made by Matt Thomas, second by Tom Campbell, passed unanimously.

Susan tabled the matter of zoning and code administration at this time.

Susan reported on the Dual LEMC with Ligonier Borough. Ligonier Borough is not interested in a joint agreement. Their emergency manager recently resigned. This is an appointed position. Susan will talk to Ligonier Township.

There is still a vacancy on the Zoning Hearing Board.

Secretary Roberts reported on 3 different quotes regarding a website. The most reasonable for our Borough at this time is with the Pennsylvania State Association of Boroughs. The setup fee is \$50 with an annual fee of \$389.00. A motion to do the website with the PSAB with a setup fee of \$50 and an annual fee of \$389.00 was made by Sharon Detar, second by Tom Campbell, passed unanimously. Roberts asked for a committee to help with the website. Matt agreed to help.

The Traffic Control Study defined the speed limit to be 15mph throughout the Borough. They noted we would need 12 signs in each direction. Solicitor Sorice said the placement of these signs is significant to enforcement. Susan is pricing signs. The Borough will need an ordinance to enforce the speed limit. This will need to be advertised and posted.

## **COUNCIL MEMBER'S REPORTS**

President Crouse has been speaking with the Emergency Management regarding duplicate street names in the area. This is an emergency concern and a postal issue.

Sharon met with LMPA. The lease renewal needs to be renewed by October 1<sup>st</sup>. They said we will be able to have meetings there this winter. They have installed bead board and shiplap with vapor barrier. Bob McColly is coming to walk around the Borough Tuesday, July 21, 2020 at 8:30. He will be marking trees, mostly Spruce trees and some Hemlocks, on a map. He will contact homeowners if he can.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

We received information from the County regarding the Stormwater Ordinance. The document was given to Solicitor Sorice. A copy will be emailed to all council persons and Mayor Light.

Higbee Liability Insurance is up for renewal in August. They submitted a bid of \$2,851.00 for the policy renewal. A motion to approve the renewal amount of \$2,851.00 for the Higbee Liability Insurance was made by Sharon Detar, second by Tom Campbell, passed unanimously.

### **CORRESPONDENCE**

President Crouse will send an email regarding B&Bs' noise and parking on streets. Solicitor Sorice will check if the parking along roads would apply to just homeowners or the B&Bs as far as emergency vehicles are concerned.

### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Matt Thomas commented the B&B's have been booked over capacity, Andrew Rayman, 19 Locust, commented they have been from all over the U.S. which is a concern during this pandemic. Jess & Sherry Naugle, 9 Hemlock, agree, they have seen 25-30 people at one house over the weekend. Twelve cars were at the shelter house. This caused problems for members wanting to use the pool. It was suggested the property owners of the B&Bs be contacted. Jess & Sherry Naugle, also commented on the stray cats in the area. They could trap and remove the cats as being pests by definition. Animal control is only for dogs.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Sharon Detar, second by Matt Thomas, passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 8:33 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Robin Roberts, Borough Secretary/Treasurer