

Laurel Mountain Borough

March 16, 2022

A regular meeting of the Laurel Mountain Borough Council was held on Wednesday, March 16, 2022 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; Matt Thomas; Janice Seigle; Tim Baacke. Also present were Mayor Ross Dixon and Robin Roberts, Secretary/Treasurer. The Pledge of Allegiance was said.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Joe Griffith, 22 Maple, asked if anything is being done with the roads. Crouse responded, yes, it will be discussed. Griffith also asked if the speed limit is being enforced. Crouse explained the Ligonier Valley Police do routine patrols throughout the Borough and if there is a violation, it is enforced.

Jess Naugle, 9 Hemlock, asked about the road conditions as well.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The Minutes from the February 16, 2022 meeting were presented. Matt stated the typo error from the January minutes was noted by Tim not Matt. A motion to approve the minutes with correction stated was made by Sharon Detar, second by Janice Seigle, and passed unanimously.

TREASURER'S REPORT

The Treasurer's Report for February 2022 was presented. A motion to accept the February Treasurer's Report as presented was made by Matt Thomas, second by Sharon Detar, and passed unanimously.

The disbursements for March 2022 were presented. A motion to approve the March disbursements as presented was made by Tim Baacke, second by Matt Thomas, and passed unanimously.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Dixon reported there were 54 routine patrols, no calls for service and one 911 call.

Dixon declared a Declaration of Emergency on 2-25-22 due to the rain storm washing away the roads in numerous areas. Crouse explained the process that the roads were partially fixed.

SECRETARY'S REPORT

Roberts reminded those that have not completed the Financial Statements of Interest for prior year 2021, to please do so as soon as possible.

The Westmoreland County Tax Collection PSD Committee requested an update on our delegate information and asked that we assign an alternate delegate. A motion was made to continue with Jan Shaw as the Borough's delegate and appoint Robin Roberts as the alternate delegate by Sharon Detar, second by Tim Baacke, and passed unanimously.

Roberts reported the liquid fuels deposit of \$8,137.91 was received.

OUTSTANDING BUSINESS

Matt reported that Robert Barron has agreed to be the Borough's Emergency Manager pending his certification. Barron is a first responder for Ligonier Borough, member of Ligonier Borough's Council and their Response Team.

Resolution 2-2022 to appoint Robert Barron as Emergency Manager pending his certification and to pay for his certification and courses required, was presented. A motion to approve Resolution 2-2022 as presented was made by Matt Thomas, second by Tim Baacke, and passed unanimously.

The ditches/leaf removal has not been completed. DT Contracting is still waiting on parts to complete the job.

No further action was taken with the agreement with the Township for a Joint Municipality Agreement.

COUNCIL MEMBER'S REPORTS

Matt- The committee will be put on hold until the zoning and code enforcement is completed.

Sharon – Sharon commented the LMP have used the grant fund balance. She said they are currently updating the pool fees and dues.

Janice – Janice gave a summary of items she learned at the boot camp seminar she attended. She said it was a very intense two days of training.

Janice reported on her search for grant money. She did not find any the pillars would qualify under. Some grants are for \$50,000 minimum that require matching funds and others for \$100,000. All applications require specific information and quotes. She suggested we prioritize projects and organize paperwork before applying.

Susan – Susan learned from a storm water class that money is available for projects. She will be meeting with an engineer on March 29th.

Resolution 1-2022 Authorizing Laurel Municipal Inspection Agency was presented. A motion to approve Resolution 1-2022 as presented was made by Tim Baacke, second by Matt Thomas, and passed unanimously.

Ordinance 1-2022 Conform with PA Construction Code Act was presented. A motion to approve Ordinance 1-2022 as presented was made by Matt Thomas, second by Sharon Detar, and passed unanimously.

Ordinance 2-2022 Intergovernmental Cooperation and Participation was presented. A motion to approve Ordinance 2-2022 as presented was made by Janice Seigle, second by Tim Baacke, and passed unanimously.

Ordinance 3-2022 was presented. A motion to approve Ordinance 3-2022 as presented was made by Sharon Detar, second by Janice Seigle, and passed unanimously.

Resolution 3-2022 Engagement of Borough Engineer was presented. A motion to approve Resolution 3-2022 as presented was made by Matt Thomas, second by Tim Baacke, and passed unanimously.

Tim – Tim researched road work that had been done in the past and gained information from PSU website. He made several contacts for quotes but had not heard back yet. He would like to see a multi-year plan put in place to work with other projects such as new waterlines. If we are going to tear up certain roads in the new future then a less expensive fix is needed for that road and vice versa. He noted the belts need replaced on many roads, some roads are 30' and 20' in areas, and some telephone poles are on the street right of ways.

SOLICITORS REPORT

None

CORRESPONDENCE

Westmoreland County Borough's Association 70th Annual Banquet will be on April 29, 2022.

WCBA Dinner and Meeting 3-31-22 at 6:30 PM. Program subject Liquid Fuels.

Letter from Municipal Authority of Westmoreland County referring to guidelines for waterlines if the Borough is interested.

Letter from Keystone Collection regarding their EIT Collection System.

Westmoreland County Industrial Development Corporation 2021 Annual Report.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

ADJOURNMENT

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Sharon Detar, second Janice Seigle, and passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 8:55 PM.

The next monthly meeting will be April 20, 2022 at 7:30 PM at the Shelter House and via Zoom.

Respectfully submitted,

Robin Roberts, Borough Secretary/Treasurer