

## Laurel Mountain Borough

March 18, 2020

A regular meeting of the Laurel Mountain Borough Council was held on Wednesday, March 18, 2020. A quorum was reached at the Shelter House. A motion to adjourn and reconvene at the Laughlintown Community Center was made by Matt Thomas, second by Sharon Detar, passed unanimously. At 7:30 the meeting was called to order at the Laughlintown Community Center by President Susan Crouse.

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

### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

None

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

The Minutes of the February 19, 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 February 2020 Treasurer's Report and invoices to be paid for March were presented. A motion to accept the February Treasurer's Report as presented was made by Tom Campbell, second by Sharon Detar, and passed unanimously. A motion to pay the March bills presented was made by Sharon Detar, second by Matt Thomas, and passed unanimously.

### **MAYOR'S REPORT**

Mayor Light stated he did not receive the February Police Report. Secretary Roberts' apologized and reported there were no incidents.

Mayor Light explained due to the COVID-19, he could make a Proclamation for the Borough explaining in detail the restrictions necessary to slow down the virus. This would restrict the crowds of 10 or more people and restrict the short term rentals and B&Bs. The Proclamation would be for 3 days, then the Borough could ratify and extend to 14 days. Solicitor Miller argued that there would be risk if this was not authorized correctly. The Proclamation was tabled for now.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

President Crouse stated she received the signatures for the Lease Agreement with the Laurel Mountain Park Association.

Solicitor Miller presented the Joint Agreement between the Borough and Laurel Mountain Park Association. A motion to approve the Agreement with the fee to use the shelter house not to exceed to exceed \$200 was made by Sharon Detar, second by Matt Thomas, passed unanimously.

Miller gave the draft letter regarding cleanup of properties to Crouse to email to homeowners.

Matt Thomas reported he has had contact with Cheap Trees for the removal of the large tree on Maple.

Cheap Trees is to mail the quote and insurance. Matt will schedule with them and make the necessary PA one call. However, this could be delayed due to the Corvid-19.

Secretary Roberts stated she has received the check for the LMP Grant. She request a separate account for the transactions. A motion to open a separate checking account for the purpose of the grant funds was made by Sharon Detar, second by Matt Thomas, passed unanimously.

The Police Agreement has been signed.

### **COUNCIL MEMBER'S REPORTS**

Crouse – Susan presented the bids from Herrholtz to fix the potholes. Our Liability Insurance will not cover Tom Campbell to donate his time and labor for the project. The bid came for one load of stone, but Tom suggested we get two loads due to the increase of potholes. A motion to approve the bid from Herrholtz for \$1,440.00 plus and additional load of stone, bringing the total to 2,040.00 was made by Tom Campbell, second by Sharon Detar, passed unanimously. This project may be delayed due to Corvid-19 as well.

Crouse presented 3 bids for the pillars. Joe Omas' was at \$12,000; Felder Masonary at \$15,280; and Grahams Masonarys' bid is to tear down and totally rebuild for \$69,000.

Crouse is going to apply for a grant for this project. A motion to accept the Joe Omas bid for \$12,000, contingent on acceptance of the grant, was made by Sharon Detar, second by Matt Thomas, passed unanimously.

Susan reported the Dust and Gravel Road Grant was denied.

She also reminded everyone that she found someone that will remove live hemlock trees for free. If anyone is interested, they may contact her.

Detar – None

Campbell –None

Thomas- None

Honhart- absent

### **NEW BUSINESS**

Solicitor Miller informed the Council, at the end of March he will not be renewing is contract with Leventry, Haschak & Rodkey, LLC. If council wants to stay with the firm, they will appoint someone to cover the Borough or if he is not with another firm as of April 1<sup>st</sup>, council can retain him as a private sector. A motion to continue with Jeff Miller as Solicitor in a private sector at the same fee of \$275.00 per month, was made by Sharon Detar, second by Matt Thomas, passed unanimously.

It was decided the regular council meetings will remain on the third Wednesday of every month. The April thru October meetings will be held at the shelter house at 7:30 PM; November and December will meet at 7:15 PM at the shelter house to meet quorum and reconvene at the community center at 7:30 PM.

It was discussed that many of the water diversion belts crossing the roads are worn. Nothing was decided at this time.

Mayor Light said there is an ordinance requiring each property to have a house number for emergency vehicles. Everyone should do so for their own safety.

Roberts noted that there is Liquid Fuels audit on April 17<sup>th</sup> for the years 2018 & 2019.

### **CORRESPONDENCE**

Information regarding the WCBA Annual Banquet was presented. However, most likely will be cancelled due to the Covid-19.

Penn Dot is to do a traffic counting on Beechwood Road to the cul de sac.

### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

None

### **ADJOURNMENT**

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Sharon Detar, second by Matt Thomas, passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 8:52 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Robin Roberts, Borough Secretary/Treasurer