

## Laurel Mountain Borough

May 20, 2020

A regular meeting of the Laurel Mountain Borough Council was held on Wednesday, May 20, 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; and Ty Honhart. Others present were Mayor Philip Light and Robin Roberts, Secretary/Treasurer. Pledge of Allegiance was said.

### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

None

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

The Minutes of the April 15, 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 April 2020 Treasurer's Report and invoices to be paid for May were presented. A motion to accept the April Treasurer's Report as presented was made Matt Thomas, second by Sharon Detar, and passed unanimously. A motion to pay the May disbursements presented was made by Sharon Detar, second by Matt Thomas, and passed unanimously.

### **MAYOR'S REPORT**

Mayor Phil Light reported there were no incidents or emergencies in April. Matt reported on hearing multiple gun shots behind his place several weeks ago. Sharon also heard them. She stated it was around 20 shots at about midnight. She later found casings, that she cleaned up, on a path between the borough and the reservoir.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

President Crouse said she has had some difficulty with zoom. A friend is to come at some time to help her with the program. She would like to have a trial run together with no business. Mayor Light suggested the secretary run the meeting and do the recording through zoom. Ty said he is familiar with the program and will help anyone needing assistance.

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

THOMAS – Matt reported that he and Susan met with Attorney Mark Sorice regarding the open position for solicitor. He said the interview went well and he has good experiences. Susan commented that his experience includes zoning and municipal law. Sharon asked about his fees. Susan stated he would like \$75.00 an hour with some services being tagged as his community service.

A motion to approve Attorney Mark Sorice as the Borough Solicitor at \$75.00 an hour was made by Matt Thomas, second by Sharon Detar, passed unanimously.

CROUSE- Susan stated that the Borough is not set up for any kind of social work that may be needed due to Covid-19. She obtained a 211 Flyer that has information available for any person/persons needing assistance. She will pass the 211 flyer out to everyone she has an email for.

The judge of election has asked council to encourage people to apply for the mail in ballots by May 26, 2020. Election Day is June 2, 2020.

CAMPBELL – Tom and Susan met with an estimator from Ligonier Construction Company regarding the ditches and water diversion belt replacements. Crouse added the discussion would continue under new business.

DETAR– Sharon reported the LMP Association had a clean-up day last weekend. They cleaned up some of the trees and bushes. Also, added some insulation to the shelter house.

Susan asked Sharon to remind them of the use of the building for election day.

The judge of election plans to have one way foot traffic set up as well as recommended precautions due to covid-19.

HONHART – Ty received a bid from Tomlinson to clean out ditches at \$525.00

Ty also received two bids for the mowing. Samurai at \$55.00 an hour. The mowing and trimming takes 2 hours. And the other bid from Kellen Detar at \$60.00 for each time he would mow and trim.

A motion to approve Kellen Detar's bid at \$60.00 was made by Ty Honart, second Matt Thomas, passed unanimously. Insurance certificate for Kellen was given to the secretary.

## **CORRESPONDENCE**

President Crouse asked for correspondence before getting to new business.

Roberts reported the WCBA Annual Banquet has been postponed to 6-26-20, with there still being some doubt as to whether or not to have it due to Covid-19

Penn Dot has delayed the traffic counting until a later date not yet determined.

## **New Business**

President Crouse commented on the meeting Tom and her had with the estimator from Ligonier Construction. The bid for the ditch clean out includes a mini excavator for two 10 hour days and to haul away all debris at \$2200.00 a day or \$4400.00. A bid to replace the water diverters is \$2400.00. The total for this project would be \$6800.00.

There have been prior requests from two homeowners for pipe replacement at their driveways. The homeowner is responsible to pay for the pipes and the Borough is responsible for laying the pipe.

A bid from Ligonier Construction is the pipes running between \$400-\$500 each and laying the pipes at \$1250.00 each. A motion was made to approve Ligonier Construction's bid with the mini excavator for two 10 hour days and removal of debris and to replace the water diverters for a total of \$6800.00, was made by Sharon Detar, second by Tom Campbell, passed unanimously.

Council decided to get another bid regarding the price of the road pipes and labor for the two driveways. In hopes to not delay the project another month, a motion was made to approve a bid for laying the driveway pipes up to \$1,000.00 for both driveways by Ty Honhart, second by Sharon Detar, passed unanimously.

Secretary Roberts presented the senate bill 841 to extend the real estate tax deadlines. A motion to

approve senate bill 841 to extend the real estate tax discount period to August 31, 2020 instead of April 30, 2020 and to eliminate late fees for 2020, was made by Sharon Detar, second by Ty Honhart, passed unanimously.

Robin sent a letter to Leventry, Haschak, & Rodkey, LLC to thank them for the services. A letter will be sent to Jeff Miller as well.

President Crouse received complaints for 3 homes that do not have any water. They had decreasing water pressure for several years. They are full time residents. The properties are over the hill from Herrholtz at the end of Locust Road. MAWC has looked at the area and claims it is the Boroughs responsibility. There are 2 large shut offs that they were not able to access. Mayor Light commented these properties declined being in the Borough therefore the Borough should not be responsible for their water supply. The properties are in Ligonier Township. This information will be forwarded to Solicitor Sorice.

### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Jeff Snyder, 5 Laurel Road, said his water pressure has dropped significantly over the last few days. Council thinks it may have been a result of MAWC working on the lines.

Matt added that he does not have a scheduled time from Cheap Tree Services for the removal of the tree on Maple Road at this time.

He also commented the Miriam's Table on Main Street Ligonier is providing free meals for those who are having a difficult time during the pandemic.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Matt Thomas, second by Ty Honhart, passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Robin Roberts, Borough Secretary/Treasurer