

Laurel Mountain Borough

September 16, 2020

A regular meeting of the Laurel Mountain Borough Council was held on Wednesday, September 16, 2020 by Zoom. The meeting was called to order at 7:37 PM by President Susan Crouse.

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

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The Minutes of the August 19, 2020 meeting were presented. Sharon Detar had a correction to the minutes. Under Council Member's Reports/Sharon; to change the first sentence to read: Sharon reported Bob McColly, a Forester, will be checking on trees to refer to be taken down by a harborist. They are meeting Friday, September 18th at 8:30 AM. A motion to accept the minutes with the correct change was made by Matt Thomas, second by Tom Campbell, passed unanimously.

TREASURER'S REPORT

The August 2020 Treasurer's Report was presented. A motion to accept the August Treasurer's Report as presented was made by Sharon Detar, second by Tom Campbell, and passed unanimously. The disbursements for September 2020 were presented. A motion to approve the disbursements as presented was made by Tom Campbell, second by Ty Honhart, and passed unanimously.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Light reported there were not calls reported. They had 61 routine patrols, 8 hours and 26 minutes. Yearly total is 55 hours and 8 min. Crouse asked Light about banning burning. He replied not at this time.

SECRETARY'S REPORT

Roberts reported the website should be up and running before the October Meeting. Although, it will still need items uploaded. Notice was received, the liquid fuels estimate for 2021 will be \$8,271. Approximately \$900 less than 2020. Ty and Susan commented they would like to start working on next years' budget and asked Robin to send them some figures to start.

OUTSTANDING BUSINESS

Code Enforcement Officer (pending discussion with Township)
Emergency Manager (pending discussion with Township)

MEMBER'S REPORTS

Matt: None

Tom: Tom presented several bids.

A bid from Sanner Tree Service for removal of a dead ash tree in front of Tom's property at \$275.

Molly MacDonald, 28 Beechwood, needs a 12" pipe replaced at driveway.

Ligonier Construction placed a bid of \$1300 a day for a skid loader and 1 triaxle load of 2A gravel for Maple Road pot holes and for the back entrance. Also included would be touch up to other potholes and grading on some roads.

Ligonier Construction placed a bid of \$2800 to trim trees and brush along the roads.

No action was taken on these bids.

Ty : Ty formed a four member committee to further explore the speed limit in the Borough.

Shane Greenwood, Sara Rayman, Kellen Detar, and himself. They have not met yet at this time. Jess Naugle, 9 Hemlock, commented that there seems to be certain times of day when the traffic is speeding through the area. Mayor Light suggested Jess give him a specific time of day, so he could possibly have police set around that time.

Sharon: Sharon met with the Laurel mountain Park Association. They are offering the shelter house for school children to use for remote learning. Ty commented they will be ready to but the fireplace in soon and will have heat for Election Day.

Susan: Commented on the speed limit concerns with regards to the AirB&Bs and short term rentals. The Borough needs to have direct contact information for these places.

Susan presented bids for the speed limit signs. The lowest bids are \$676.60 for speed signs, \$513 for poles, and \$366 for markers. The lowest bid for installation is \$750. A motion to pass the lowest bids presented for speed sign, poles, markers, and the installation of such was made by Sharon Detar, 2nd by Ty Honhart, passed unanimously. An ordinance will be needed and information sent to Penndot.

It was also suggested for Children at Play signs near the shelter house to be added to the bids.

Sharon commented that the diversion belts still seem high. Crouse commented they were lowered.

SOLICITORS REPORT

Solicitor Sorice presented a Signage Ordinance. The Signage Ordinance will be advertised and voted on at the October Council Meeting.

Sorice is waiting for information he had requested from the DCED regarding the Westmoreland County Storm Water Ordinance.

CORRESPONDENCE

Information was received for the Westmoreland Conservation District Grant Application for unpaved and low volume roads. The deadline is 10-30-2020. Susan has been working on this Grant. We were denied last year.

Information was reported on the Spotted LanternFly.

Legislation affecting the Borough was presented.

Senate Bill 101 and House Bill 1069 are being voted on at this time.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Ty Honhart asked if speed bumps would help with the speed control. Solicitor Sorice remarked the speed bumps are considered an obstruction. The Borough would be responsible for liability of damages and could cause water diversion. If PennDOT approved the speed bumps it would not be a liability concern, but it is unlikely they would approve.

Emily Honhart, 29 Maple Road, announced the Laurel Mountain Park will be having a Halloween Party at the shelter house on October 24, 2020. She asked if the Borough could have trick or treating at the same time. Mayor Light commented he usually sets the time with Ligonier Township and Ligonier Borough trick or treating due to the extra police protection being provided during that time. They have not announced their date and time yet.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Ty Honhart, second by Tom Campbell, passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 8:27 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Robin Roberts, Borough Secretary/Treasurer