

White Haven Borough Council meeting was called to order at 7 pm by President John Klem. Roll call was taken and the following members were present: Charlie Best, Julie Fallon, John Klem, Bob Lamson, Zane Writer, and John Zugarek. Absent: Harvey Morrison. Also present for the meeting were Mayor Fred Meier, Borough Manager Linda Szoke, Police Chief Joanna Jinks, Attorney Donald Karpowich, and Street Department Supervisor Joe Wychock.

Attorney Karpowich announced there had been two executive sessions held prior to this meeting about personnel matters. One was held on February 9th and the other was at 6pm before tonight's meeting.

Minutes for the January 22, 2024 meeting were presented for approval. A motion was made by Best and seconded by Lamson to approve minutes as presented. All in favor, the motion carried.

Public Comments on Agenda Items -

- President Klem opened the floor to Brian Smith from Barry Isett and Associates to update Borough Council on the current status of the street scape project they have been working on for the borough. Brian stated that they started with an analysis of the borough and history to understand the evolution of the borough and Main Street corridor. The main project study area is from the DNL trail head at the south of the borough to the DNL trail head north of the borough with a side connection along Susquehanna Street and up to the library. The study covers about four blocks and looks at the architecture. He stated the Main Street and 940 intersection is a big challenge. Brian identified some key elements of the project as travel lanes, on-street parking, pedestrian sidewalks, multi-use trails, and bike lanes. A few ideas were shown via slide show to the council, pros and cons of the presentation were discussed. President Klem invited Brian back for a work session. Brian explained that this was just an introductory on the concepts and they can now start to formulate a plan. He stated that they have done numerous site walks and interacted with many business owners. The council thanked Brian for his presentation.

Engineer's Report – report on file

Attorney's Report – report on file

- Attorney Karpowich presented Resolution 5 of 2024 which allows the purchase of land from Valerie Love. A motion was made by Zugarek and seconded by Fallon to adopt resolution 5 of 2024. A roll call vote was taken: Best-yes, Fallon-yes, Klem-yes, Lamson- abstain, Writer-yes, Zugarek-yes, 5 yes, 0 no, 1 abstain, and 1 absent, the adoption of Resolution 5 of 2024 passed.
- Attorney Karpowich has provided the garbage contract to the Borough Manager for review of 3 scenarios. The contract is up in July.

Manager's Report –

- Request from White Haven Sports Association to use Lehigh Park from March until October leaving out Memorial Day Weekend, the Halloween Parade, and other special events. Their certificate of insurance is on file, just waiting for their 2024 volunteer list. A motion was made by Lamson and seconded by Best to approve the White Haven Sports Association request for the use of Lehigh Park. All in favor, the motion carried.

- Request for the White Haven Chamber of Commerce to use Lehigh Park for their car show September 7, 2024. Their certificate of insurance has been delivered to the Borough Manager. A motion was made by Zugarek and seconded by Writer to approve the Chamber of Commerce request to use Lehigh Park. All in favor, the motion carried.
- The Borough Manager presented a quote from Mr. Rehab to do a full day of camera work on infrastructure at a cost of \$3,950.00. That can come out of the Liquid Fuels account. As a refresher, she stated they had discussed having someone come in and camera all of our infrastructure before the Penn Dot construction work starts. She is still waiting on a quote to have photographs or video taken of the actual surface. That would probably be done with a drone and could also come out of Liquid Fuels. The Borough Manager would just have to talk to Chris Getz and open it as a project number. She feels we should probably protect ourselves from whatever comes down the road with all the heavy equipment coming in and out for the interstate. The Borough Manager also mentioned that there is a public pre-construction meeting planned for Nescopeck about the bridge work and is watching to see if they will do one here. A motion was made by Zugarek and seconded by Fallon to hire Mr. Rehab at the cost of \$3,950.00 to do the infrastructure camera work. All in favor, the motion carried.
- The borough received a letter from PSAB. They would like to make a presentation of a plaque for our 200th birthday. The Borough Manager asked when council would like to schedule this to happen. The decision was made to have the plaque presented in July on the Saturday of the 200th Birthday Street Festival at the Borough Building.

Tax Collector

- Current taxes and tax bills just went out for 2024 in the mail
- Local Realty Transfer Tax for January 2024, \$1,851.77
- Delinquent taxes for December 2023, \$499.26

Code Enforcement / Zoning / Building – report on file

Fire Chief – report on file

White Haven Ambulance – report on file

Mayor / Police Chief / Police Committee Report – report on file

Public Works / Public Works Committee – report on file

- Street Supervisor Joe stated that with some mild weather coming, they will try to do some pothole patching.
- Councilman Lamson mentioned seeing something about new cold patch material and asked if Joe had tried it. Joe stated if everything is done right with this material it has a warranty of 1 year. Councilman Lamson also asked if it is expensive. The Borough Manager said the company is giving us one ton free if we buy a ton.
- Street Supervisor Joe stated all of the vehicles are back and in working order. Councilman Lamson asked if he was able to find a used plow. Joe stated that he had not found anything yet.
- President Klem stated they did a great job with the last two storms. Councilman Lamson also stated that he got a lot of good comments about how Sean from the street department had plowed the streets and turned the plow away from the driveways.

Committee Reports

- **Building and Grounds** – The Borough Manager, Linda, received a request from Missy at the VFW to do a new VFW community service day in the borough. Linda talked with Missy about Hemlock Street Park. The pavilion needs attention and paint and maybe a small load of mulch to replace what is there. They could also clean it up a little bit. Missy is going to have a meeting with her group and get back to Linda.
- **Strategic planning group** – Earth Day cleanup is scheduled for April 20th and the group will meet at the caboose. More details to come.
- **Finance** – Vice President Best stated the Borough Manager, had to transfer some funds to catch up on bills but we now seem to be all caught up.
- **Planning** – nothing tonight
- **Parade Committee** –The Memorial Day event is coming together.
- **Water** – Vice President Best said he checked the meter today and it is still only at \$4,500 so we are only getting the minimum.
- **200th Birthday** – The Borough Manager has been working with Ed Jarrick to get electrical set up for the 200th birthday event in July. We also got more t-shirts to sell.

Correspondence / Unfinished Business - none

Seminars & Workshops – none

Payment of Bills – The bills were presented for payment, a motion was made by Best to approve the bills and seconded by Lamson, all in favor, motion carried.

Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items – none tonight

A motion was made to adjourn at 8:01 pm by Writer and seconded by Best. All in favor, the motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Holly Potance

Holly Potance
Assistant Borough Secretary