

The monthly meeting of the White Haven Borough Council was called to order by President John Klem at 7:00 pm. 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: Fred Meier Mayor, Linda Szoke Borough Manager, OIC Rich Mocofan, Dominic Yanuzzi Engineer, and Donald Karpowich Borough Attorney.

Minutes from the March meeting were presented. A motion was made by Best and seconded by Zugarek to approve the minutes. All in favor, the motion carried.

Public comment on agenda items – none tonight

Engineers Report – Report on file

- The grant for walk works has been submitted. This is a no match grant so hopefully we will be awarded the grant.
- The camera work on Main Street, 940, 13 lines were looked at and 2 were blocked. The blocked lines will need to be addressed. Linda stated that she spoke with Dan at Wagmans (contractor doing I80 work) he stated he would be willing to speak with our engineer to coordinate the work while they have the ramp closed.
- The drone work to photograph Main Street is scheduled. Main Street will be clear of cars and they will be done with it in two hours so start at 6:30 am and be done by 8:30 am before businesses even open.

Attorney's Report –

- Attorney Karpowich started by opening the bids for the waste disposal contract. We have 4 bids.  
Anthracite Waste: 1. \$758,100, 2. 1,083,000 and 3. \$66,000  
JP Mascaro: 1. \$1,119,376.00, 2. \$1,567,788.00 and 3. \$128,208  
Casella: 1. \$811,108, 2. \$956,346.00 and 3, \$165,645.04  
Waste Management: 1. \$879,633.60, 2. 1,232,433.60 and 3. \$88,140  
Option 1 is trash only, option 2 is trash and recycling, and option 3 is quarterly bulk pick up curbside. The attorney's recommendation is to table bids so he can review them. The Council can award at the May meeting. Motion made by Zugarek and seconded by Lamson to table bids for review, all in favor, the motion carried.
- The library is requesting that the additional property recently purchased be included in their lease agreement. This needs to be done by resolution and would allow the council president to sign the lease agreement. Motion made by Zugarek to adopt resolution 9 of 2024 for Library and seconded by Best. A roll call vote was taken. Best -yes, Fallon-yes, Klem-yes, Lamson Abstain\*, Writer-yes, and Zugarek- yes. \*Abstain due to involvement with the library as a volunteer.
- Request for Towing ordinance – The Attorney reviewed the draft with the council. A motion was made by Writer and seconded by Fallon that we advertise the towing ordinance at our May

meeting for a public hearing, a roll call vote was taken: Best-yes, Fallon-yes, Klem-yes, Lamson - yes, Writer-yes and Zugarek-yes. The motion carried.

#### Manager's Report

- The council would like to consider a façade program for our business district. Could the attorney help the council to come up with some specifications? The attorney discussed some options and suggested that the council hold a work session before our June meeting to work on the objective standards and architecture specifications. This would not apply to current buildings until they came for a permit and new buildings.
- Lamson pointed out that our next council meeting is on May 20<sup>th</sup> due to the holiday. So we will do the public hearing for towing and a work session for June.
- Received a resignation from Chris Zweibel as our EMA coordinator. Meri Jones who represents East Side Borough would be willing to serve in that capacity for Borough Council. She does have all the required training and her husband would be her second if she is not available as he also has all his training. A motion to accept Chris Zweibel's resignation effective May 1, 2024, and to appoint Meri Jones was made by Lamson and seconded by Zugarek, all in favor, the motion carried.
- Adoption of resolution 8 of 2024 to destroy old police records. A motion was made by Lamson and seconded by Writer, all in favor, and the motion carried.
- Request from the White Haven Sports Association to hold a corn hole tournament in June at Lehigh Park, with music and beer sales as a fundraiser. Insurance certificates to be provided. A motion was made to approve the event by Writer and seconded by Zurgarek, all in favor, and the motion carried.
- A proposal for a new copier lease was presented from Jay's business equipment. Linda reported that the current copier is 10 years old. The suggested agreement is 48 months at \$110.00 with a \$1.00 buyout at the end of the lease. A motion was made by Writer and seconded by Fallon to approve the lease, all in favor, and the motion carried.
- There is no hot water at Lehigh Park. We need to replace the water heater. We need to replace it quickly as opening day is this Saturday. Sean will go up with Joe and take a quick look at it to see what needs to be done.

#### Tax Collector

- Delinquent taxes for February collected \$3125.13
- Real Estate Tax transfer for March \$1630.72
- Tax collector report for March \$76,270.13

Building, zoning, Code enforcement – Report on file

Fire Department – report on file

Ambulance – report on file

- The board has met and is in favor of having the study done by DCED. Linda would like to take it one step further and have the neighboring communities participate as well.

#### Mayor / Police Chief / Police Committee Report

- The mayor wanted to confirm that we have proper signage for the police department when the street is closed for the Camera work to be done. Concerned about Church Street when hometown hero flags were being installed it seemed dangerous to the Mayor where the employees were sitting and working that we may need some signage for additional safety. The mayor would like to see some warning signs put out when work is being done.
- Mobile speed signs were suggested by the Borough Manager. We are receiving complaints all over town and on social media that people are driving way too fast around town. Maybe we could use this as a calming traffic feature to slow the drivers down and move it around town.
- Lamson asked about the Penn Dot letter regarding 437/940. Penn Dot will be putting in additional paint and additional signage to slow the drivers down. In speaking with the Engineer about other calming methods, he suggested we make an application for the LSA grant to use for the design and look at making the requested changes Penn Dot wants for that intersection.
- Police committee reported that Officer Gil Diaz has started with the department.

#### Public Works / Public Works Committee - Report on file

- Accept the resignation of Joe Wychock as street supervisor – Lamson made a motion to reluctantly accept Joe's resignation, seconded by Writer, all in favor, motion carried. Thank you Joe for your work and time in the borough, and Borough Council wishes you good luck and we appreciate your hard work and serving our community well.
- Complaints on Allegheny Street for parking. St Patrick's will mention during bingo to not block driveways. There was also a blue storage container that was causing visual concern and that has been removed. Some defined parking lines may help as well.

#### Committee Reports

- Building and Grounds – nothing further to report
- Strategic planning group – along with chamber and several volunteers Main Street was cleaned up last weekend. Planters had flowers replaced in them. Lamson mentioned how many cigarette butts are being picked up along the sidewalks.
- Finance – tax money has started to come in and we were able to put \$40,000 back in our investment account.
- Planning – no meetings
- Parade Committee – getting ready for Memorial weekend. Lots of activities are planned.
- Water – still taking out the minimum a month. There was also some work done on the road.
- 200<sup>th</sup> Birthday – next meeting is set for May 9th

Correspondence / Unfinished Business – none

Seminars & Workshops – none

Payment of bills – A motion was made by Best and seconded by Fallon to pay the bills of \$32,100.65 from the General fund and \$10,353.70 from the trash account. All in favor and the motion carried.

Public Comment on non-agenda items - none tonight.

A motion was made to adjourn at 8:00 pm by Zugarek and seconded by Lamson. All in favor, the motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

*Linda Szoke*

Linda Szoke  
Borough Secretary