

**BOROUGH OF LAWRENCEVILLE  
REGULAR MEETING  
June 6, 2016**

**CALL TO ORDER**

Jack Young called to order the Regular meeting for the Lawrenceville Borough Council to order at 7:00 PM with the Pledge of Allegiance.

**ROLL CALL**

**Council Members:**

Jack Young, President  
Larry Barnes, Vice President  
Judy Kenyon-ABSENT  
  
Maxine Smith -ABSENT

Marian Russell,  
Diana McCullough  
Mansel O'Dell-Arrived 7:25  
pm

**Mayor:**

Diana Barnes

**Secretary:** Jill Hall

**Police Department:**

Chief Robert Gee- ABSENT

**Visitors:**

Bev Shoup	Marty Burrows	Robert Archer	Natalie Kennedy
Bill Shoup	Eddie Wetzel	Mareena Kizis	John Kizis
Koleen Short	Valerie Stickler	Paula Jones	Betsy Folgelsonger
Jay Erb	Terrica Erb-Jones	Brad Hackett	Patrica Butler
Tim Short			

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** Marian moved to approve the minutes dated May 2, 2016 and Diana M. seconded the motion. All members present were in favor, none were opposed.

**PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS:** Robert Archer expressed concern over all the businesses leaving the borough. John Kizis seconded that concern by stating he can no longer purchase food locally. Natalie Kennedy shared her concerns over the bank leaving. Paula Jones commented that residents need to shop locally to keep the local businesses healthy. Valerie Stickler thanked the local residents that are still Northwest Bank customers that are coming into the branch in Mansfield. Koleen Short suggested the Borough Council create committees to research reviving the borough. The mayor, Diana Barnes, commented that an economic planner would need to be hired in order to truly solve the issues of the borough, and even then there were no guarantees the results from a planner would help set the borough on the right track. Council members assured the public that the borough belonged to several groups; TCAB, TCDC, etc; and these groups have been made aware of the crisis in Lawrenceville.

Eddie Wetzel stated that he and the Shoups have come to agreement regarding the access to his recently purchased property on Mechanic Street, Lawrenceville, PA. Mr. Wetzel then shared his concerns over the length of the permitting process within the borough. Mr. Wetzel was assured by the council that the permit process would be expedited for him as the borough had held him up enough already. Mansel stated that, currently, the Water Authority cannot have any new sewer hook-ups in the borough.

Jay Erb and Terrica Erb-Jones spoke extensively regarding flood-plain rules within the borough. Currently, 90% of Lawrenceville is not within flood plain designation. If the dikes are recertified, this determination will remain status quo, if the dikes do not pass certification, all of Lawrenceville will be placed into the flood plain designation. The risks involved

with this to the residents are the high cost of flood insurance and the ability to receive coverage. Due to this risk, Erb Inspections highly recommends that all residents of Lawrenceville contract flood insurance coverage PRIOR to the certification process of the dikes within Lawrenceville. By doing this, the residents ensure themselves the possibility of staying insured at cheaper rates. Terrica then went on to explain the duties Erb Inspection would perform as flood plain administrator for the borough if contracted to become the administrator. (See motion under New Business)

**COMMUNICATIONS:** Upon review of the communications, it was announced that the TCAB meeting was being held in the Friendship Center within the Borough of Lawrenceville and that all the Council members were invited. No other discussion revolved around the communications for the month.

**TREASURER'S REPORT:** Larry moved to accept the Treasurer's report as presented and Diana M. seconded the motion. All members present voted to pass the motion.

**PAYMENT OF BILLS: PAYMENT OF BILLS:** Diana M. moved to pay \$10,774.33 in bills for the period May 16, 2016- June 15, 2016. Marian seconded the motion and all members present voted in favor of paying the bills. It was noted that \$4,750.00 of the bills was payable to Lisa Guthrie CPA for audit expenses. Jill reported that the borough has received a clean audit and that the borough was in good standing. The borough should continue 'status quo' with the current management practices and accounting practices. Jack thanked Jill for doing a going job. Mansel questioned whether or not the Impact Fees account was included in the Audit. Jill replied that yes the account was reviewed in the audit; however, that particular account was always at risk for an independent audit. Jill stated that the Liquid Fuels account was being audited on June 21, 2016 and the Impact Fee account was subject to such an audit at any time.

**MAYOR'S REPORT:** The Mayor reported that she has been working with Benton Best of the Tioga County Emergency Services on how to coordinate with the many governmental and public institutions were there to be an active shooter at a school, a large business, or a public service building such as a hospital. Many things she had never considered were being brought to her attention: things such as mobile morgues, temporary sleep quarters for the emergency personnel, and how to keep the emergency personnel hydrated. The mayor also bragged about the students of the borough and the surrounding areas saying that between the two local high schools, almost \$1,000,000 in academic scholarships had been awarded. Kudos to our local students!

**FIRE DEPARTMENT REPORT:** No fire report tonight...all firemen were out fighting a local fire.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

- A. **Library:** Nothing to report
- B. **Code Enforcement/Zoning Officer:** Dawn was absent, but Jill had two permits to be reviewed and signed by Council.
- C. **Public Works/Streets and Dikes:** Dip in State Street that Jerry repaired was discussed and there is concern that major repair work may need to be completed due to erosion occurring underneath the pavement.
- D. **Public Works/Parks & Recreation:** Jerry is working on repairing the borough building at the ballfield. A motion was made by Diana M. to offer the use of said building to the local Scouts during Mushball for fundraising as well as during other community events by request and approval by Council. Mansel seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken and the results are as follows: Larry-Y, Diana M. -Y, Mansel-Y, Marian-Y, and Jack-Y.

**PERSONNEL & APPOINTMENT:** It was announced that four planning commission members were still needed.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

- It was announced that the Time Warner contract will expire at the end of 2016
- Eddie Wetzel's land purchase was discussed during the public presentations, please see above.
- Mansel stated there was nothing new to report regarding the sewer plant. Mansel did state that the corrective action plan was submitted to the DEP and the Authority is currently waiting to hear back from the DEP on whether or not they will be allowed any new sewer connections within the borough.
- Jerry is currently working on repairing the borough building at the ballfield. The secretary has been receiving invoices.
- A letter to Northwest Bank regarding the abandoned bank building within the borough was not discussed.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

- A motion was made by Diana M. to contract with Erb Inspections, Inc as the Flood Plain Administrator. Larry seconded the motion. A roll vote was taken with the results as follows: Larry – Yes, Marian – Yes, Mansel – Yes, Diana M. – Yes, and Jack – Yes. The motion passes as submitted.
- The light pole in the tennis courts has been changed to LED lighting despite PENELEC contacting the borough to state that the pole would need to be moved and/or PENELEC needed help accessing the pole.
- A motion was made by Larry to allow the Treasurer to make all Northwest bank accounts within QuickBooks inactive. Marian seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken and the results are as follows: Larry-Yes, Marian – Yes, Mansel – Yes, Diana M.– Yes, and Jack – Yes. The motion carried.
- A motion was made by Larry to hire Larry Orr to erect a 3' X 6' 'Welcome to Lawrenceville' sign at a cost of \$3,000 to replace the current sign located on the north end of Main Street. Diana M. seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken and the results are as follows: Larry – Yes, Marian – Yes, Mansel – Yes, Diana M.– Yes, and Jack – Yes. The motion carried as submitted. The secretary will contact Mr. Orr to award the project.
- A discussion was held whether or not to place a portable toilet at the Cherry Street Park. Many negative reasons were brought up and very few positive reasons were considered. The idea was rejected.
- It was announced to the residents that the Secretary, Jill Hall, is now a Notary Public and the services will be free of charge to the borough residents and \$5.00 per service to any non-resident.

**ADJORN:** The meeting adjourned at 9:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted by Jill Hall, Secretary.