

**BOROUGH OF LAWRENCEVILLE
PUBLIC HEARING & REGULAR MEETING
SEPTEMBER 6, 2005**

CALL TO ORDER

President Marian Russell called the Public Hearing of the Lawrenceville Borough Council to order at 6:30 PM

The Hearing was to discuss adoption of the Ordinance # 223 which would amend the Uniform Construction Code by requiring Code Compliance and exemptions for utility and miscellaneous use structures, which would include detached carports, detached private garages, greenhouses and shed having a building area two hundred fifty six (256) square feet or less.

This Ordinance would require Borough residents to apply for a building permit from the Borough for accessory buildings that are larger than 256 square feet but less than 1000 square feet. In order to require a building permit for any accessory building between 256 square feet and 1000 square feet this Ordinance needs to be adopted. As it stands now, the State only requires a building permit for accessory buildings 1000 square feet or larger. The building permits for 1000 square feet or larger would still be applied for through the Mansfield Office.

Walt Beach questioned what type of inspection would be required for the buildings between 256 square feet and 1000 square feet. The Borough Council stated that our own Code Enforcer would do the inspection and follow the State Code.

Bill Dincher recommended we adopt this Ordinance.

At 6:55 PM, Brad Robinson made a Motion to adjourn the Public Hearing, seconded by Larry Barnes. All members present voted yea.

CALL TO ORDER

President Marian Russell called the Regular Meeting of the Lawrenceville Borough Council to order at 7:00 PM with the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL

Council Members:

Ed Lockhart
Melvin Davis
Marian Russell
Steven Hepfer
Larry Barnes
Brad Robinson
Mildred Bliss

Chief of Police:

Walter Beach

Mayor:

Bryce Taft

Secretary:

Judy Woythal

Visitors:

Bill Dincher

Wayne Hopper

Ray Ransom

Nathan Hilfiger (Fire Dept)

Robert Cook

Mike Fritz

Arlan Taft

Gerald Bryant

Lee Strange (Fire Dept)

Donna Blend

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Steve Hepfer made a Motion to approve the minutes of August 1, 2005, seconded by Ed Lockhart. All members present voted yea.

PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS

Jimmie Joe Carl, from Hunt Engineers gave the Council an update on the Engineering Study. He stated that he had done some research on funding for this study. He stated there is a program called WAM (walking around money) and it ties in with the Community Revitalization Program and Matt Baker's office would be able to help the Borough with this. Jimmie Joe Carl also had spoken with Colton Webber from the Governors Center and it was suggested there might be a Land Use Planning Grant available. He will report back to us if this is an option for the Borough.

Jimmie Joe Carl brought a copy of the as built sewer maps and will meet with Mick Warso about the drainage system. He reported that the study is going as scheduled.

Ed Lockhart stated that we need information on putting a storm drain in our parking lot and connecting it into the street drain. Jimmie Joe Carl stated that he would include this with the other project study.

The Fire Department presented their contract proposal for a five-year contract, which would expire on December 31, 2010. They are asking for a \$1200 a year increase each year. It was also discussed to go with millage. The Council will gather information and contact the Fire Department to discuss the Contract Proposal. The Fire Department reported that the Lawrenceville Ambulance has a contract with the Rural Metro of Corning, New York, which has helped with insurance billing.

Jerry Bryant expressed his concern of safety, regarding a fallen tree in the yard across from 12 state street. Council stated that it is the property owner's responsibility.

Bill Dincher asked the status on the Abramson issue. Marian Russell stated that a letter was recently sent out, by the Zoning Board Chairman, stating the result of the Zoning Board decision. This matter is out of the hands of the Borough Council and any questions should be directed to the Zoning Board. Bill Dincher asked how

much money has been spent on the new building. Marian Russell stated it was around \$100,000.

At this point, Marian Russell stated that this is a meeting of the Borough Council and is limited to discussion amongst the Council Members, Police Chief and Mayor. The Council will not entertain any comments or questions from the public unless it is about the ramp bid.

Opening of the Handicap Ramp Bids

Ed Lockhart announced the bids: one from Robert Cook for \$19,000 plus \$600 for the ceiling totaling \$19,600, the second bid from Arlan Taft/Ray Ransom for \$38,667.98. Arlan Taft stated that he was unable to get the performance bond without a start and finish date, but would be able to supply it once the dates were set. Ray Ransom stated that some of the materials may not be available due to Hurricane Katrina.

The Building Committee will review the bids and contact Mike Egan for his approval. The Council plans to award the bid next Monday September 12th, pending approval from Mike Egan. A building permit will be needed from the Mansfield Office for the handicap ramp.

COMMUNICATIONS

Communications were reviewed. The Association meeting will be held September 22, 2005 in Knoxville.

TREASURER'S REPORT

A Motion to accept the treasurer's report was made by Mildred Bliss, seconded by Ed Lockhart. All members present voted yea.

PAYMENT OF BILLS

A Motion to pay the bills totaling \$11,195.34 including the \$413.79 for Cabela's radios and \$75 for the ball field base was made by Brad Robinson, seconded by Mildred Bliss. The Council stated that the men's ball league needs to supply the Council with a signed receipt for future purchase.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Bryce Taft read the Police Report.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

- A. LIBRARY-Marian Russell read the report that was submitted by Lynn Warso thanking all the volunteers and also requesting the approval to purchase shelving. Mildred Bliss made a Motion to approve the purchase of the shelving for \$19.97 each for 2 shelf units, plus the pegs, seconded by Larry Barnes. All members present voted yea.**

B. BUILDING ENFORCEMENT/ZONING OFFICER- Tom Radcliffe was unable to attend the meeting. The discussion regarding the assessment ordinance and rental ordinance was tabled until the next meeting.

Larry Barnes made a Motion to adopt the Ordinance # 223 which would amend the Uniform Construction Code by requiring Code Compliance and exemptions for utility and miscellaneous use structures, which would include detached carports, detached private garages, greenhouses and shed having a building area two hundred fifty six (256) square feet or less, seconded by Steve Hepfer. All members present voted yea.

This means Borough residents will be required to get a building permit from the Borough for all utility and miscellaneous use structures that are greater than 256 square feet but less than 1000 square feet. If it is 1000 square feet or greater, the building permit is required through Mansfield.

C. PUBLIC WORKS: STREETS AND DIKES-Steve Hepfer reported on extermination of woodchucks on the dikes. He stated that Orkin could not handle that large of a project. Erlic will give us a quote on trapping and fumigation. They have their own insurance.

Brad Robinson stated that the Probation Department will be contacted regarding, allowing a person with a disability, to work for the Borough.

Melvin Davis reported a price quote of \$449.60 for trucking a load of cinders. The Council tabled the discussion until more prices are received. The Borough Secretary will call Tioga and Elkland for the truckers they use.

Larry Barnes stated that the shoulders of the streets need fill or we will be losing our pavement. A load of 2RC gravel is needed. The Borough Secretary will arrange for a load to be delivered. Al Beach will put the gravel on the shoulders of the streets.

Brad Robinson stated the Borough will handle the mowing of the top of the dike and the roadside. The riff raff side will be hired out.

Marian Russell stated that the catch basin near Houghtalings needs to be cleaned out.

D. NEW BUILDING-The Council stated there is a water problem in the office parking lot. Ed Lockhart had received a verbal quote from Paul Hall for \$2500 for grading and a drywell. The Council suggested the drainage in the

parking lot be connected to the street drain. A permit will be needed from Tom Haskins at PennDOT.

The Borough Secretary requested a spotlight be installed on the front corner of the office building to shine onto the side parking lot and front yard. Ed Lockhart will look into this.

The Borough Secretary requested a new vacuum cleaner be purchased for the office, the one we have is not functioning properly. Steve Hepfer made a Motion to approve the purchase of a new vacuum cleaner by the secretary, seconded by Melvin Davis. All members present voted yea.

- E. PUBLIC SAFETY-Walt Beach stated that the DUI Grant Renewal is due. A Resolution needs to be approved for the Mayor to sign the Grant for \$27,134, this runs from October 1, 2005 until September 30, 2006. Larry Barnes made a Motion to approve the Mayor to sign the DUI Grant, seconded by Mildred Bliss. All members present voted yea.**

Walt Beach reported that a rabid raccoon was killed in the Borough. He also stated that he is working on a CDBG Grant for the radios, through Matt Bakers Office.

- F. PERSONNEL AND APPOINTMENT- Mildred Bliss stated that the Planning Commission & the LTRV Planning Commission are still looking for another member.**

Ed Lockhart stated that the planning commission members need some guidance and training. A suggestion was made to have a questionnaire for the Borough residents to give their opinions on what businesses they would like to see in the Borough. Brad Robinson suggested the planning commission contact Bob Blair for help.

- G. UNFINISHED BUSINESS- Recodification Review-Marian Russell stated that an assignment for Council members will be handed out at the next meeting.**

The Time Warner Agreement for five years was discussed. All the Council members agreed to Table this discussion.

All the Council members agreed on the process for Complaints, received in the Borough, which reads as follows:

Any complaints received by the Borough Secretary or Borough Council Members pertaining to sections 1028 and 1029 of the Borough Code will be handled in the following manner:

- 1. The receiver of the complaint will complete a complaint form.**
- 2. The complaint form will be forwarded to the mayor's office and he will respond to the complaint within 48 hours.**
- 3. The Mayor will issue a verbal warning to the offender stating that corrective action will be taken within 7 days.**
- 4. If corrective action is still not taken after 7 days, the Mayor will issue a formal letter from his office stating the violation and consequences if the offender does not comply. The consequences must be fully explained and a formal date for compliance will be issued. The offender will also be informed of the next legal step, which is to turn the complaint over to the Police Department.**
- 5. If action is not taken to correct the complaint, the Mayor will turn the complaint over to the Police Department. The Police Department will respond to the complaint within 48 hours.**

A complaint was brought up at the meeting about salvage/junk yard ordinance being violated on a property on Cowanesque Street. The Borough Secretary will fill out the complaint form and follow the procedure above.

H. NEW BUSINESS-The Council discussed a new sidewalk for the library. The Borough secretary will contact Tom Radcliffe for a quote.

The Borough Secretary had received a request from a resident who wishes to open a home business in her residence that is in a commercial zone. The resident needs a written statement from the Borough Council stating that this is not a conflict with any local zoning or ordinances. The Council stated that the resident needs to get a Change of Use Permit from our Zoning Officer and an Occupancy Permit from Labor and Industry. The Borough Council can not give their approval until Labor and Industry gives approval.

Marian Russell read a letter received from Rosila Delia questioning if R & T Mechanical was out of compliance regarding not having evergreen barriers. The Council stated that the property already has trees and a field around it, so the barrier is not an issue.

The Council discussed having a Fall Clean Day on Saturday October 1, 2005 from 8 to 1.

Steve Hepfer made a Motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:50 PM, seconded by Brad Robinson. All members present voted yea.

Minutes were recorded & printed by Judy Woythal, Secretary