

**LAWRENCEVILLE BOROUGH COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
JULY 07, 2003**

CALL TO ORDER

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

ROLL CALL

Council Members:

Mildred Bliss
Melvin Davis
William Dincher
Edward Lockhart
Alan Losey
Marian Russell

Chief of Police:

Walter Beach

Secretary:

Darcy Wood

Mayor:

Bryce Taft

Visitors:

Howard Six
Karen Flynn
Al Beach
Donna Blend
Tom Rotsell

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of July 07, 2003 were approved as presented. It is noted that Bill Dincher questioned the Lawrence Township population to be 17,021 and secretary will recheck the tape from that meeting.

PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS

Frank Six brought a complaint of 4 cars around town for sale and smoke at the "new plant". He mentioned it smelled like rubber burning and they are burning trash on Sunday nights. Bryce mentioned the car on his property would be put back in the garage.

No permit is needed for the Mile Long Sale but a permit is needed to selling prior to the event.

COMMUNICATIONS

Marian read a letter from Attorney Stokes pertaining to the Burrows property stating the defendant basically agreed on record that they remain in contempt; they have 30 days to clean up the property or risk incarceration. When a few council members arrived on the property they were not allowed to mark anything with paint, as told to do by Burrow's attorney. There is a list of items that need to be taken care of before the next inspection and Marty Burrows was made aware

of these items. Marty will contact the secretary before the end of 23 days and council members will inspect the property again.

Marian feels that it should be made policy that a police officer should always accompany a council member whenever they must go onto someone else's property.

Bill Dincher stated, pertaining to borough code enforcements, this is the job of the mayor to make sure the code is being enforced. As far as people having automobiles out for sale, that pertains to a borough ordinance, and is the job of the borough police or the executive of the borough, which is the mayor and he should take care of it.

Mayor Taft had a complaint on the permit issued for Gerald Bryant's addition, he stated the property was not measured and Marian assured him Cleo did measure this property.

Brad Robinson was scheduled for a court appearance and has been rescheduled for July 28 @ 1:00 pm and Al Losey will represent the borough on this.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Mildred Bliss mentioned the work being done on the streets could be charged to Liquid Fuels.

Bill Dincher questioned the large expense for police clothing/uniforms and Walt gave an explanation for this.

Al Losey made a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report, seconded by Mildred Bliss. All members present voted yea.

PAYMENT OF BILLS

Additional bills to be approved: Tioga Publishing \$39.76. Quick Books update 149.95, Walt Fisher 225.00, postage DUI 79.61, Quill 427.04. Additional bills \$621.36. Grand total for the general checking \$5,061.73 Funck's bill is on hold until Al speaks to Nancy and gets a breakdown. Mildred Bliss made a motion to hold the bill until we get an explanation, seconded by Bill Dincher. All members present voted yea. Ed Lockhart made a motion to approve paying the bills with the additions, seconded by Al Losey. All members present voted yea.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Taft read the police report for Chief Walter Beach and patrolman Corey Mosher.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Library

Karen Flynn mentioned they are still shopping for a carpet and are looking into either a sensor or motion light for the fall. Last month it was mentioned to possibly use the library temporarily for the borough office; Marian felt there would not be enough room for the borough and police both.

B. Building Enforcement/ Zoning Officer

Approval of building permits- there was a discussion on the building permit for an addition to Gene Pondo's garage, questioning him using 2x4's. Al Losey made a motion to issue the permit as long as it met with the inspector's approval, seconded by Melvin Davis. All members present voted yea except Ed Lockhart voted no. Tammy Walters permit for alterations and Mary Ann Gontarz to replace portions of the foundation. Ed Lockhart made a motion to approve the building permits, seconded by Al Losey. All members present voted yea except Bill Dincher voted no specifying we have to stop people from doing the work before they ask for a permit. Bill Dincher suggested this should be advertised and the council agreed. Secretary will advertise in the Penny Saver and put a reminder in the Post Office.

C. Public Works: Streets and Dikes

The streets are all swept, thanks to Melvin, Al, Karen Flynn, and some students from Williamson. The streets are being repaired but more tar is needed. Al Beach reported one of the catch basins on State Street needs a new grate. Tom Rotsell mentioned a drain basin by Shoup's house be looked at. A complaint was brought up about residents mowing grass into the street and the secretary was told to have this advertised.

Melvin mentioned the dike should be mowed three times instead of two and this should be something to remember when the contract comes up for renewal next year. Also there was a discussion on the dike and several people were not pleased with how it looks. Bill Dincher made a motion to amend payment of bills excluding the dike payment until Melvin is satisfied or reaches an agreement with the contractor Harry Kittle, seconded by Al Losey. All members present voted yea. Payment will be held until Melvin and Bill are both satisfied.

No bids for the snow plowing came in and it was agreed to wait till a later date to advertise again.

D. Building and Recreation

Tom Rotsell mentioned an emergency meeting July 9 to review bids for their construction project and is hoping to have ground breaking in two weeks. If the plan works, the building could be razed within 10 to 12 weeks and the borough offices will have to find a new home.

Marian read the land transfer agreement between the borough and fire department. Al Losey made a motion to adopt resolution #318 to accept the

agreement with the fire department to transfer the property, seconded by Ed Lockhart. Motion carried by roll call vote with all members present voting yea. Al Losey suggested discussing the type of construction for the new borough building. Marian felt it would be more beneficial to wait until the next meeting for this discussion and have a better idea what the fire department is doing, Bill Dincher proceeded to walk out of the meeting at 8:32 p.m.

E. Public Safety

None

F. Personnel and Appointment

Gene Pondo's term is up on the Authority board and needs to be re-appointed. Mildred Bliss made a motion to appoint Eugene Pondo to the Lawrenceville Borough Authority board, seconded by Melvin Davis. Motion carried by roll call vote with all members present voting yea.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Code violations- all council members received a packet of the list of property owners and the various violations.

After a lengthy discussion about properties within the borough that have accumulated junk and buildings that are in need of repair, Mildred Bliss made a motion to hire someone to inspect the properties for safety and health concerns, seconded by Ed Lockhart. Motion carried by roll call vote with all members present voting yea.

Code of Ordinances- committee members pick up a copy and have it reviewed for next meeting.

Walt mentioned about a year ago council said they would see that something was done about the church property, so to speak, to appease him. After 6-8 months someone contacted him but has not heard anything in four months.

Al Losey had spoken to Jim Baker and was assured they would do something but nothing was promised to Walt and nothing has been done. It was suggested that it was up to the church to take care of this problem. Walt feels it is up to the borough council as they were going to approve the building permit. Mildred Bliss stated to do as we do on the council and sue them. Walt stated he would sue borough council. Mildred Bliss stated either one borough council or the church, whatever. Walt stated for the secretary to put in the minutes that the borough is accepting a challenge for a lawsuit. Al will talk to Jim Baker again and see why they have not done anything; he and Jim had talked and Al explained what Walt was interested in and they were suppose to put shrubs in. Walt stated he was done, he has heard the challenge.

NEW BUSINESS

Rummage sale permit- Mildred Bliss made a motion to waive the "no parking on borough streets from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. on July 11 & 12th", seconded by

Melvin Davis. Motion carried by roll call vote with all members present voting yea.

Antivirus program purchase was approved for borough computers, both borough and police.

Marian made a suggestion to Tom that the fire department plan some kind of event that the town can participate in together. Maybe a picnic can still be planned for this year and next year maybe a block dance; there is enough talent in the community to pull resources from. Millie spoke on the many events and activities that occurred in the past in the community.

A representative for Lawrenceville is still needed for the Chamber of Commerce.

Karen Flynn expressed her disappointment over several issues: the problem with the church and Walt, some of the ordinances, and the lack of community involvement in the town.

The reason why a permit is needed to have a rummage sale is due to the fact that numerous people had continuous rummage sales and it looked messy; possibly the ordinance could be looked at once again.

Marian spoke to Walt and said she also" heard the challenge" and will talk to Gary Weaver, pastor of the church, and will get back to Walt.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion was made to adjourn at 9:18 p.m. by Al Losey, seconded by Mildred Bliss. All members present voted yea.

Minutes were taken and prepared by:
Darcy Wood- Secretary