

**LAWRENCEVILLE BOROUGH COUNCIL  
REGULAR MEETING  
AUGUST 05, 2002**

**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  
Al Losey  
Eugene Pondo, III 9:27 (departed)  
Marian Russell

**Mayor:**

Bryce Taft 7:50 (arrived)

**Chief of Police:**

Walter Beach

**Secretary:**

Darcy Wood

**Visitors:**

Jeff Kyle	Al Tillinghast
Nancy Funck	Vivian Roy
George Roy	Al Krieger

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

The minutes of June 27, July 1, and July 22, 2002 meeting were approved as presented.

**PUBLIC PRESENTATION**

Jeff Kyle presented the yearly insurance renewal. It was agreed to approve the renewal when the bill is presented next month.

Mr. And Mrs. George Roy is requesting a variance for building a garage. They would like to build it 15 ft from the back line instead of 30 ft. Marian mentioned this has to go before the Zoning Board. Secretary was asked to contact Ken Leone and get the process in motion.

Al Krieger discussed the lot beside the borough property and gave his reasoning on why he thought there was a discrepancy on whether the borough owned the property or not.

Tom Rotsell asked the long-standing question of where things stand on the fire hall. There is some discrepancy on what we thought we owned and what the map shows. Several members met with Dwayne Wetmore (he did the survey) and went over the pins. He will be doing more work on the survey and will get back to us by Wednesday. Tom questioned why the survey is such a big issue at this time and all the fire department wants from us is a letter of commitment saying that we will turn over the property to the fire department to construct a

new fire hall. Until the fire department gets some kind of commitment from us they cannot proceed. Bill Dincher raised a question that if we state we will give so much land and then find out that we don't have that amount to give, will the letter of commitment bind us? He suggested the solicitor look into this. Discussions continued on this matter. It is unknown as to what the borough is going to do. A bigger building is needed that can house the police, secretary, bathrooms, storage, space for elections and parking.

## **COMMUNICATIONS**

Communications were reviewed.

## **TREASURER'S REPORT**

Secretary started training with Adam Funck and things are going well. Gene Pondo made a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report and was seconded by Ed Lockhart. All were in favor; no one was opposed.

## **PAYMENT OF BILLS**

There was a question as to who pays for the lighting at the ball field. Ball teams pay \$2100.00 a year to maintain any costs for the ball field. Additional bills to be approved: Halls \$7.34, RC Hills 77.66, LBA 1,241.32 (to reimburse authority) the borough payroll was mistakenly written on authority checks total add't bills \$1,326.32 making a grand total of \$6,229.59. Gene Pondo made a motion to approve paying the bills with the additions and seconded by Mildred Bliss. All were in favor; no one was opposed.

Nancy Funke stated the 1999 Authority audit is done and 2000 is getting started this Thursday. When the Authority is completed the borough audits will begin. As the audits are completed the paperwork will come back to the office and so more files are needed. Marian mentioned anything in the hall cabinet should be borough paperwork not authority and Mick should be told this.

## **MAYOR'S REPORT**

Mayor Taft read the police report for Walter Beach and reported he swore in Cory Mosher as a policeman to begin working as soon as he is certified.

## **COMMITTEE REPORT:**

### **A. Library**

Mildred Bliss made a motion that Lynn Warso buy carpet that is needed for the library and was seconded by Melvin Davis. All were in favor; no one was opposed.

### **B. Building Enforcement/ Zoning Officer**

Mansfield Borough is applying for a grant from DCED for the Shared Municipal Service program. They would like to submit letters from municipalities that are interested in the program along with the application for the grant. Gene Pondo made a motion we send a letter of interest, seconded by Al Losey. All were in favor; no one was opposed.

There was a complaint at the last meeting that borough council should be approving each building permit and this has not been done. Borough council will rectify this and give the final approval at each monthly meeting. Permit #184-196 needs to be approved. Walt Beach feels council is not addressing the complaints that he voiced at the last meeting that the permit #186 for the Calvary UMC building does not conform to the building and zoning requirements, that council is trying to blanket this in and bypass the issue. Marian Russell asked Walt to provide a list of all the complaints and the ordinance that is related to that and will bring this up next month. Bill Dincher made a motion to strike permit #186 off the list and proceed to approve the list as is, seconded by Al Losey. Motion carried by roll call vote with all members present voting yes.

### **C. Public Works: Streets and Dikes**

Academy Street – We are waiting for A.L. Blades to submit several more papers for the project.

Mildred Bliss made a motion to buy 2 (two) loads of cinders, seconded by Gene Pondo. All were in favor; no one was opposed.

The borough-owned lawn mower has been damaged; there is no information as to how this happened. The mower is stored in a shed owned by the fire department; it appears the damage is minor.

### **D. Building and Recreation**

Council has seen the survey done by W. Wetmore and the questions is on the lot where Brackley's garage was. According to the deed, that belongs to the borough. Wetmore is going to check the Butler property back and forward. Tom presented the proposed drawing of the fire department and explained there is enough space for the borough. There was a discussion on council's feelings on whether we want the building attached or separate from the fire department and the general feeling is to be separate.

After much discussion on this matter, Gene Pondo made a motion we have the solicitor draw up a letter of intent to send the fire department, seconded by Bill Dincher. Motion carried with roll call vote with all members present voting yes.

### **E. Fire and Police**

None

### **F. Personnel and Appointment**

None

## **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

Burton, Sika, Burket/Johnson properties- Secretary spoke with Shawn Forest (Mansfield Borough Code Enforcement Officer) about whether or not the borough could use his services when needed and he didn't think that would work. Marian suggested the secretary contact the solicitor and get his input. Send a letter to Sika that they are in violation.

### **Lighting at the interchange of Rt. 15/49-**

Mildred Bliss made a motion the borough pay fifty percent of the cost of maintenance and electricity of the township share of the lighting for the intersection on 49 and the new 15, seconded by Gene Pondo. Motion carried by roll call vote with all members voting yea except Al Losey who abstained.

### **Complaints on UMC building-**

Marian asked Walt to go through the complaints and show, which ordinances are in violation so she can address them in letterform. Walt mentioned if someone brings a complaint to council it's not up to that person to point out where the violation is in the ordinance book. He feels he is not being treated fairly and that there are "major violations" with the construction. Bill Lusk signed the building permit and it states that it complies with all building ordinances. Marian questioned if the buffer strip had to be done, if the property is two acres. Walt read where it states council may prescribe any conditions not inconsistent with the law pertinent to ordinances to be met by the holder of a permit. Also, if you lived next door to this huge building and that's all you could see, wouldn't you want a buffer strip to block some of your view and keep people off your property. He urged everyone on council to come stand on his deck and look at the view. Walt voiced opposition to a fence being put up between the two properties. Al stated Marian is going to check into some of these complaints and bring them up at the next meeting. Conversation continued on whether or not people worked after 7:00 or Sundays. Bill Dincher asked what relief did he want from council and Walt said if a formal relief is being requested then it would come through his attorney. Bill stated since there is an allegation that coding was violated, coding wasn't adhered to and a permit was incorrectly issued and then you're also alleging that violations of ordinances did occur and the police department did not look into that, it seems to be the only way to go. This is tabled until next month; Marian will meet with Bill Lusk and have him address each one of the complaints. Bill suggested we call our solicitor. Bill Dincher made a motion that we have our solicitor look into this matter of allegations of violations of zoning and ordinances during the building of this building and find out where our legal standing is, seconded by Ed Lockhart. Motion carried by roll call vote with all members present voting yea.

**Christmas decorations contest-** Marian will ask Karen to have someone work with her on this project.

**Baptist church house-** Our question last month was since this property is tax exempt, because it is suppose to be used for Sunday school, and now it is housing people; should it still be tax-exempt. The Methodist church parsonage and parking lot is not tax-exempt. It was suggested we contact the solicitor.

**Boro Elected Official Program-** not interested in the program.

**Brad Robinson –** Al showed Brad a copy of the final check payment the borough made and Brad said a check would be forth coming.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

**None**

## **ADJOURNMENT**

Motion was made to adjourn at 9:45 p.m. by Al Losey, seconded by Mildred Bliss. All were in favor; no one was opposed.

Minutes were taken and prepared by:  
Darcy Wood