

**BOROUGH OF LAWRENCEVILLE  
REGULAR MEETING  
April 3, 2017**

**CALL TO ORDER**

Jack Young called 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

Bradley Hackett

Marian Russell-left at 9:00pm

Diana McCullough  
Mansel O'Dell-left at 8:15  
pm

**Police Department:**

Chief Scott Shutt  
Officer Jeremy Cook

**Mayor:**

Diana Barnes- (arrived at  
7:04pm and left at 8:00pm)

**Secretary:** Jill Hall

**Visitors:**

Paul King-Zoning Officer	Alan Leonard	Patricia Leonard	Amy Southard
Anna Hotelling	Tim Short	Bill Shoup	Bev Shoup
Craig Stage	Sharon Wetzel	Cleo Russell	Robert Penzone
Bobby Scott	Cyndy Burrows	Donna Blend	Koleen Short

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** Diana McCullough moved to approve the minutes dated March 7, 2017. Larry Barnes seconded the motion. All present were in favor and none were opposed.

**PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS:**

- Cleo Russell, Lawrenceville Borough Authority Chairman, was questioned if the Lawrenceville Borough Authority was being fined by the DEP for violations that occurred in the end of 2016 and the beginning of 2017. Cleo responded, "Yes" and the fine amount was \$3,300. Cleo then went on to state that the violations were due to operator error....however it was mentioned that reporting (which was the basis for the violations) is the ultimate responsibility of the Authority board members and not the operator. Cleo Russell was also questioned regarding the validity of the rumors surrounding the fact that Authority Board members Cleo Russell and Gordon Chilson and former Authority Board member Robert Penzone were being investigated by the State Ethics Committee. Cleo answered that the rumors were true that the three persons were being investigated. Cleo Russell was asked how many lawsuits the Borough Authority was involved in and Cleo answered, 'NONE'; however when pressed by the public it was clear that a labor lawsuit is in process against the Borough Authority, as well as a lawsuit from the Borough of Lawrenceville for lack of cooperation from the Borough Authority board to convey the water and sewer systems to the Borough, according to Ordinance 253.

- Robert Penzone requested that Mill Street be repaired due to the large “pool” in the front of his home. He was reminded the borough is applying for the Low Volume Road Grant in hopes to repair the road and the drainage. Robert suggested bringing in gravel to fill the large hole. A discussion ensued with Mansel O’Dell, on behalf of the Lawrenceville Borough Authority, offering the Lawrenceville Borough the opportunity to use street millings that are stored at the Authority plants. Jack Young thanked Mansel stating he was unaware this was an available option and that borough maintenance man will be instructed to get millings to fill the holes on Mill Street.

**COMMUNICATIONS:** No Discussion

**TREASURER’S REPORT:**

- The Secretary/Treasurer explained that the Balance Sheet from April 2016-February 2017 has not been reporting the bank account balances from the accounts at Citizen and Northern Bank. This is a reporting error only so the asset balance is understated. This was due to a customized report setting within the financial reporting program and has been corrected. The corrected and updated balance sheets are attached and the balance sheets going forward will have the proper asset balance.
- Bradley Hackett motioned to accept the Treasurer’s report as presented. Larry Barnes seconded the motion. All present were favor with the exception of Mansel O’Dell. Motion carried.

**PAYMENT OF BILLS:** Larry Barnes motioned to pay the monthly bills in the amount of \$9,840.40. Diana McCullough seconded the motion. All present were favor.

**MAYOR’S REPORT:** The mayor reported on attending the Hazard Mitigation meeting in Knoxville, PA on March 1, 2017. The mayor was pleased to report that the Borough of Lawrenceville is on the right track for hazard mitigation and should continue working diligently. The Mayor also discussed the historical tree that is sitting in the middle of the dike system in the Borough. The Mayor has had conversations with Representative Matt Baker regarding the tree and what the council is doing to keep the best interests of the borough in mind. The Mayor also made it clear that the council has made no decision regarding the tree at this point in time. The meeting was opened to public discussion at this time. Anna Hotelling would like to see the cheapest option considered for tree mitigation. She does not want to be forced to purchase flood insurance for her home. Cyndy Burrows concurred with Anna. Robert Penzone would like to see the tree saved and would like the Borough to consider building the dike around the tree. The tree has been standing a very long time and Robert feels it should continue to stand. Mansel O’Dell stated he has spoken to the Army Corps of Engineers regarding the dikes. Mansel would like to see a meeting between the Borough, DEP and the Army Corps. Mansel has concerns regarding spending money to either remove the tree or building the dike around the tree and then still not have the dikes be certifiable. The two government entities will be contacted to see if they will meet with the Borough Council.

**POLICE REPORT:** See Attached. A motion was made by Diana McCullough and seconded by Bradley Hackett to allow Chief Shutt to send Officer Cook to Taser, Pepper Spray and V-Tech training. A roll call vote was taken and the results are as follows: Larry Barnes-Yes, Marian Russell-Yes, Bradley Hackett-Yes, Mansel O’Dell-Yes, Diana McCullough-Yes, and Jack Young-Yes. Motion Carried.

**FIRE DEPARTMENT REPORT:** See attached.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

- A. Library:** The library received a \$1,000 donation from the Kreiger Foundation to purchase a wireless connecting printer, replacement ink cartridges, and monies to support the yearly story hour.
- B. Code Enforcement/Zoning Officer:** Paul King, the Zoning Officer, gave a presentation on “Where the Borough Wants to go”. This Presentation is on file in the office. Some of the major highlights from the presentation:
- i. Updating the Zoning Ordinance and Zoning map will most likely take a year, minimally.
  - ii. Two zoning hearing members are in place. One more is needed and an alternate in case of conflicts of interests.
  - iii. Chris Lantz, the solicitor, has done quite a bit of work already, but there is much more to do.
  - iv. Current zoning ordinance has many portions that are NOT enforceable-per Chris Lantz.
  - v. The cost to recodify the ordinances = \$5,000-\$10,000 and then the borough needs to update regularly
  - vi. Zoning Ordinance has a large influence on what the borough will become
  - vii. What is the borough ‘vision’?-lite manufacturing? retail?, residential?, a mixture? The Zoning ordinance helps define the vision and is a ‘living document’, changing with the borough.
  - viii. There are always barriers to growth, but the County Planners see very few growth barriers within the borough (see county barrier map)
  - ix. Zoning Hearing Board needs its own solicitor separate and distinct from the borough’s solicitor.
  - x. Within each Zoning district, definitions for Principal Permitted uses, Special Exceptions (these are determined and permitted by Zoning Hearing Board) and Conditional Use (these decisions are determined by the Council) must be defined.
- C. Public Works/Streets and Dikes:** The Ehrlich quotes for vegetation and rodent management along the dikes were reviewed. Larry Barnes motioned to accept the Ehrlich Quotes, as presented from the Dike Committee. Marian Russell seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken and the results are as follows: Larry Barnes-Yes, Marian Russell-Yes, Bradley Hackett- Yes, Mansel O’Dell- Yes, Diana McCullough- Yes, and Jack Young-Yes. The motion carried.
- D. Public Works/Parks & Recreation:** Diana McCullough motioned to hire Jason Bovee to erect basketball hoops at the State Street Park. Larry Barnes seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken and the results are as follows: Larry Barnes-Yes, Marian Russell-Yes, Bradley Hackett-Yes, Mansel O’Dell- Yes, Diana McCullough-Yes and Jack Young-Yes. The motion carried.

**PERSONNEL & APPOINTMENT:** Diana McCullough motioned to place Anna Hotelling onto the Planning Commission for a three year term and Patricia Leonard on the Planning Commission for a four year term. Bradley Hackett seconded the motion. All present were in favor.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

- The Borough was turned down for the Kreiger grant to resurface the ball field on Cowanesque Street.
- Diana McCullough is completing grant paperwork for the Veteran’s Memorial.
- Stop Sign Ordinance for the State Street stop signs has been completed and must now be advertised prior to being adopted.
- Diana McCullough motioned to purchase insurance for \$111/year for all off-borough-property signs. The motion was seconded by Bradley Hackett. A roll call vote was taken

and the results are as follows: Larry Barnes-Yes, Marian Russell-Yes, Bradley Hackett-Yes, Mansel O'Dell- Yes, Diana McCullough –Yes and Jack Young –Yes. The motion carried.

- The borough needs 10 banners in the borough at a cost of \$640. The council decided to table this purchase until next year.
- Cleo Russell asked the council if the borough would be willing to sit with an arbitrator. Jack Young told him yes.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

- Sharon Wetzel told the Council she is upset with and tired of dealing with the Lawrenceville Borough Water Authority. She feels they have tried very hard to prevent her from moving to the borough and it is time for them to butt out of her business. She confronted Cleo Russell for calling her contractor regarding the ditch on her property and told Cleo to stop harassing her and her contractor. The deed to her property has no right-of-ways on it, so therefore she has the right to do anything to her property that is within the legal boundaries of the borough ordinances.
- Renewing the Borough's membership to the Tioga County Development Corporation was discussed but no decision was made.

**ADJORN:** Diana McCullough motioned to adjourn at 9:10pm and Bradley Hackett seconded the motion. All present were in favor.