

December 6, 2016

# HARMONY BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING December 6, 2016

**COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT:** Phyllis Metz, Frank Luek, Dave Szakelyhidi, Greg Such, Joe Dippold, Don Sims, Jason Sarver and Mayor Cathy Rape

**OTHERS PRESENT:**

*Harmony Boro Council Meeting  
December 6, 2016*

FRANK GRANNON  
*Belzyley*  
*Ernest A. Bachtold*  
*J. Dippold*  
JASON SARVER  
*David Altonus*  
*Don Sims*  
*Jim Miller*  
*Cathy Rape*  
*Don Sims*  
*Frank Luek*  
ALLEN BAUER  
*Sandy Ferrainola*  
*Alto White*  
*Phyllis Metz*  
*Mike Stey Hallett*  
GREG SUCH

December 6, 2016

**CALL TO ORDER:**

A quorum was reached and the President Greg Such called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:**

**MOMENT OF SILENCE:**

Greg Such reported that we lost a great community leader, John Ruch who passed away about three weeks ago. Greg asked for a moment of silence in John's honor, adding that he will be sadly missed.

**MINUTES:**

In a motion made by Don Sims and seconded by Jason Sarver, the Harmony Borough Council unanimously approved the November 1, 2016 and November 15, 2016 minutes.

**SOLICITOR'S REPORT:**

Solicitor Matt Racunas was unable to attend the meeting; Solicitor Kerry Fraas had nothing to report.

Greg Such reported on the EMA Agreement.

**BOARD REPORTS/APPOINTMENTS:**

**APPOINTMENTS:**

Greg Such reported that there were no appointments at this time.

**COG:**

Joe Dippold reported that the next meeting will be Thursday, December 8<sup>th</sup>.

**HARB:**

Dave Szakelyhidi reported that there is one Certificate of Appropriateness that HARB approved and recommended to Council.

**306 German Street – Bob Rice** – Paint/stain color to match closely the vinyl siding on the existing natural cedar – work to be completed by end of 2016.

In a motion made by Dave Szakelyhidi and seconded by Frank Luek the Harmony Borough Council unanimously approved Certificate of Appropriateness for 306 German Street.

**Water Authority:**

Dave Szakelyhidi had nothing new to report.

**Parks Board:**

Susie Altemus reported that somebody drove thru Wood Street Park again; Susie put cones up to help keep cars off the grass. Susie inquired if that was in the Historic District needing HARB's approval. Dave Szakelyhidi suggested going to HARB to get their input. Discussed the possibility of putting a fence up, Dave suggested a split rail fence that would still allow access to the park if needed. Susie stated that the Parks Board meet next week, can discuss then.

The Silvester is coming along. There is a car at the Canoe Launch; Frank requested it be removed by the Police.

**Parks Board Cont.:**

Susie also reported that she and Phyllis Metz assisted with the Reindeer Race on Saturday. Susie inquired if any has been budgeted for the Zelig Library; the Library is working on their budget. Greg Such responded that we budgeted money but not sure where we are yet for the end of the year. Don Sims suggested waiting until the end of the year.

**Planning Commission:**

Frank Luek had nothing new to report.

**Western Butler County Authority:**

Greg Such reported as an FYI that the authority is working on planning the Creekside sewage pumping station; that project is moving forward. It needs to be designed and approved, and contracting.

**Shared Services:**

Greg Such had nothing new to report.

Greg reported that leaf collection ended, an announcement went out today, Frank has agreed to pick up any bagged leaves at the curb. If anyone has any, call the Borough Office.

**Parking and Signage:**

Greg Such had nothing new to report.

**Historic Harmony:**

Rodney Gasch, President of Historic Harmony reported that the member potluck dinner will be Tuesday, December 13<sup>th</sup> they will be having some John Ruch remembrances at that. Rodney also reported they are working with Brett Shank on a grant to replace windows in the Museum building and the Wagner House. Rodney is working with Susie on an ad in the Cranberry Eagle, Zelig Rotary sign and some press releases. At the beginning of the Pork dinner wine will be available; there will be movie in the wine cellar, Christmas tree toss and new this year, a wreath toss for children in the single digits. Rodney is looking forward to advice and suggestions and forgiveness on his first five mistakes. Greg Such commented that the Borough/Council had a really good working relationship with John and hopes to continue that.

**Fire Police:**

Eugene Bartlett reported that the Fire Police need their powers initiated into Harmony with a referendum stating the Borough gives them the authority of police powers; they have their badges coming in. It's under Title 35 section 14-104. The Borough needs to give authorization to become part of the municipality's fire police, and be sworn in. They currently have four members, and are looking for applicants. Greg Such inquired if it required a referendum or a vote. Solicitor Kerry Fraas stated that it would be a vote, inquiring if the Fire Police were given an authorization form. Eugene Bartlett responded that it's an Oath of Office Form. Solicitor Fraas commented that the Borough could vote to give them the powers they want,

**Fire Police Cont.:**

assuming they are Auxiliary Police and help with traffic. Eugene responded that they are Fire Fighters who are sworn in to do police work.

Solicitor Fraas commented that Council would vote to grant the Fire Police recognition and they will have to take an Oath of Office. This is a result of the merger. Don Sims inquired if additional training was required. Eugene responded that it is a state wide certification, they are required to take 1-16 hour course per year to update all the new Fire Police rules and regulations; they also are required to take a highway incident safety class, proper signage and traffic control devices. They do local traffic and interstate.

**Harmony/Jackson Meeting:**

Greg Such had nothing new to report.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

**Nick Hewlett** - Nick reported that they are looking to settle the property boundary along the former Wood Street Alley. They have talked to the Planning Commission to redraw that parcel line but the first step is to get this part settled.

**BOROUGH STAFF REPORTS:**

**Run Update:**

Bob Ziegler reported that he contacted Bob Barbish for a quote to clean out four areas and haul the dirt away; Barbish said he could not do the work until the end of the year; he will contact Bob Ziegler when he can look at it and give a quote.

Bill Cinci gave a quote to dig out 4 areas and haul the dirt away that quote is for \$2400. If a borough employee and borough dump truck are available, the quote would be for \$1200. Bill has a permit to dump dirt behind Bilo.

Bob also tried to contact Penn Dot, the last message Bob received from Jeff Hartzell is that Penn Dot is responsible for the road surface from edge to edge, or curb to curb. The problem with the berm collapsing, the water and debris running into our run is the Borough's problem. Bob inquired what Council wanted to do. Greg Such suggested to wait until Bob receives Barbish's quote and see what the weather looks like to see how we precede. Bob Ziegler recommended that Route 68 be done ASAP, Greg Such inquired to build up the berm. Don Sims stated that it is a state road, Penn Dot did come out and did a design, they will work us in when they can get to us. If there is a way for us to show the road had deteriorated more since they've been out, then we have something. Jason Sarver stated there are two different areas; the lower section is what Bob is talking about. Don and Jason will look at it and keep it moving.

**Police Report:**

Report submitted via email.

**Office:**

Amy Brown had nothing to report.

**Office Cont.:**

Greg Such reported that the Borough will have a student from Penn Commercial Business/Technical School come for an externship for 12 weeks 30 hours/week in mid-January. Shalaine Marchwinski, her training is in payroll systems and accounting systems; we were clear that we have a payroll company; she can do other office tasks such as filing, website updates. If there are office related tasks that Council would like done, we have 12 weeks' worth of work/time. Frank Luek inquired if there was any compensation. Greg Such responded no; she needs it to receive her degree.

**Director of Operations:**

Frank Grannon reported that most of the month was on leaf pick-up and the transition of taking over Wade's position. They finished up the season with 78 tons of leaves, 31 boxes and 1 complete box off of Zelenople's side. Next year need to get some replacement parts, the exhaust hose is starting to split replacement part is about \$490; the intake hose is starting to crack, the replacement part is \$800 on that and the throttle cable is starting to go, the replacement part is \$160; looking at about \$1400 for next year. It is laid up for this year, the total cost for everything they've done this year is about \$1400 which includes the leaf dumping fee, maintenance, and the fuel for the machine and truck. It's about the same amount of leaves we picked up in the last five years.

**Zoning & Code Enforcement:**

Allen Bayer's report attached.

Greg Such reported that in September the Borough received a letter from Tom McCosby stating that he had split off from PCI, building inspector. There was some discussion about staying with PCI or switch over with Tom because Tom had been doing all the residential inspections and Tom seemed to have a pretty good feel on what it took to inspect a historic building. Greg called PCI and spoke to Tim to see how they would treat us. Tim said he gave Tom his blessing on splitting off and starting his own business, Tim also said we don't have to choose we could use both. Tim/PCI handled the commercial inspections and Tom handled the residential inspections. Amy is to contact Tom McCosby to get business cards.

Allen Bayer reported that residential fire inspections will start in January, inspection of rentals with 2 or more apartments.

**Public Safety:**

Phyllis Metz reported that she and Susie assisted with the Reindeer Race that Joella Baker had. They closed Mercer Street for a little while but it worked out ok. Working on the Silvester.

Dave Szakelyhidi inquired if the Firemen were on board for the Polar Plunge; the Fire District is partnered with the Parks Board to put the Polar Plunge on and then they provide safety for the plungers.

Frank Grannon inquired how to clean the ramp off for the Polar Plunge; there's about 2 ft. in there now. Greg Such suggested asking the firemen to blow it off. Don Sims and Greg Such inquired if there was an attachment, Frank Grannon responded

**Public Safety Cont.:**

that it would just push it out into the creek, there wouldn't be a way to pick it up on the ramp. If you push it out into the creek, without a current it will just cause a blob right out in the middle. Greg will talk to Susie. Dave Szakelyhidi suggested hiring someone with back hoe.

**Business Development:**

Mayor Rape reported that HBA has a new President, Sherry Cepek. Dennis McCurdy stepped down. Cathy reported on the Fire District's Invitation for Sunday (December 11<sup>th</sup>) from 3 – 5pm for their new rescue truck. (Housing Ceremony). Mayor Rape also commented about getting a Newsletter out and having the extern help with it. Greg Such suggested publishing it at the end of January.

**Personnel:**

Jason Sarver reported that Joe (Dippold) has the employee manual now, then it will go to Greg, then Jason and Amy will go through it and take everyone's suggestions and apply it and come up with the new 2.0 version. Greg commented the extern could be an editor.

**Finances:**

Greg Such reported the budget is in Council's packet, it is ready to ratify – there is a very small surplus of about \$2,000. Greg also reported that our Auditor's contract has expired we need to determine if we wish to go out for bid for a new auditor or stay with Maher Duessel.

The budget has been posted and is ready to ratify. In a motion made by Dons Sims and seconded by Phyllis Metz, the Harmony Borough Council unanimously approved the 2017 budget.

Our Auditors for the past several years has been Maher Duessel, their contract is up. We can do a 3 year engagement letter or a 1 year engagement letter. The Water Authority has been looking for an auditor and has not been able to find anyone willing to take that task on for a one year project. The Water Authority will stay with Maher Duessel. A 3- year engagement letter there is minimum change in price; the 1 year had not been discussed. Mayor Rape inquired how they are to work with, Amy responded good. Dave Szakelyhidi commented there isn't any real reason to change other than if the Borough could find someone cheaper. Don Sims recommended a 1-year engagement letter.

**Streets:**

Don Sims commented that he is not pleased with how the hill on Pittsburgh Street is looking, but there is a lot of road traffic on it. Don also commented on the new house that had the sanitary line access out in the street, it is dipping down. Greg Such inquired if it was their responsibility, Don Sims commented that there was a bond for it, Wade had not returned it. Amy Brown stated that Wade did return the bond.

December 6, 2016

**Facilities:**

Dave Szakelyhidi reported Frank is working on the four lights that were authorized last month. The fire hydrant on Spring and German was run over again; it was turned over to the Borough's insurance. When the hydrant gets replaced they will

**Facilities Cont.:**

pull it closer to Dambach's. Dave commented that it is unbelievable the damage tractor trailers do in the middle of the night and where they end up in the middle of the night.

**Grants:**

Greg Such had nothing new to report.

**Training & Conferences:**

Greg reported they continue with PSAB.

**BILLS PAYABLE:**

Greg Such reported that the following lists of bills were presented to Harmony Borough Council for approval:

**General Bills Payable** in the amount of **\$5,960.96**

**Bills Already Paid** in the amount of **\$3,774.25**

**Payroll** in the amount of **\$5,391.88**

**Liquid Fuels Bills Payable** in the amount of **\$3,220.00**

**Silvester Fund Bills Payable** in the amount of **\$5,256.50**

**Silvester Fund Already Paid** in the amount of **\$413.22**

**Fire Tax Bills Payable** in the amount of **\$83.99**

In a motion made by Dave Szakelyhidi and seconded by Don Sims, the Harmony Borough Council unanimously approved all bills for payment as presented on the lists.

**Executive Session:**

Greg Such called for an executive session to discuss personnel at 7:55 pm; out of executive session at 8:04 pm.

In a motion made by Don Sims and seconded by Jason Sarver, the Harmony Borough Council unanimously approved to increase the Borough Secretary's rate by 2%.

**ADJOURN: 8:05 pm**

As there was no further business to discuss, the Harmony Borough Council adjourned the December 6, 2016 meeting at 8:05 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,



Amy Brown  
Secretary

**Monthly Activity Report**  
**Harmony Borough Code and Zoning Enforcement and Residential**  
**Multi-Unit Dwellings Fire Inspection**

**November 2016**

1. Stopped by the office two times each week to pick up mail, complete Building Permits and sign violations.
2. Filing and administrative work.
3. Created October Activity and Time Reports.
4. Attended November HARB meeting.
5. Attended November Council meeting.
6. Prepared letter for Tim McCracken verifying that 318 German St. is zoned for automobile sales.
7. Talked with Pat Murray regarding slate roof replacement.
8. Addressed numerous emails pertaining to Murray slate roof replacement.
9. Inspected 10 violations. 6 have complied and 4 will have not.
10. Inspected complete of tree hanging over Harmony Heights. Violation notice will be sent out.
11. Processed 3 warnings, 1 reminder and 1 violation notices.
12. Spoke with Pat Murray regarding slate roof.
13. Spoke with Frank, 112 Parkway, regarding a carport.
14. Spoke with Thomas Richards regarding placing a double wide trailer at 113 S. Charles St.
15. Attended Special Council Meeting.
16. Spoke with Dr. Wahl regarding fence installation.
17. Received call from Steve Marshall regarding a fence and tree work on Pittsburgh St. Returned his called and left message.
18. Inspected 4 property violations.
19. Spoke with Susan Ferra regarding ordinances applying to running fiber cable in borough.



20. Spoke with Jim Rothwell regarding vegetation violation.
21. Created building permit for Dr. Wahl fence and for Murray Properties roof replacement on Main St.
22. Spoke with company rep regarding foundation frost line depth. Referred him to Jackson Twp.
23. Inspected two violations.
24. Spoke with Tim Rothwell regarding tree violation at corner of Seneca and Harmony Heights.
25. Spoke with Jim Roswell regarding overhanging tree at Seneca and Harmony Heights. He said that Marshall will trim the tree within 2 weeks.
26. Advised Matt to schedule a hearing for sidewalk violation at 433 Liberty St.
27. Warning notice for 226 Mercer St. sent for sidewalk violation.

Respectfully submitted,  
Allen E. Bayer