

April 4, 2017

# HARMONY BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING APRIL 4, 2017

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

**OTHERS PRESENT:**

Harmony Borough  
Council Meeting  
April 4 2017

FRANK GRANNON

Joe Dippold

Jim Mulh

Don Sims

Jason Sarver

Bob Zepf

Cathy Rape

Frank Luek

Dave Szakelyhidi

ALLEN BAYER

Phyllis Metz

Jason Sarver

Suzie Altemus

Rodney Gasch

Laura Kelly

Sarah Elliott

Joni Kennedy

Angela Allegretto

Ron Casey

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**CALL TO ORDER:**

A quorum was reached and the Vice President Don Sims called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:**

**MINUTES:**

In a motion made by Frank Luek and seconded by Jason Sarver, the Harmony Borough Council unanimously approved the March 7, 2017 minutes.

**SOLICITOR'S REPORT:**

Solicitor Matt Racunas reported that he reviewed the Resolution from Penn Dot and is fine with it.

**INVITED GUESTS:**

Don Sims reported that we have a presentation from the Department of Labor & Industry on the Summer Internship Program. Sarah Elliot and Lori Kennedy, Sarah reported that she works with the Office of Vocational Rehabilitation (OVR) housed within the Department of Labor & Industry. They work with anyone from age 14 and up, this particular program is geared towards youth; typically 17 years and up. The specifics on the wage reimbursement program, if a customer of theirs is hired and has gone through the enrollment process, they can negotiate a wage reimbursement up to 100%. The employer is responsible for workers comp, unemployment and taxes; they are considered an employee of that municipality and are subject to all hiring processes, rules, disciplinary action – that would all be at the discretion of the employer. The referrals that they would send are prescreened; all applicants go through a rigorous application and eligibility process; everyone they work with has a disability of some sort. The hours, wages and duties are set up by the employer. The type of positions can vary, part-time, full-time, permanent, seasonal, internship, or temporary. Don Sims inquired where their office is at, Sarah responded that their headquarters are in New Castle but their region covers Beaver, Butler, Lawrence and Armstrong Counties. Don also inquired if they had people from this area, Zelenople/Harmony. Lori Kennedy responded yes; they have 36 counselors they work with; also have a counselor who is a liaison at Seneca Valley High School. Sarah Elliot commented that the case loads are separated geographically in their district. Laura Ebbert commented that as an Occupational Therapist she has worked with OVR; some of their clients may not be able to return to their regular jobs but they already have skills. Sarah Elliot commented that part of the reason for this program and why it is geared towards youth; they are finding that the earlier the students work the more likely they are to continue working so they do not have to rely on social service programs and to build up transferable skills.

**BOARD REPORTS/APPOINTMENTS:**

**APPOINTMENTS:**

Don Sims reported that Tom Tomayko is moving to Jackson Township, Tom would like to continue to be Harmony Borough's representative for WBCA; the WBCA's bylaws allow Tom to continue to be Harmony Borough's representative because he owns property in Harmony Borough. In a motion made by Frank Luek and seconded by Jason Sarver, the Harmony Borough Council unanimously approved Tom Tomayko to continue as the Harmony Borough Representative for WBCA.

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**COG:**

Joe Dippold reported that the Butler County Infrastructure Bank presentation was given, Butler County is going to subsidize interest-free loans or low-interest loans to municipalities for long term projects, none of the details are finalized.

The Butler County Emergency Services Forum meeting will be in Evans City May 10<sup>th</sup> at 6:00pm; will need money by the first quarter of 2018.

**HARB:**

Dave Szakelyhidi reported that there was no quorum at the HARB meeting.

**Water Authority Board:**

Dave Szakelyhidi reported that they will do the set basins this week.

**Parks Board:**

Susie Altemus reported that the grass came in good in Wood Street Park. The daffodils are coming up on the trail. Solicitor Matt reported that there is a tentative hearing scheduled for April 12<sup>th</sup> regarding the damage at Wood Street Park.

**Planning Commission:**

Frank Luek had nothing new to report.

**WBCA:**

Greg Such was unable to attend the meeting; Don Sims had nothing new to report.

**Shared Services:**

Allen Bayer had nothing new to report.

**Parking and Signage:**

Don Sims reported on the placement of items in the street to reserve parking, which is something that cannot be done. Chief Miller reported the municipality is the only ones who can authorize restrictions on parking; no private individual can do that. Municipalities are the only ones who can put signs up, in most municipalities the signs are by ordinance. If there is anything in/on the street the road department or police can remove it because it is considered a hazard.

**Historic Harmony:**

Rodney Gasch reported that there was a mistake on the Museum's Newsletter; the date for the barn clean-up is this Saturday, April 8<sup>th</sup> not April 18<sup>th</sup>, will be doing some landscaping at the Harmonist Barn, adding railing and steps down to the port-o-john. At the next meeting they will approve some guidelines for temporary signs in the Triangle. They will also discuss plans for the Visitors' Cabin. A new floor will be installed in Stewart Hall, plus some fresh up painting. June 10<sup>th</sup> is the Herb & Garden Fair and July 28<sup>th</sup> & 29<sup>th</sup> is the In Harmony Heritage Music Festival.

**Harmony Business Association:**

Laura Ebbert reported that the HBA is sponsoring the showing of "American Pastoral" at the Strand Theater on Sunday, April 30<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 pm. It is a benefit

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**Harmony Business Association Cont.:**

charity fundraisers for HBA, tickets are \$6.00. The Spring Fest is coming up and Fleatique dates are coming.

**Harmony/Jackson Meetings:**

Nothing new to report.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

**Laura Ebbert – 159 Perry Highway Indian Brave Campground** - Laura inquired if there was anything the Zoning Officer could do; US Liner has piles and piles of trash stacked behind the building. Allen Bayer, Zoning Officer stated that a violation notice has already been sent to US Liner.

**BOROUGH STAFF REPORTS:**

**Police Report:**

Submitted.

**Office:**

Amy Brown had nothing new to report.

**Borough Director of Operations:**

Frank Grannon reported that the flags need replaced in the Square and at the borough building, the cost is \$152.33. Joe Dippold commented that he thought we got the flags for free, Matt added from the State Rep. Frank stated that Wade ordered flags. Joe Dippold commented that he knows somebody who would like to donate a flag. Solicitor Matt stated that he would donate a flag. Frank Grannon stated that we need one 6x10 and one 5x8 flag. Solicitor Matt stated that he would donate both flags to the borough. Mayor Rape requested the flag in the Square not be put up until closer to Memorial Day.

The banners are up in the Triangle this morning; it was too windy to put the ones up on the flag poles.

Filled pot holes, will need to do it again, need material. Had some signs down, back up; we're out of stop signs Frank will need to get more. Had a bunch of street lights out the bulbs were unscrewed; they are back on; two lights on the bridge are still out, will need to get Zelig to come over.

Frank inquired about putting some NO TRUCKS signs up on Edmond and First Street. Getting a lot of trucks coming in off of Rt. 68 and knocking down signs, that is what took out the hydrant on German and Spring Street. Don Sims stated that is in Jackson Township, Frank will call Jackson Township's Road Master; the trucks are going to Dambach Lumber. Mayor Rape asked if the taxes are paid to Harmony Borough or Jackson Township; the property is located in both municipalities.

Frank reported that the hydrant is in, need to get the sidewalk in; will start cleaning out the run next week.

Frank reported that he had three bids for lawn mowers, two bids were pennies apart. Frank recommended purchasing the Toro lawn mower from Bill Harper in Zelig for \$499.99. In a motion made by Dave Szakelyhidi and seconded by Phyllis Metz, the Harmony Borough Council unanimously approved the purchase of the Toro lawn mower from Bill Harper in Zelig for \$499.99

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**Borough Director of Operations Cont.:**

Frank reported that three catch basins have collapsed and need replaced; 1 can be repaired and two need rebuilt. Estimate from Don's Cement, \$3,001 for all. In a motion made by Dave Szakelyhidi and seconded by Phyllis Metz, the Harmony Borough Council unanimously approved \$3,001 for the catch basins repair/rebuilds. Frank also reported that we received a call from Cintas regarding the mats in the hallway at the borough building. Frank is to get prices.

**Zoning and Codes:**

Alan Bayer report submitted.

**COMMITTEE and OTHER BUSINESS:**

The next scheduled committee meetings will be Tuesday, April 18<sup>th</sup>.

**Public Safety:**

Phyllis Metz reported that the May races need to submit Certificates of Insurance. The Youth Triathlon in June may have a conflict with the race time and the church service (Pittsburgh Street). Phyllis is to contact Joella Baker. Susie Altemus suggested changing the course of the race not to be near the church. Frank Grannon commented that better communication and coordination are needed for street closures, such as maps and times for barricades to be out.

Phyllis Metz reported that the Grace Church Mosaic will be held in November, it will coordinate with the Christmas Market.

Dave Szakelyhidi commented on the blue-bagged-newspapers all over town; they are left at residences, businesses, and empty buildings. Phyllis Metz stated that she spoke to someone from the Butler Eagle/Cranberry Eagle. Phyllis Metz suggested on having hooks put on mailboxes to hang the bagged papers on.

Joe Dippold reported on the Emergency Operations Plan that was passed out to in December, everyone (on Council) should have had a chance to review, including the Fire Chief and EMA Coordinator. This is the first step to revising the Hazard Mitigation Plan that was passed last summer. In a motion made by Joe Dippold and seconded by Frank Luek, the Harmony Borough Council unanimously approved to adopt the E.O.P.

Jason Sarver did not have an update on the non-residential building fire inspections, just getting started.

**Business Development:**

Cathy Rape commented that she received the PSAB annual report; all of council received a copy. Mayor Rape would like to reiterate on the movie (American Pastoral) at the Strand, pass the word around; we want to pack the house. Mayor Rape also commented that a truck hit the bollard in the Square, Amy is to send the information to Solicitor Matt to have Matt send a letter to collect the cost for damages.

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**Business Development Cont.:**

Cluster Box –Cath Rape reported that she has been working on this for two years now, finally received word that the Postal Service approved the cluster boxes and they are hoping we do more in town. Mayor Rape is proposing to have the strip of grass next to the borough parking lot cemented for a cluster box. Don Sims inquired if she ran it passed HARB. Cathy reported that she did a year and a half ago and HARB approved the cluster box; it's going to be in black with a black iron bench beside it. The Post Office said that everyone had to agree, she was trying for the whole Square to eliminate mailboxes in the Square first, unfortunately the three on the south side, one did not agree. The north side agreed, eliminating two that are on the Square right now. Two in front of the Rodgers' building, the next five down in front of Whites', and the next two down in front of the rental. She thinks Harmony Museum and the Lueks will go in on it. Right now there are nine people going in on it; it is a 13 tenant and 1 parcel cluster box. Cathy would like to proceed with the project and order things. She has asked the cement company that Frank deals with to give a price on it. He (Don Rape) said that if she waited until Frank does the catch basins the concrete would be cheaper. Dave Szakelyhidi was not sure if there was a Certificate of Appropriateness. Don suggested Cathy Rape continue her efforts in getting support and next meeting we can move forward with it. Dave Szakelyhidi suggested that the Borough be included in the cluster boxes. Dave's objection to Cathy's plan is that the box is not fancy enough; there are decorative tops and bases. Cathy Rape commented that HARB approved it. The cost is \$1366.00 a decorative top is \$220.00 more and a base is \$195.00 more; she agreed to raise money for the \$1366. Frank Luek commented that the borough would put a decorative top in next year's budget. Mayor Rape asked for approval to have the digging out and the cement work done; it is cheaper if done with the other jobs (catch basins). Don Sims inquired who was digging it out. Cath Rape responded, Don's Cement Finishing. Don also asked if the Mayor was asking for any money from the borough and if the Borough would be responsible for maintaining access to the cluster box. Mayor Rape responded no (to asking for money from the borough) and stated that the borough maintains the sidewalk now (shoveling the snow). Jason Sarver inquired if it would take the cluster of mailboxes at the intersection away. Cath Rape responded that she's hoping that once this box is in everyone will say that it looks nice, let's do it up there. In a motion made by Frank Luek and seconded by Phyllis Metz, the Harmony Borough Council unanimously approved the cement work to be done for the cluster box. Don Sims commented that Cathy Rape will raise the funds for the box and once it comes in they can drill-tap and mount it.

**Personnel:**

Jason Sarver had nothing new to report.

**Finance:**

Don Sims reported that the auditor's report is in, all went well.

Butler County Tax Collection Committee – Discussed Phyllis Metz to be the alternate. In a motion made by Frank Luek and seconded by Dave Szakelyhidi, the Harmony Borough Council unanimously approved Phyllis Metz as the alternate for the BCTCC.

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**Streets:**

Don Sims reported that they will have a little more discussion on Beaver Street and the drainage issues; he's waiting for calls to be returned. Dave Szakelyhidi reported that he called the gas company and spoke to the engineering department, they want to replace their steel lines in the street; paving could be split between Zelienople Borough, Harmony Borough and Peoples Natural Gas Company. Don Sims inquired what was being done, paving or seal coating. Allen Bayer responded paving. Frank Grannon responded the quote he got from Dick Knapko was paving. Dave Szakelyhidi informed the gas company that the work would need to be done after school is out and before school starts again. Allen Bayer cautioned that he was not sure of Zelig's schedule with the contractor; Frank is to coordinate with Zelig. Don Sims commented that the drainage issue if we go with the plan Don's been pushing, it could be done after the paving but he would like to have it done prior to and the sidewalks done prior to the paving. Frank gave an estimated cost of \$4,640 for milling and \$14,195 divided by 3 it would be \$6,278.34 each.

Don Sims reported on the letter received from the Department of Transportation regarding the Railroad crossing upgrades at Spring and Liberty Streets. A Resolution is needed to proceed with the work from the PUC. In a motion made by Dave Szakelyhidi and seconded by Phyllis Metz, the Harmony Borough Council unanimously approved the Resolution (# 2017-4-4) authorizing Penn Dot to request railroad crossing upgrades at Spring and Liberty Streets from the PA PUC. Frank Grannon inquired what they would do about the crossing on Spring Street with the truck route. Don Sims responded that they usually give us a heads up and we can try to let everybody know.

**Facilities:**

Phyllis Metz got an estimate for all windows in the borough building to be cleaned inside and out, \$375. In a motion made by Phyllis Metz and seconded by Frank Luek, the Harmony Borough Council unanimously approved \$375.00 for window cleaning.

Dave Szakelyhidi made the recommendation that the Borough purchase the split-rail fence for Wood Street Park; discussion. In a motion made by Dave Szakelyhidi and seconded by Frank Luek, the Harmony Borough Council unanimously approved the purchase of a split-rail fence not to exceed \$600.00 in materials for Wood Street Park. Laura Ebbert commented that she has a gas operated post-hole-digger that can be borrowed.

**Grants:**

Don Sims reported that the Parks Reno Grant has been submitted.

**Training and Conferences:**

Don Sims reported that the PSAB Conference is May 7-10 in Hershey.

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**BILLS PAYABLE:**

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

**General Bills Payable** in the amount of \$ **7,643.64**

**Bills Already Paid** in the amount of \$ **6,748.44**

**Payroll** in the amount of \$ **6,558.02**

**Parks Board Bills Payable** in the amount of \$ **26.39**

**Silvester Fund Bills Payable** in the amount of \$ **1,500.00**

**Fire Tax Fund Bills Payable** in the amount of \$ **2,065.53**

In a motion made by Phyllis Metz and seconded by Frank Luek, the Harmony Borough Council unanimously approved all bills for payment as presented on the lists.

**ADJOURN: 8:10 pm**

As there was no further business to discuss, the Harmony Borough Council adjourned the April 4, 2017 meeting at 8:10 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,



Amy Brown

Recording Secretary



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

**March 2017**

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. Spoke with Dave at 422 Home Sales regarding Occupancy notice for double-wide trailer at 113 S Charles St.
4. Prepared February Time and Activities reports.
5. Attended March HARB and Council meetings.
6. Follow up on complaints regarding free range chickens on Seneca Dr., rutted out yard due to trailer delivery, resident's parking on street and fence obstructing view at Charles St. and Grandview Ave.
7. Met with Mr. Hewlett at the Knauf Mill to review landscaping and gutter plans.
8. Inspected sidewalk violation repair on German St.
9. Created Animals Running at Large violation at 302 Old Mercer Rd.
10. Spoke with Lynn Peffer regarding 3 complaints. Trailer leaving ruts in her yard, neighbor truck parked on Charles St. partially blocking the road and split-rail fence at corner of Charles and Grandview sight obstruction.
11. Created 3 violation notices of fence height at 522 Main St., abandoned trailer at 266 Liberty St. and sidewalk violation at 116 Jackson St. on Liberty St.
12. Spoke with a man concerning zoning questions pertaining to house for sale on Liberty St. next to the railroad tracks.
13. Spoke with Chuck Welsh concerning his free range chickens violation.

14. Spoke with Mr. O'Reilley to set up a fire inspection appointment.
15. Prepared paperwork for O'Reilly and White fire inspections.
16. Performed fire inspection at 523 Main St. Apts. A & B. Created invoice for fire inspection.
17. Performed fire inspection at 274 Mercer Rd.
18. Spoke with fence contractor regarding building permit for fence at 508 E. Grandview Ave.
19. Prepared invoice and Certification for 274 Mercer Rd. fire inspection.
20. Spoke to Jim McCormick regarding fence violation.
21. Left message with Donna Ellery regarding chickens violation.
22. Performed four inspections.
23. Spoke with Jack Sharrar regarding sidewalk violation.
24. Spoke with Donna Ellery regarding free range chicken violation.
25. Created violation reminder for free range chicken violation.
26. Created rubbish violation for US Liner.
27. Spoke with Tom Marburger regarding trailer violation.
28. Spoke with Mr. Williams regarding roof replacement at 320-322 Monroe St.
29. Spoke with fencing company in Youngstown, Ohio regarding fence at 508 E. Grandview.
30. Spoke with Chris regarding new windows for Rite Aid at the plaza. Referred him to Jackson Twp.
31. Prepared March Time and Attendance Reports.

Respectfully submitted,  
Allen E. Bayer