

July 11, 2017

HARMONY BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING JULY 11, 2017

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

OTHERS PRESENT:

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Council Meeting

~~Joe Dippold~~
Don Sims
GREG SUCH

ALLEN BAYER

JASON SARVER

Michael Stockoff

Frank Luek

Phyllis Metz

Dave Szakelyhidi

Cathy HANSENBERGER (CE/PE)

Jack Carroll

Kit Cornell

Jim Miller

Cathy Rape

Sherry Cepick

FRANK CRANNON

WADIE ION

Bob D'Amico

Rodney Gosch

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CALL TO ORDER:

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

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

MINUTES:

In a motion made by Don Sims and seconded by Frank Luek, the Harmony Borough Council unanimously approved the June 6, 2017 minutes.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT:

Solicitor Kerry Fraas reported that Matt Racunas was unable to attend the meeting. Greg Such reported that Matt amended the No Burn Ordinances to repeal Chapter 7 Part 2 in the original ordinance so it does not conflict with Ordinance 397; and to modify Ordinance 397 to remove "clean wood." Solicitor Fraas commented that open burning of leaves, weeds, brush, stumps, other trees and other vegetation debris is prohibited, it eliminates the clean wood loop hole. Mike Sockett, resident, commented that Chapter 7 completely nullifies the Ordinance that was signed on May 2013; there was no vote on that in the minutes. Mike would like to bring back for discussion, we live in a place where factories cause more pollution and that it is a known fact it is less harmful to burn than to make composts. It takes approximately 3.5 years to fix pollution compared to 17 million years to compost things. President, Greg Such responded that the no burning has been discussed and will not wave that discussion. Mike Sockett commented that the Ordinance states recreational fires are allowed but it does not give guidelines what is actually recreation. Mayor Rape commented that Vogel welcomes all vegetation. Mike Sockett responded that Vogel has not picked it up; they want to charge \$25. Greg Such responded that it needs to be in the trash can. Mike inquired how you put a 10' tree limb in the trash can. Greg Such commented that the Borough offers limb pick up the first Thursday of the month. Phyllis Metz commented that you need to call Amy (Borough office) to be put on a list and they will pick it up. Mayor Rape responded that limb pick-up is not offered in winter, it starts in May. Mike Sockett stated that in our by-laws there is nothing that says what a recreational fire is, discussion.

Chief Miller suggested making the definition of recreational fire more clear. In a motion made by Don Sim and seconded by Phyllis Metz, the Harmony Borough Council unanimously approved to advertise the Ordinances.

Solicitor Matt is still working on the Primitive Structure Ordinance for the Visitors' Cabin. Rod Gasch reported that Attorney Lope sent the Log Cabin Agreement to Matt (Racunas).

BOARD REPORTS/APPOINTMENTS:

APPOINTMENTS:

No appointments.

COG:

Joe Dippold had nothing to report.

HARB:

Dave Szakelyhidi had nothing to report.

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BOARD REPORTS/APPOINTMENTS CONT.:

Water Authority Board:

Dave Szakelyhidi reported that the Water Authority continues to make improvements. Greg Such stated that an executive session will be needed.

Parks Board:

Greg Such reported that Susie Altemus was unable to attend the meeting. Greg reported that the first concert and fireworks went well. Greg also reported that the Allegheny Aquatic Alliance requested permission to use the Canoe Launch as a disposal site for the Connoquenessing Creek cleanup project to be held August 19th and September 9th. In a motion made by Dave Szakelyhidi and seconded by Frank Luek, the Harmony Borough Council unanimously approved the use of the Canoe Launch for the creek cleanup project.

The next concert will be July 13th – Eugene and The Night Crawlers.

Don Sims inquired about the Wood Street Park damage. Greg Such reported that the Borough has a civil judgement; Matt has requested the Magistrate begin the execution proceedings.

Planning Commission:

Frank Luek had nothing new to report.

WBCA:

Greg Such had nothing new to report.

Shared Services:

Frank Grannon had nothing new to report.

Parking and Signage:

Greg Such had nothing new to report.

Historic Harmony:

Rod Gasch thanked Frank Grannon and the Borough for transporting their bench while picking up the bench for the Borough from Keystone. Rod also reported that the “In Harmony Heritage Music Festival” will be July 28th & 29th at the Barn and the Mennonite Meeting House, two acts Friday night and all day Saturday; North Country Brewing and Shubrew will have beer gardens, Seneca Valley Choral Boosters will have other beverages for sale, there will be food; it should be a great event.

Harmony Business Association:

Sherry Cepek inquired about the millings for Aster Alley; had some complaints about vehicles bottoming out. Sherry also inquired about the water and the letters that were mailed out; how safe is it? The letter says it’s safe to drink, don’t have to boil it but it can cause cancer. Frank Grannon reported that the letters were for a TTHM violation, the by-product of the chemicals we use. The water is safe to drink it will not cause cancer, unless you already have a cancer issue.

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BOARD REPORTS/APPOINTMENTS CONT.:

Other Meetings:

Jason Sarver reported that he contacted Tim Keller from PCI regarding fire inspections; they are not interested in doing the inspections – too far away. Jason also spoke to Tom McCosby, Tom is interested, and he has also worked with historic buildings. Tom gave a range of \$75 to \$200 per inspection depending on the complexity of the inspection.

Don Sims reported that Ordinance #399 multi-unit buildings, residential inspections are being done. Don Sims would like to have a workable Ordinance. Some insurance companies do assessments for commercial buildings; we would not need to inspect if the insurance company does an inspection. The Borough would only need to have inspections done if the commercial building does not have adequate insurance or cannot provide a Certificate of Insurance. Dave Szakelyhidi inquired if the Borough would be liable if the Borough did an inspection and failed to catch something. Dave Szakelyhidi reported that some insurance companies site customers if safety is not up. Frank Luek suggested it be sent to Matt; Don Sims will email it to Solicitor Matt. Don Sims inquired if this was something that Council would like to do, Joe Dippold would like to take it to HBA to get the business owners input. Jason Sarver commented that there are different levels of inspections, there are walk thrus; and there are property maintenance safety inspections; this Ordinance requires a higher level of that. Mike Sockett, resident, commented that the historical buildings are not ADA compliant. Mayor Rape commented that historic buildings do not have to comply with ADA. Mark Sapienza, resident, inquired if there is not already a Fire Inspection Ordinance on the books now. Greg Such commented that there is. Mark commented that Jeff Smith enforced Fire Inspection before. Greg Such commented that the residential part of it was being enforced; but the commercial provider did not provide and Council let it lie thinking the Fire Company may want to pick it up but now Council is having second thoughts about that and push forward. Mark commented that when the new rating came out for Harmony, he called his insurance company and they sent someone out from Philadelphia to inspect his buildings. Greg Such stated the Commercial Fire Inspection will be tabled until more research is done.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Eli (Roger) Correll -614 Wood Street – Eli commented about the bank in front of his house, the condition of it now vs. when it was created; it is slumping, it is uneven it is washing away, they can barely walk in front of the house and the foundation of the front porch is soon going to be in jeopardy. Eli inquired how much consideration has been given and/or if more consideration could be given on how this will be sured up for them. It is going to imminently become a dangerous situation and they were told it would be taken care of for them; Eli would like to see that happen this year before another winter. Greg Such recommended Frank (Luek), Dave (Szakelyhidi) and Don (Sims) look at it. Frank Luek commented that it needs some kind of retention to lessen the bank, in his opinion. Don would like to talk to Solicitor Matt.

Jodi Correll – 614 Wood Street – Butler County is getting a Humane Officer, if you are on Facebook please go to OVADA - One Voice for the Abused Domestic Animals. They need donations – it will be foster based, animals ceased will need

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Jodi Correll – 614 Wood Street Cont.-

foster care, the Humane Society will not work with the Humane Officer because of an incident decades ago.

Jodi also inquired on the Flood Map; it has not been accepted yet.

Mark Sapienza – Mercer Street – Mark inquired if they are ever going to increase the police budget; as far as more revenue for the police. Mark commented that the town has become a noisy town with motorcycles and people speeding through town; the only way to fix some of it is to give the police more money. Mayor Rape commented that the police do not have a noise meter. Mark suggested police sit by the church or the log cabin. Greg Such commented the problem is there is no way to measure the noise in the police car.

Tod Dominno – Mercer Street – received a sidewalk violation, inquired if he needed to make an appointment with Allen to see what exactly he needs to fix. Allen (Bayer) told Tod to call him, his number is on the letter, and that a building permit is required.

Mike Sockett – Mike commented that he and his wife were being harassed by the Borough's Zoning Officer regarding the ramp a church group fixed at his house. Mike inquired how to eliminate the two harassments by the Code Enforcer. Greg Such responded that he would have to go to court. Mike commented that the Code Enforcer wants Mike to take away the only access for his grandmother to get into the house. Allen Bayer informed Council that was not true, the unit was put up without permits. Allen measured it, it is over 30" high (it is 35"), Allen explained to Mike's wife the situation, she asked what the worsted case was, Allen said worst case would be that it would need to be reconstructed to apply to the UCC building code. Two permits are required and Tom McCosby will inspect, if it is conforming it is a moot point, if not Tom will work with them.

BOROUGH STAFF REPORTS:

Police Report:

Submitted.

Chief Miller commented that 65% of the reportable calls were traffic related; if there is a noise complaint, call 911 and the police will check it out.

Office:

Amy Brown had nothing new to report.

Greg reported that we would like to get a Newsletter out at the end of July, Amy will publish. Greg also reported that Jodi (Correll) forwarded him a newsletter, there is a business that prepares the newsletter (lays out and prints it) the paper and printing are free, we would pay for the postage; the newsletter itself is paid for by advertising. Greg inquired if Council would want to go to a more professional stock and a more professional lay out in exchange for having advertisements in our newsletter. Don Sims commented that he was hoping to someday go to an electronic one. Joe Dippold inquired if we have control of the advertisement. Don inquired what savings it would be in getting it. Greg responded about \$400 in materials and Amy's time which is a couple hundred dollars. Jason Sarver commented that it would be a

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BOROUGH STAFF REPORTS CONT.:

Office Cont.:

savings. Greg Such commented that we would still have to provide the content and the photos. Dave Szakelyhidi commented that he would like to have local advertisements. Greg will inquire if the Borough would have control over the advertisements; approximately 10 advertisements would be needed.

Borough Director of Operations:

Frank Grannon reported that the paving on Beaver Street is done. Frank has three estimates from weed killer. It was suggested to put it in the Newsletter that property owner clean the weeds from the curb. Limb pick up was last Thursday. Zelienople removed the light post off the basketball court. The wood chips are done at Swampoodle Park, will split the remainder chips between Swampoodle and the Borough Building Park. The limestone came in for the trail. The grate is drilled and needs plated, will need a check – it's already approved. Frank reported that there's a new schedule at the plant – 4 operators, 2 on daylight the extra employee can work in town; need to do crosswalks. Frank will be taking a trip out of town to get a generator for the Water Plant. Phyllis Metz asked Frank if Tim Eppinger talked to him, Tim wants some millings. Frank would like to be there and load Tim's trailer; need millings for Aster Alley. Jason Sarver reported that Tim's invoice was lower than expected; Tim saved the Borough an additional \$60 -\$80 on the cost. Greg Such reported that he and Frank prioritized Street tasks, the list in Council's packet. Greg reported that Jim Switzer contacted him, he can get people down here on 7/26 to spread limestone but we will need to get the limestone. Frank Grannon is to call Jim.

Frank Grannon reported that the cluster box is mounted, the bench is floating, Cathy was looking into another cluster box. There is room for another box but will need to watch where the bench is mounted so car doors don't hit it.

Mayor Rape commented that the parking lot on Main Street needs weeded, Don Sims commented spraying herbicide in town could cause an issue. Dave Szakelyhidi commented the curbs need weeded. Don commented about the wild life, cats/dogs affected by weed killer. A motion was made by Dave Szakelyhidi and seconded by Phyllis Metz to purchase weed killer. Roll call vote: Phyllis Metz – yes, Frank Luek – no, Dave Szakelyhidi – yes, Joe Dippold – no, Don Sims – no, Jason Sarver – no. Motion failed.

Zoning and Codes:

Allen Bayer report submitted.

Allen reported that he has a call into Mike Mantia, Vice President of US Liner for a re-inspection with Tim Sapienza and Scott Geohring.

COMMITTEE and OTHER BUSINESS:

Public Safety:

Phyllis Metz reported the Swift Reach is in for the concerts; having a problem with the races, Phyllis is working on a letter to race people or maybe set up a meeting on what you can do and cannot do in this town to make things easier for the Fire Police. Phyllis will do an article for the Newsletter to encourage people to volunteer to be non-emergency Fire Police; Phyllis will talk to Eugene Bartlett to get his input for the article.

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COMMITTEE and OTHER BUSINESS CONT.:

Business Development:

Cathy Rape reported that there is a new brochure out, it is very nice, has a nice map and nice pictures; get one for yourself and pass them out.

Mayor also commented on the email from PSAB regarding the way inspections are done in town, (House Bill 1469 and Senate Bill 663). Mayor inquired if Council wanted a letter be sent to our Senator (sample letter in the email). Greg Such commented that the state legislature wants every town to have at least three inspectors and the Pennsylvania State Association of Boroughs opposes that they believe that each Municipality should have the right to select how they wish to enforce those. Mayor Rape commented that the fees could be conflicting or controversial. Council agreed to have Council President, Greg Such sign the letter to support PSAB's position and oppose the HB1469 and SB663.

Mayor Rape reported that she finally got the vinyl lettering from Sign Innovation to be put it on the back of the triangle sign; she asked if anyone has experience with vinyl letter and putting them on she would gladly take the help. Cathy also reported that Bob Ziegler was instrumental in trimming the trees in the triangle.

Personnel:

Jason Sarver had nothing new to report.

Finance:

Greg Such had nothing new to report.

Streets:

Don Sims had nothing new to report.

Dave Szakelyhidi reported that 407 Grandview Avenue the sidewalk is missing, the property is not in Harmony Borough but in Zelig Borough, Dave would like Harmony Borough to put a sidewalk in and pay for it thru shared services. Allen Bayer responded that the property belongs to Robinson, Allen sent a letter to Robinson.

Facilities:

Dave Szakelyhidi inquired about the email regarding the fiber optic line; where is it located. Greg Such commented that he emailed the company and asked where it is located, it is outside of the Historic District.

Phyllis Metz reported that the carpet was cleaned.

Grants:

Greg Such had nothing new to report.

Training and Conferences:

Greg Such reported they are listed on the Correspondence List.

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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 \$ 5,805.65

Bills Already Paid in the amount of \$ 10,874.94

Payroll in the amount of \$ 9,185.84

Parks Board Bills Payable in the amount of \$ 604.94

Parks Board Bills Already Paid in the amount of \$620.00

Fire Tax Bills Payable in the amount of \$ 708.15

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


EXECUTIVE SESSION: 8:35 pm

Greg Such called an executive session at 8:35 pm, out of executive session at 8:45pm.

ADJOURN: 8:45 pm

As there was no further business to discuss, the Harmony Borough Council adjourned the July 11, 2017 meeting at 8:45 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,



Amy Brown
Recording Secretary

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

June 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. Attended June HARB and Council meetings.
4. Created May Time and Activity Reports.
5. Spoke with Harvey Flowers on Edmonton about pool fencing requirements.
6. Performed annual code inspection west of Main St. out to the creek completing the entire borough. Total violations identified in the borough are 65.
7. Prepared dealer's license letter for Riggin Specialty Automotive.
8. Prepared sidewalk violation.
9. Per received complaint, inspected property on Division St. having mattress laying in front yard.
10. Inspected two properties with vegetation and sidewalk violations.
11. Dropped off dealer's letter and sidewalk violation at Riggin Automotive Specialty.
12. Completed building permit for fence at 314 Monroe St.
13. Prepared 56 violation notices.
14. Spoke with resident regarding building permit for handicap ramp.
15. Spoke with resident to clarify house number violation.
16. Spoke with resident to clarify tree obstruction violation.
17. Completed building permit for Riggin's sidewalk repair.
18. Created one obstruction violation, two sidewalk violations and one house number violation.

19. Created building permit for sidewalk repair at corner of Pittsburgh and Beaver Streets.
20. Spoke with Ms. Nancy Bergman, 1112 Seneca St., regarding house number violation.
21. Spoke with Lynne at Huntington National Bank regarding violations at 562 Main St.
22. Performed two address re-inspections on Seneca per resident's request and one fence inspection for front yard location at the corner of Center and Pittsburgh per resident's request.
23. Spoke with Nancy Bergman, 1112 Seneca, to further explain her house number violation.
24. Spoke with Sam Hopkins, 132 S. Pittsburgh St., regarding zoning requirements for front yard fence.
25. Spoke with Mike Cornell, 1111 Seneca, to further explain his house number violation.
26. Spoke with Michael Clark, 518 Main, to further explain his sidewalk violation.
27. Met with Jeff Byko to review his sidewalk violation.
28. Performed premise number inspection along Evergreen Mill Rd.
29. Spoke with Daniel Wenzel, 448 Liberty St., regarding her tree violation.
30. Spoke with Brenda and Tina Bayer at 444 Liberty St. regarding her vegetation violation.
31. Spoke with Lynne, Huntington Bank, regarding ordering of house numbers via Harmony Fire District for 562 Main St.
32. Per resident's request I chalked the sidewalk violations at 554 Main St.
33. Spoke with Frank Feczko, 1118 Seneca, regarding house number violation.
34. Spoke with Kim Schmitke regarding lot sub division process and related zoning requirements.

Respectfully submitted,
Allen E. Bayer