

February 5, 2019

HARMONY BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING February 5, 2019

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

OTHERS PRESENT:

Council Meeting
Feb. 5, 2019

Don Sims
Blana Loeffe
Jennifer Gilliland Vanasdale
Phillip Tremetter

Frank Luek
Cathy Rape
Greg Such

Phyllis Metz
Susan Altman

Allen Beyer

Josh Meeder
Jim Millh

Rodney Gasch
FRANK CRANKIN

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CALL TO ORDER:

Council President Greg Such called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

PLEDGE OF ALLIGANCE:

MINUTES:

In a motion made by Don Sims and seconded by Jason Sarver, the Harmony Borough Council unanimously approved the January 8, 2019 Council meeting minutes with the correction requested by Susie Altemus to change the registered number of runners from 260 to 282.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT:

Solicitor Matt Racunas requested a motion to advertise the 2019 Tax Rate Ordinance. In a motion made by Dave Szakelyhidi and seconded by Frank Luek, the Harmony Borough Council unanimously approved to advertise the 2019 Tax Rate Ordinance. Greg Such reported that the rate did not change.

Solicitor Matt reported that the Grass and Leaves Ordinance has been advertised and is ready for adoption. In a motion made by Don Sims and seconded by Phyllis Metz, the Harmony Borough Council unanimously approved the adoption of the Grass and Leaves Ordinance #427.

Solicitor Matt Racunas requested a motion to advertise the Wood Street Handicap Parking Ordinance. Matt reported that this was discussed last month; Matt searched our ordinances and could not find anything that established the handicap parking at 714 Spring Street. A motion was made by Dave Szakelyhidi and seconded by Don Sims to advertise the Wood Street Handicap Parking Ordinance. Mayor Cathy Rape commented that she didn't feel the borough should spend money to advertise an ordinance when it was done for safety reasons. The Harmony Borough Council unanimously approved to advertise the Wood Street Handicap Parking Ordinance. Don Sims inquired if we had a sign; Frank Grannon replied that he thinks he has one in stock.

Solicitor Matt reported that he reviewed T.W. McCosby's annual Agreement; there was no change in the terms. In a motion made by Dave Szakelyhidi and seconded by Joe Dippold the Harmony Borough Council unanimously approved to renew the T.W. McCosby Agreement.

Solicitor Matt reported that the Ordinance for the International Building Code updated to the 2015 version has been advertised and is ready for adoption. Jason Sarver commented that it is a federal requirement. In a motion made by Don Sims and seconded by Jason Sarver, the Harmony Borough Council unanimously approved the IBC 2015 version Ordinance #428.

BOARD REPORTS/APPOINTMENTS:

APPOINTMENTS:

Greg Such reported that there is one appointment for Kathy Luek to be the Library Representative for Harmony Borough. In a motion made by Frank Luek and seconded by Dave Szakelyhidi, the Harmony Borough Council unanimously approved the appointment of Kathy Luek as the Library Representative.

COG:

Joe Dippold reported that there is a new head of COG, not meeting scheduled yet.

HARB:

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

Mark and Gary Rodgers – 223 Mercer Street – Bronze plaque with the investment group name, company name and company start date. In a motion made by Dave Szakelyhidi and seconded by Frank Luek, the Harmony Borough Council unanimously approved the Certificate of Appropriateness for 223 Mercer Street. Joe Dippold abstained.

Water Authority Board:

Dave Szakelyhidi had nothing new to report.

Parks Board:

Mike Cornell, State Constable and Volunteer with Parks Board. Mike commented that part of his volunteer work with the Parks Board is to direct traffic during events. In the past they had help from the Fire Police, typically they closed the street for the 5K and manage the street closure for the runners, close Mercer Street down at the beginning of the race and then open it up and control the cars as they go, stop traffic at the bridge when runners come into town and keep the streets closed throughout the event until the fireworks are over. They have a plan every year on what streets they close when and how to manage it. They also have some written procedures to accommodate everyone in town, primarily at Main Street to allow runners to park at the church to register and to let traffic through past the barricade to go to the Harmony Inn. This year the police apparently received instructions to just close the roads and were not receptive to any direction from the Parks Board during the event. Mike commented that he is not putting the police officers down, they were doing what they were told to do, but there seems to be a disconnect between what the Parks Board would like to have done and the way the Parks Board manages it and the help they got. Mike asked what could be done in the future to better coordinate. Greg Such commented that it's obvious we have a little bit of growing pains since the Fire Police have been disbanded and we've moved over to the Zelienople Police. This last event was a no charge event, not that means we sacrifice anyone's safety but maybe we have a meeting in advance of these big events to figure out how we're going to coordinate as we go. Chief Miller commented that Phyllis Metz has everything we need; follow those regulations you won't have any problems. Phyllis Metz reported that Chief just gave her a new Event Form that we need to fill out for the Police. Chief Miller commented that it basically says an application (police service request) must be submitted at least 30 days in advance of the event, the traffic and event plan must be submitted no later than two weeks prior to the event for approval. Greg Such inquired if Chief Miller had a draft of those plans, Chief Miller responded no it can be the event organizer's plan, this is just the rules. Susie Altemus commented that they are just asking if the Police Officers could be a little flexible with us (Parks Board). Chief Miller responded that it has to be in writing, they are only going to follow the orders of what they are told by their supervisors. Susie Altemus commented but that's the point, things change and if they are too rigid that's a problem too. Dave Szakelyhidi commented that if something unexpected happens that wasn't written down, for the public's safety you have to be able to deal with it, whether that means deputizing Mike (Cornell) to put him in charge would satisfy it, that's just an idea. Dave's concern is during the Silvester with 2000 people

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Parks Board Cont.:

in the Square there is no way you can let two tractor trailers go through the Square, there needs to be a solution to that before next year. Mike Cornell commented that if there is an event in the Square, the trucks had to wait; if we could accommodate them we can, if not they have to wait. Solicitor Matt commented that you cannot completely prohibit access into property; you have to figure out a plan. Have a meeting with the police before the event so everyone is on the same page. Matt commented that timely was bad with the tractor trailer and the horses, Matt suggested figure out what time they could have access and what time they could not. Jason Sarver inquired if closing the street would have any impact on anything. Solicitor Matt responded that closing the street they (US Liner) wouldn't be able to access their property. Dave Szakelyhidi commented that it would only be for the times that council approved. Solicitor Matt responded that we need to work that through with US Liner to make sure that is not hindering their operations. Dave Szaeklyhidi inquired with 2000 people in the Square how are you going to allow two tractor trailers through. Solicitor Matt responded that it is a safety issue and it needs to be worked out with US Liner, Police and Council. Joe Dippold commented that he doesn't think trucks will be an issue during the Christmas Market or the Silvester based on conversations he's had with their Director of Operations, Tom. They were very agreeable with increasing their deliveries the day before so they won't need deliveries the day of. Chief Miller commented that it two months for all of this to come about, the Christmas Market was in November, he only heard of one tractor trailer going through the Christmas Market, what he heard is that the officers weren't there because a man had threatened to commit suicide; Chief asked why it took two months to hear about it. Rodney Gasch responded that he thinks it's because the bill came and that brought immediacy.

Library Board:

Greg Such reported that Kathy Luek wasn't present.

Planning Commission:

Frank Luek reported that there was no action, nothing from Calvin yet. Greg Such commented that they are supposed to submit a plan, they are aware of the fact that they are in violation of several ordinances. Allen Bayer reported that the hearing for Calvin's variance was extended until Thursday at 6:00pm.

WBCA:

Greg Such had nothing new to report. Don Sims commented on the letters regarding the rate increase. Greg reported that there was a change in the rates, changed from a base and additional to strictly charge for usage. Solicitor Matt commented if you use more you will get charged more, if you use less you will get charged for less.

Shared Services:

Frank Grannon had nothing new to report.

Parking and Signage:

Greg Such had nothing new to report.

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Historic Harmony:

Rod Gasch reported that the George Washington Hike is at Jennings on February 23rd, sign up at Jennings State Park website.

March 9th is the Harmoniefest dinner, the speaker will talk about the experience of doughboys during WWI, last November marked the 100 year of the end of WWI. The winners of the Heritage Awards will be announced.

Harmony Business Association:

No representative present.

Other Meetings:

Greg Such reported that February 7th at Center of Harmony there is a get together between the Rotary and the Harmony Fire District, invitation to Council members. Greg also reported that there was a meeting between HBA, Historic Harmony, and members of the Borough to talk about the Butler County Tourism Grant.

Josh Meeder reported on a Tourism Grant to market Harmony. The Business Association is looking to promote HBA specific events asking for some funds for print, advertising, video and /or photo access.

Joe Dippold reported on the meeting with US Liner, US Liner said that when truck drivers that do not speak English see our signs they interrupt them as no trucks where the arrows point, which is the actual truck route. Joe recommended moving the No Trucks sign 50 yards down from our Truck Route sign and add a sign that states the fine. Dave Szakelyhidi commented that a bunch of signs make it confusing. Frank Luek commented that they don't read the signs, they follow their GPS. Joe Dippold suggested a height restriction. Cathy Rape suggested a weight limit on the bridge. Dave Szakelyhidi responded that it requires an Engineer study. In a motion made by Joe Dippold and seconded by Dave Szakelyhidi the Harmony Borough Council unanimously approved re-arranging the signs. Frank Grannon inquired how far back the sign should be, Joe Dippold responded 50 feet down, before the bridge. Joe commented if there is a truck in the Square email him and he will email Tom at US Liner, he is starting to ride his subcontractors out. Greg Such reported that we will build a list. Cathy Rape reported that US Liner has cameras so they can track who pulls into their lot, and know whether they should be there or not if we knew a time period. Joe Dippold commented that it was a very productive meeting and they were very motivated in stopping this and improving their reputation.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Sam Hopkins – 132 S. Pittsburgh Street – Sam reported that there is a South and North Pittsburgh Street and they share numbers however the street signs only says Pittsburgh. Sam inquired if North and South could be added to the street signs. Dave Szakelyhidi inquired if it would be better to renumber them. Sam responded when he spoke to the Post Office they said Pittsburgh Street is a long street and it needed to be divided.

Sam also inquired about having the crosswalk painted on Rt. 68 and possible a sign that says it's the state law you have to stop at a crosswalk. It is not enforced by the police, the speed limit is 35 but cars go 45. Greg Such commented that we had looked previously about putting additional signs up before the crosswalk and there was an issue with that, but agrees that the crosswalks need to be painted.

PUBLIC COMMENT CONT.:

Mike Cornell inquired what style crosswalks is the Borough painting. The new style crosswalk isn't the parallel lines it is rectangles/squares; they are more visible to traffic and if it's done right the tire tracks go between the squares; he thinks they last longer than the parallel lines do. If we are not doing that we should be considering it.

Josh Meeder – Center of Harmony 253 Mercer Street- Josh reported that he thought it was WBCA putting flow meters into the drainage pipes, are there studies being done on that. Greg Such replied yes, studies done on I & P's. Josh inquired if we are waiting on that to find what options are best for the drainage. Greg Such responded that he doesn't know if those two things are connected, Don Sims commented they are not connected. Greg commented that WBCA is doing a system wide study looking at infiltration. Solicitor Matt commented that is related to sewage treatment not drainage or the Borough.

Jennifer Gilliland Vanasdale – Jennifer reported that she is running for Judge, she wants to change the courthouse, make it more transparent, fair and equal and balanced, avoid nepotism and favoritism in hiring and other court appointments. She wants to change the courthouse so that it is for all people and not about who you know. Jennifer is hard-working, works full time in Butler, graduated in the top 20 of her class and is the only one out of the five running that is AV rated. She is committed to Butler County and Family Court. May 21st is the election, she is running for both Republican and Democrat, she is for all people.

Dave Szakelyhidi – Dave reported that the Butler Eagle had an article in the paper about 30 animals rescued in Harmony Borough, the headline says Harmony but the article says Harmony Borough. Dave doesn't want to pick on the reporter but would like to educate the reporter, Harmony Borough is about 1000 people, a Harmony mailing address includes Jackson Township and Lancaster Township. The Borough has ordinances in place, the article saying there are animals in the Borough makes it look like we're not doing our job. The reporter, Alexandria Mansfield, was present and reported that the article was to say Harmony not Harmony Borough; it was a miscommunication with the editor. Alexandria reported that it was in Lancaster Township and it has been corrected on-line. Greg Such commented that Council is available to back check, and we're glad to have her here. Joe Dippold thanked Alexandria for the articles on the monument were very instrumental in helping us.

BOROUGH STAFF REPORTS:

Police Report:

Report submitted via email.

Office:

Amy had nothing to report.

Phyllis Metz reported that she read an article in the Borough magazine that said that 2017 Act 38 prohibits Tax Collectors from accepting checks in his or her name, checks can only be made payable to the name of the office title or position and be deposited into a separate bank account used only for tax money.

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Office Cont.:

Phyllis Metz commented that she always makes the check out to Ann John. Council responded that it is Ann John, Tax Collector. Don Sims commented that it is part of the title.

Borough Director of Operations:

Frank Grannon reported that it's been a lot of snow plowing, sidewalk cleaning and cold weather. Frank reported the cost of the dog waste sign would be \$53.94 each, with the ordinance number on the sign custom made by Walsh the cost would be \$57.00 and to put them on a post the cost of the post would be \$45.00. In a motion made by Don Sims and seconded by Dave Szakelyhidi, the Harmony Borough Council unanimously approved the purchase of 3 signs and post. Rodney Gasch commented on ordering the two Washington was here signs that were discussed at the November or December meeting; Don Sims commented that we did approve that. Frank reported the cost on the historic lights and base with photo eye is \$2,187 each. Need to order 15 to get discount. The cost of just the light and a photo eye is \$1,248. Dave Szakelyhidi commented that is what we need most of. Frank Grannon responded if we utilize the base that we have. Frank reported the lead time is 4-6 weeks. Greg Such commented that there is \$7500 in the budget and inquired if we should get up to that now. Don Sims recommended waiting to see if price goes down. Dave Szakelyhidi would like to order now. Greg Such recommended purchasing 5 lights (4 Borough and 1 Rodgers) contingent on supplier to agree to order now and pay as you go. In a motion made by Dave Szakelyhidi and seconded by Don Sims, the Harmony Borough Council unanimously approved the purchase of 5 street lights (4 for the Borough and 1 for Rodgers, Rodgers will reimburse the Borough). Mike Cornell inquired if the lights will go in the Triangle; the sidewalk across from the Triangle is very dark and uneven. Frank inquired on signs for the dump truck, magnetic signs are \$78.20 per set or decals \$183.63. Don Sims commented that he didn't see a need for them. Solicitor Matt commented that the community knows its Harmony Borough, they're identified and active in the community. Frank commented that it would be the Historical sign like the pick-up. In a motion made by Dave Szakelyhidi and seconded by Phyllis Metz, the Harmony Borough Council unanimously approved the purchase of getting decals painted on the dump truck.

Zoning and Codes:

Allen Bayer report submitted.

COMMITTEE and OTHER BUSINESS:

Public Safety:

Phyllis Metz reported that she has an Event Form for the Shamrock Shuffle which will be Saturday, March 16th, it is the same course as the Reindeer Race, the first race starts at 7:30 am. Joella will send the Certificate of Insurance. Chief Miller commented that he just gave Phyllis the Request for Police Service Form that will need to be filled out. In a motion made by Frank Luek and seconded by Phyllis Metz, the Harmony Borough Council unanimously approved the Shamrock Shuffle Event Form contingent on receiving the Certificate of Insurance arriving and the Police Service Form being accepted. Josh Meeder commented that he likes that there is a form and a procedure; he would suggest that if the event is being held in

Public Safety Cont.:

Harmony Borough all race organizers should start with Harmony Borough and not directly with Police, it would help with communications. In these large events like the Shamrock Shuffle where there is multiple races and long delays between the races and runners coming back, he suggest revisiting some of the suggestions he had made earlier specifically where the traffic police are placed, he feels the people putting on the race should fund it, there should also be consideration of larger lots along the road and businesses they are closing in front of for the race should have some traffic direction there; he does have a public safety concern for the customers coming in and out and the runners. There should be traffic control officers at main intersections and busy business lots. Dave Szakelyhidi inquired if Josh knew how much that would cost, Josh responded that is why he feels the event holder should be funding it; we've been giving away the town's assets. It does build up relations and its great advertisement but it is costly to the businesses that are affected by it. Mayor Rape commented that this is a change this year with having to pay the police; everyone needs to revisit what they are doing. Jason Sarver commented that we need to revisit the whole thing. Greg Such commented that it's going to be a challenge to have 3 or 4 police people given the fact that probably two-thirds of them are probably going to be pulling overtime. Cathy Rape commented that we need prices on outside contractors. Greg Such suggested trying one, working through the process and seeing what happens.

Phyllis Metz reported that she received the Event Form for the Zelig Library Wine Walk which will be on June 8th. In a motion made by Dave Szakelyhidi and seconded by Don Sims, the Harmony Borough Council unanimously approved the Zelig Library Wine Walk Event Form contingent on receiving the Certificate of Insurance and an approved Police Service Form.

Business Development:

Cathy Rape reported an update from the EMA meeting; Connoquenessing Township is having their own and invited us to join in. Jay Grinnell, Jackson Township, is looking into having a person from Forward Township be our Director; hoping that Harmony, Zelig, Jackson and Lancaster can still have their own EMA group, but are in search of a Director.

Cathy Rape reported that she attended the Jackson Township meeting as a concerned citizen, not as a Borough official, concerned about flooding. Phyllis Metz commented that the next meeting is on the 12th at 3:00pm. Zeligople has concerns about run-off from I-79 and Harmony; there is going to be a new plan on Young Blood Road which sets above Spring Street, across I-79; she wanted some assurance that no run-off or grading up there would cause any more run-off onto I-79 which ends up coming into Harmony and Zeligople because we already have problems. Mayor Rape reported on the Square beautification, she would like council to be on board with getting a new Square design. She would like approval to get ideas from a landscape design artist from Sewickley, the cost is \$120/hour, Cathy hopes it's only for an hour. Dave Szakelyhidi commented the plan needs to be sanctioned by HARB and Council; his concern is that a new Council might not sanction it, and then the donated money is wasted. Mayor Rape commented that it's it is getting an outside person's professional ideas. Jason Sarver inquired if we would get anything physical or if it's just verbal suggestions. Greg Such commented that we need a proposal and her qualifications to do the work. Don Sims commented that he is more interested in

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Business Development Cont.:

this person's roadway design experience. Cath Rape commented that it's just someone to give us ideas. Greg Such commented that we can't give her tax payer money without some kind of deliverable. Cathy commented that she is tired of damage in the Square and wanted a professional's opinion on a better way to have it (the Square). Josh Meeder commented that the idea is solid and what Don said is critical, the qualifications should be a background in street planning, maybe there is an RFP (request for proposal) to broaden what Cathy is suggesting, it needs beautified, it needs protected. Josh added that we still have all of Seneca's buses that go through the Square and need a certain turning radius. Josh commented that it needs to be a town planning or traffic planning study before the beautification of landscape. If she has both credentials that is great, maybe an RFP would accomplish all of those; the pricing up front, multiple suggestions, you would get some ideas through that process. It would be easier for council to vote, but also for private citizens and businesses to donate when they see a more complete package. Don Sims agreed with Josh but suggested to wait to see if the Borough wins the grant money. Cathy Rape commented that it had nothing to do with the grant money in her mind; she will still meet with the landscape design artist on her own. Cathy Rape inquired on the next Newsletter, it was decided the next Newsletter will go out at the end of February.

Frank Luek inquired if the Borough received any bids to repair the planters in the Square. Frank Grannon replied that LawnWorks was coming on Wednesday, Feb. 6.

Personnel:

Jason Sarver had nothing to report. Greg Such reported that it's time for employee reviews. Phyllis Metz commented that Frank (Grannon) has started on them.

Finance:

Joe Dippold had nothing new to report.

Streets:

Don Sims asked for pricing for North and South Pittsburgh Street signs. Frank Grannon inquired if it would be replacing the whole Pittsburgh Street sign, they have the Harmony Borough toppers on them; and inquired if council wanted to eliminate the topper or duplicate them. Dave Szakelyhidi responded to duplicate the toppers. Don inquired on salt, Frank Grannon responded good. Frank Grannon is to reach out to the Borough Engineer regarding the drainage by the Center of Harmony.

Facilities:

Dave Szakelyhidi reported that we need to get the brick repair done; Frank Grannon replied that Scott (Eldridge) will do it in the spring. Greg Such inquired if Frank could get a door quote. Dave Szakelyhidi inquired on the Lock Box, it hasn't been installed yet; Frank Grannon will install the Lock Box.

Grants:

Greg Such reported that the RACP Grant application (Redevelopment Assistance Capital Program) has been submitted.

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COMMITTEE and OTHER BUSINESS CONT.:

Training & Conferences:

Greg Such reported training and conferences are listed on the Correspondence List.

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 \$ **9,932.06**

Bills Already Paid in the amount of \$ **13,471.56**

Payroll in the amount of \$ **6,744.08**

Fire Tax Bills Payable in the amount of \$ **109.24**

Silvester Bills Payable in the amount of \$ **1,113.00**

Silvester Bills Already Paid in the amount of \$ **275.00**

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

Adjourned: 8:30 pm

As there was no further business to discuss, the Harmony Borough Council adjourned the February 5, 2019 meeting at 8:30pm.

Respectfully Submitted,



Amy Brown
Recording Secretary

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

January 2019

1. Stopped by the office two times each week to pick up mail, complete Building Permits and sign violations notices.
2. Filing and administrative work.
3. Attended January HARB meeting.
4. Attended January Council meeting.
5. Created 2018 Violations and Permits Summary Report.
6. Performed two violation inspections.
7. Spoke to Kirk on Division St. to clarify the location of the storage shed at Calvin Church as pertains to the Variance Hearing.
8. Performed two inspections.
9. Created violation notice at 274 Mercer St. for upholstered furniture on front porch.
10. Spoke with Dawn, Butler Co. Assessment Office, regarding parcel number for Calvin storage shed.
11. Prepared reminder violation notice for upholstered furniture on front porch at 274 Mercer St.
12. Spoke to Rob McGee, Ameri Trust Residential Services, regarding property repair. I referred Rob to Lancaster Twp. or to Jackson Twp.
13. Spoke to Josh Meeder regarding zoning for parking signs on Mercer St. lot.
14. Left a voice mail for Jessica Shuey, Keystone Consultants, Inc, regarding permit requirement for two test borings.
15. Picked up building permit and plans for a rear house extension 110 Peffer St.
16. Spoke with Joe Bertusi regarding zoning for property in Jackson Twp. I referred Joe to Nikki.

17. Created January Time and Activity Reports.

Respectfully submitted,
Allen E. Bayer