

April 2, 2013

HARMONY BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING April 2, 2013

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT: Phyllis Metz, Frank Luek, Dave Szakelyhidi, Jim Hulings, Harold Herr, John Rice, Greg Such, and Mayor Cathy Rape.

OTHERS PRESENT:

Council Meeting

April 2, 2013

JAMES E. HULINGS
Don Smith

Frank Luek
Wop

Harold Herr

Allen Beyer

Jim Miller

Cathy Rape

Phyllis Metz

Sammy Ferraro

John Rice

FRANK GRANNON

Susie Atterus

T R Murray

Debbie McNulty

Steve Walter

Josh Meeder

April 2, 2013

CALL TO ORDER:

Jim Hulings, Council President, called the Council Meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

MINUTES:

Harold Herr made a motion to approve the March 5, 2013 minutes. Greg Such seconded the motion. Motion carried.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT:

Matt Racunas reported on the Jackson Manor retention pond, due to weather the responsible party has not been able to remove the sediments, but have a plan put together to have the sediments removed.

The Fire Inspection Ordinance and the Fire Insurance Escrow Ordinance have been advertised. The Act 13 disclosure form has been submitted.

Matt requested an executive session at the end of the meeting on a litigation matter.

BOARD REPORTS/APPOINTMENTS:

Council President, Jim Hulings, stated a resolution is needed on Amy Brown. In January council appointed Amy as the chief administrative officer for the retirement plan, the plan custodian is requesting a resolution be passed naming Amy the chief administrative officer. Matt Racunas stated that Mockenhaupt is the plan administrator that he usually corresponds with, MRT works with Mockenhaupt; this basically is making Amy the point of contact. Frank Luek made a motion to pass a resolution naming Amy the chief administrative officer. Harold Herr seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Dave Szakelyhidi made a motion to appoint Darla Herr to the Planning Commission. Frank Luek seconded the motion. Harold Herr abstained, motion carried.

Dave Szakelyhidi made a motion to appoint Jim John and Neil Nanna to the Zoning Hearing Board. Harold Herr seconded the motion. Motion carried.

COG:

Jim Hulings reported the correspondence from COG is as usual, inviting us to meetings and conferences. There are a lot of classes available if anybody is interested.

HARB:

Dave Szakelyhidi reported that Allen has found two typos in our codification for HARB. Solicitor Matt explained the typographical error is in the violation section, the penalty for a violation shall be not less than three hundred (\$200.00) dollars. Matt explained that it can be resolved one of two ways; one is to authorize Matt to change through an amendment that amendment would have to be advertised; or leave as is, if it goes to a magistrate it would be his/her discretion how to interrupt it. Frank Luek questioned if left as is, would it be interrupted as implacable.

HARB Cont':

Matt Racunas stated no, it would not. Council agreed to leave as is, no voting needed, no change.

Water Authority:

Dave Szakelyhidi reported on the Source Water Protection Program, EPA program that DEP presented. The Water Board voted to participate in the program, the application was sent, they will have an engineering company go through our water shed of 55 square miles, and map it all out with any potential threat to our water source. There is no charge for the program.

Parks Board

Susie Altemus reported they have the concerts in the works, The Allegheny Brass Band will perform on Thursday, June 27th in the Square, Historic Harmony Society is sponsoring it, and the fireworks will be set off across the creek. Two weeks later they will have Eugene and the Night Crawlers on July 11th at the Harmony Inn, sponsored by the Parks Board. The Parks Board is also starting to work on the Bluegrass Festival. Traco will be sending volunteers to help with flowers and clean up in the parks and walking trail, possibly the week before Memorial Day.

Bat Houses – Steve Walter, Cub Scout Wolf Den Leader for Troop 457, requested to hang two bat houses in Harmony Borough as part of his den's conservation project. The bat houses were built from specifications on Bat conservation.org, painted a dark color, they need to be 10' high, prefer to hang in a tree with a dryer vent connector, or stainless steel air plane cable. The bat houses are single residential units that can house up to 15 bats, discussed hanging the bat houses on the trail and possibly Wood Street Park. Greg Such made a motion to accept the bat houses installed. Harold Herr seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Planning Commission:

Frank Luek had nothing to report

Sewer Authority:

Harold Herr had nothing to report

Zoning:

John Rice had nothing to report

Shared Services:

Jim Hulings had nothing to report. John Rice inquired if we could have Zelig sweep Rt. 68, starting to build up stone, if we keep up with the sweeping, we won't have to clean out the drains.

Parking/Signage & Events

Jim Hulings reported that they are still working to keep trucks out of the streets they don't belong on.

Parking/Signage & Events Cont':

The Unicycle event in July is a national convention and championship, it is a week long, part of the event will take place in Harmony, Seneca Valley School, and Moraine. The opening reception will be at the Bottlebrush, they will be here for one of the concerts, and was looking for a place to have the awards dinner that would hold 200 to 250 people. The CVE 5K Race has been moved to June.

BOROUGH STAFF REPORTS:

Police Report:

Submitted

Office:

Amy Brown reported that the Hagan Business Machine quote for a new printer/fax/scanner/copier did not include a finisher, the finisher sorts, folds and staples; which is used to make books. To add a finisher it would cost about \$2,000.00 more; will stay with the copier we have now. Amy also reported she is signed up for the Municipal Secretaries training at the Sheraton North on May 8th.

Borough Supervisor:

Wade Ion reported he ordered salt for next year with Co-Stars; they also extended the contract at the same cost.

Bid openings for paving will be May 8th at 1:00pm in Zelienople.

The American Legion called, they will donate a flag, the one we have now is a year old. The hallway in the borough building is painted; a new light installed, and will paint the back door when it warms up (so the paint will stick to the metal).

Jim Hulings reported that we received \$160.00 turn back and \$24,273.52 in Liquid Fuels tax payment.

Wade reported the salt box needs taken off the dump, discussed putting an I-beam across the water garage, or getting a gantry crane. John, Wade, Frank and Jim will look at the site and go through details.

Zoning & Code Enforcement:

Allen Bayer reported there were three building permits issued, four violations, two open and two corrected. He created seventy sidewalk violations, those letters will go out early next week, he received a call from a realtor asking how many horses are allowed in Harmony residential district, how many acres are required. Allen has been working with Jim on the multi-family residential fire inspection criteria, getting forms put together.

OLD BUSINESS:

Personnel:

Harold Herr had nothing to report

OLD BUSINESS CONT':

Finance:

John Rice reported there is a meeting on the 11th at 8:00pm.

Streets:

Nothing to report other than sweeping Rt. 68, Wade is to check the storm drain on Pittsburgh Street. Paving bids will be open May 8th in Zelienople.

Public Safety:

Mayor Rape had nothing to report. Jim Hulings inquired about an arborist letter; it is a letter from a few months ago. Mayor Rape reported there is a new arborist; he is to contact Wade next week.

Facilities:

Dave Szakelyhidi had nothing to report. John Ruch reported they are waiting on the weather for the visitors' cabin; Bob Franz is ready to put walls up, waiting for help to hoist them up.

Business Development:

Jim Hulings reported that Wes Hamilton received the grant for the recycling center; Zelienople, Harmony and Cranberry are partnered with the project. It is moving forward on paper, there are contracts to be created, it is a two year project; some of the ground work is being done now. It is not just a recycling center, it will be like a park, a place for hikers, there will be plants that attract butterflies and birds and different species, it will be an interesting facility when complete.

Harmony has applied for a grant for the trail.

Mayor Rape requested to go back to public safety. The Mayor stated she is getting calls about people having recreational fires on Saturday and Sunday nights. The old ordinance states recreational fires are allowed with a burning permit, the Mayor questioned if she is to call the police if there is no permit issued. The new ordinance permits recreational fires without a permit; however the new ordinance does not go into effect until May 1st. Cathy also questioned if Zelienople allows burning two days a week, discussion. Solicitor Matt will contact Don Pepe to see what Zelienople is doing.

NEW BUSINESS:

Training and Conferences:

Jim Hulings reported there are a lot of conferences and training available thru the State Association of Boroughs if anyone is interested.

Personnel:

Jim Hulings had nothing to report.

Finance:

John Rice reported taxes are coming in.

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NEW BUSINESS CONT':

Streets:

John Rice had nothing to report.

Public Safety:

Mayor Rape had nothing to report.

Facilities:

Dave Szakelyhidi reported the hallway is done. Dave stated Tom Haus built the steps and brick work in front of the borough building, it is starting to come apart. Dave recommended having Tom reseal the steps and handrails. Phyllis inquired about the bricks falling out on the side of the building, discussion. Frank Luek is to get a price to re-point the brick.

Phyllis Metz reported on moving the polling place from Stewart Hall to the borough building. It would give more accessible parking, it would eliminate conflicts with the museum schedule, delivery and storage of voting booths wouldn't be an issue, the secretary would be here when delivered, and we would receive rent (\$75.00) for it too. Solicitor Matt inquired if approval was given by the Election Bureau. John Rice recommended getting runners or something to protect the carpeting. Phyllis Metz made a motion to contact the Election Bureau and move the polling place from Stewart Hall to the Borough Building. John Rice added for the price of \$100.00. Frank Luek seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Business Development:

Jim Hulings had nothing to report.

BILLS PAYABLE:

Harold Herr made a motion to pay the bills. Phyllis Metz seconded the motion. Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

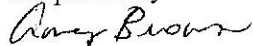
Josh Meeder had two requests; one is to fix or replace the pedestrian crossing. The second request is to allow on street parking in front of the coffee shop. Dave Szakelyhidi stated it is a public safety concern with the crosswalk there. Chief Miller suggested checking the ordinance. Solicitor Matt will check the ordinance and the safety committee will discuss the street parking and crosswalk.

Dennis McCurdy suggested placing a crosswalk sign between the Bottlebrush and Grace Church.

Executive session was called at 8:05pm, out of executive session at 8:30pm.

ADJOURN:

Respectfully Submitted,



Amy Brown

Secretary