

HARMONY BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING November 6, 2012

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT: Jack Shanks, John Rice, Harold Herr Frank Luek, Dave Szakelyhidi, and Mayor Cathy Rape.

OTHERS PRESENT:

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Council Meeting

Jack Shanks
John Rice
Harold Herr
Frank Luek
Sandy Ferrarola
Frank Luek
Susan Altman
FRANK GRANNON
GREG SUCH
Cathy Rape
Jim Miller
Cathy Rape

November 6, 2012

CALL TO ORDER:

Jack Shanks, Council President, called the Council Meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

MINUTES:

Dave Szakelyhidi made a motion to approve the October 2, 2012 minutes as presented. Frank Luek seconded the motion. Motion carried.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT:

Matt Racunas gave an update on the arborist report. Mayor Rape stated she passed the information along to the arborist at Penn Power.

Matt reported that he requested a written update from Chris Rearick regarding Jackson Manor. Chris is handling it, they had a meeting, however Matt is still waiting for an update.

Harold Herr made a motion to ratify the small borrowing resolution for the truck loan in the amount of \$54,612.00. Frank Luek seconded the motion. Motion carried.

BOARD REPORTS:

COG: Jack Shanks reported that we are still trying to get Frank's accident resolved with COG, Jeff Smith is really busy with an initiative with Butler Community College, and Jeff requested putting off until next month.

Jack reported that COG is working together with students from Butler Community College to assist students and to get credit hours. There is a form to fill out if we would like to participate; the list varies from computer forensics and security, web programming specialist, human resource management, marketing management. John Rice made a motion to have the purposed borough manual (employee) sent up to the HR personal to thin it down. Dave Szakelyhidi questioned if the composting would fall under this. Jack Shanks reported that Zelienople, Harmony, Cranberry Township and Seneca Valley School were all going to be in on it, Seneca Valley pulled out. Dave suggested asking the community colleges if they would be interested in it for educational purposes. Wes Hamilton contacted them, they are interested.

Dave Szakelyhidi seconded the motion; discussion to have the manual reviewed with suggestions and rewritten. Greg Such questioned if there was a fee. Jack Shanks stated there is not a fee. The letter states it is a one-time unpaid work or service experience done by a student as part of an academic class for academic credit. Motion carried.

COG Care: We have a 2 year deal with UPMC with no price increase, COG Care came in to go with them, they also have UPMC. Jack recommended we remain as we are, and next year we can review UPMC and COG Care.

HARB: Certificate of Appropriateness:

Harold Herr made a motion to accept the Certificate of Appropriateness for the Silvester banner (24' x 3') to be placed by the Opera House to the Emporium. Dave Szakelyhidi seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Dave Szakelyhidi made a motion to accept the Certificate of Appropriateness for the vinyl fence at Jackson and Main for Tadd Geis. Frank Luek seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Dave Szakelyhidi made a motion to accept the Certificate of Appropriateness for new shingles, dark gray, for Eric McCandless. Frank Luek seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Frank Luek stated he got the trim on his windows.

Water Authority: Nothing to report

Parks Board Jack Shanks stated that the Parks Board has in its current budget, as of October 11th, \$14,796.00 and the Silvester has \$13,882.00.

Frank Luek reported that they were putting a plan together and he went away, and then Bob was called out on an emergency.

Jack Shanks reported there will not be a trail that circles Zelig and Harmony. There are three property owners that continue to say no. The trail will be 11 ½ miles long, the only problem is that it does not connect; you have to turn around and go back. Mayor Rape questioned if the trail would be marked, Jack stated that part of the grant money was for wooden markers to be placed on the trail. He also stated that there will be two stepping stone bridges build to cross runs, Barbish offered to do them at no charge. The trail will be ready in May 2013.

John Rice stated he is not opposed to the races held in town, but requested we limit the spray painting on the roads, get signs or something.

Suzie Altemus gave an update on the Silvester, there are 15 registered so far, she requested adding a link to Harmony's website for Active.com where people can register online for the race, and the Polar Plunge. Suzie stated there is no reference to the canoe launch on Harmony's website and requested adding it to our parks.

Greg Such reported he made some Facebook entries for the Silvester and the Polar Plunge.

Jack Shanks reported that the street closures and safety issues have been taken care of for the Silvester.

Greg Such reported that the race applicants receive a beer ticket redeemable at the Harmony Inn. Greg questioned if the Parks Board could purchase the beer and give it to the Inn in exchange they open up their outside and have a fire, allowing more room. Solicitor Matt Racunas stated the Borough cannot serve alcohol for liability reasons. Discussion about the Park Board paying the Inn for the beer, previous

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years, it was donated by the Inn. Solicitor Matt will look into liquor codes; John Rice recommended renting the outside space.

Jack Shanks reported that at the last meeting a motion was passed not to give \$11,000.00 to Zelig Parks. After the motion passed, someone suggested donating something to Zelig Parks. Jack sent a proposal for Harmony Borough to donate \$4,000.00 to Zelig Parks in exchange Harmony Borough residents would get the discount; it would not include any fundraisers. Zelig Parks board accepted the proposal; HB residents need to meet the second deadline of February 2013 to receive the discount. Discussion about where the funds will come from with budget concerns. John Rice suggested discussing this under the budget review.

Jack Shanks reported that part of the grant money was for bicycle racks, they've been purchased, and one is located at the Center of Harmony and the other by McPharlin's.

Jack reported we received \$400.00 from Backyard Properties and \$500.00 from Armstrong.

John Rice suggested getting somebody from the County to rack leaves out of the basketball court. Mayor Rape stated somebody is coming tomorrow for the Museum; Wade is to stop and talk to them.

Library: Nothing report

Planning Commission: Nothing to report

PSAB: Nothing to report

Sewer Authority: Harold Herr reported that Rock Lake has been connected; there are about 153 more units.

Zoning: The hearing for Spring Street, Eppinger, is November 13th at 7:00pm in the council meeting room.

Vacancy Officer: Nothing to report

Shared Services: Leaf pick up is slow, a lot of leaves to pick up.

Parking/Signage: Nothing to report

BOROUGH STAFF REPORTS:

Police Report: Nothing to report

Office: Sharon and Amy did payroll on their own this time, it went fairly decent.

Borough Supervisor: Wade reported that a couple street signs were taken out, had to order 4 signs. We received a payment of \$171.00 for one of the street signs from the trucking company who knocked one down.

OLD BUSINESS:

Personnel: New manual and job descriptions were passed out; a vote was previously made to have the manual reviewed. Frank Luek made a motion to accept the job descriptions. Harold Herr seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Finance: 2013 budget review – Jack Shanks has two requests: \$4,000.00 to Zelig Parks, and the newsletter four times a year, discussion. Harold Herr made a motion to do the newsletter four times a year. Frank Luek seconded the motion. Greg Such suggested posting the newsletter to HB's website too. Motion carried.

John Rice stated we had some re-adjustments to the budget; there was a drop in Amy's insurance because she's not putting her kids on. There is \$5,117.00 to spend; there has been a request for \$1,000.00 for fireworks, \$1,500.00 to relight the two rooms, \$2,500.00 for a tractor, \$500.00 for the newsletter and \$4,000.00 for the Zelig Parks. Discussion, Council agreed to put \$500.00 in for the newsletter, \$500.00 for the fireworks, \$1,500.00 for lights, and \$2,500.00 for the tractor. Leaving \$117.00 to balance the budget.

John Rice made a motion to advertise the budget. Harold Herr seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Grant Writing – Jack received information from Representative Stevenson for two places that do grant writing. Delta Development & Resource never called back. Jack spoke to Michael Foreman from the Governor's Center for local government services, need to find it locally.

The paperwork for the truck loan has been done, the check has been deposited, and it has been paid.

Streets: The sidewalk at Bluff and Beaver Streets, Jack spoke to Rich Holsinger, he is willing to fix the sidewalk as long as HB fixes the curb.

Claire Spinks stated the Zelig Park gives seniors free swimming.

Light at New Castle and Charles Street, Jack spoke to Penn Power and was given a notification number, someone will look at it and give us a cost, it has been delayed because of damage on the East coast from Hurricane Sandy, some of the Penn Power crews were sent out of town.

Public Safety: Hearing for Tim and Rhonda Eppinger will be November 13th at 7:00pm. Mayor Rape questioned if the Borough gets reimbursed for attorney fees and advertisement. There is a set cost of \$250.00 that is paid with the application. Discussion, Solicitor Matt stated that the application ordinance can be amended via resolution.

Business Development: Write up to Tourism for grant -Jack reported the 50 tons of limestone has been ordered, it is on hold and will be placed next spring. Jack also stated we need to complete two picnic tables by next summer. He would like to see one at the Wood Street Park; and HB will need to decide where to place the other picnic table.

As part of the grant money HB will be purchasing new recycling bins and garbage cans for parks and events. Wood chips have been done. Need to get in the trail head kiosk. Bicycle racks have been purchased and installed. Signs were made and are stored for all events. The power to pavilion has not yet been addressed but will be reviewed in the first quarter of 2013.

Wade requested if a fire is built for the Polar Plunge make sure there are no nails in the wood.

Solicitor Matt inquired if the Polar Plunge is a Borough sponsored event and if there are life guards there. Jack responded that there are all emergency people there and the Harmony Volunteer Fire Department is there.

Facilities:

NEW BUSINESS:

Personnel: Nothing to report.

Finance: Jack reported that a letter was received stating we will receive \$160.00 for our estimated turn back allocation

Streets: Street closures for all events have been identified; the police, fire police and fire department have all been contacted by Jim Hulings. Will need a motion at the December meeting for street closures (did not have listing of streets) for the Silvester.

Public Safety: Creek clean up - Jack Shanks reported he received a letter from the Allegheny Aquatic Alliance. The total pollution removed from the creek was 54,873 pounds in a third to half mile area. Jack read the letter (attached); Christina Handley, President of Allegheny Aquatic Alliance is encouraging monetary donations, the success of the clean up required more money than they raised and had to pay for some of the expenses out of personal funds. Harold Herr requested a thank you be sent to the Allegheny Aquatic Alliance. Frank Luek made a motion to send the \$100.00 left in the 2013 budget to Allegheny Aquatic Alliance. John Rice seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Facilities: Jack reported that he received a letter requesting a clothing bin be place in the Borough parking lot for Planet Aid. Discussion, Council agreed not to have it placed, other clothing bins in the area (Josh Meeder's, Windows R Us North, Valero in Zelienople and St. Gregory's), and parking is limited.

Mayor Rape requested garbage cans be emptied on the square on Friday, and the Christmas banners put up this week. Discussion.

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The street closures for the Christmas Market will be German and Main, Spring and Mercer, and Jackson and Main. Dave Szakelyhidi made a motion to approve the street closures for the Christmas Market this week-end (November 10th & 11th). Harold Herr seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Council approved the Silvester sign being placed in the square.

BILLS PAYABLE:

Jack stated that a bill for Wayne Seibel in the amount of \$1,000.00 for the deposit for the Silvester fireworks paid from the Silvester fund should be added to the list of bills paid. Harold Herr made a motion to pay all bills except the \$270.00 to Zelig Borough for street sweeping. Harold spoke to a few Zelig council members, we have shared services; HB is picking up their leaves, why are we being billed for street sweeping. Zelig will look into it. Dave Szakelyhidi seconded the motion. Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

None

EXECUTIVE SESSION: An Executive Session was called at 8:20 PM. Out of Executive Session at 8:26 PM.

ADJOURN: Jack Shanks declared the meeting adjourned at 8:27 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,



Amy Brown, Recording Secretary



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October 16, 2012

Hello.

Thank you for your support and help with our first cleanup of Connoquenessing Creek. The first time I went kayaking down this creek, I couldn't believe my eyes. I have never seen a waterway that was consumed with so much garbage! It was that day that I realized action needed to be taken. Only one year later, our community was able to achieve that action. The massive amount of garbage that we removed together is astounding! In just 6 hours, we were able to remove 578 tires out of this precious waterway. Out of the tire total, 489 were standard vehicle tires, 63 were semi-truck tires, 22 were rimmed tires, 3 were skid loader tires, and 1 tractor tire. We removed 12,260 pounds of garbage and 16,613 pounds of recyclable scrap metal. Our grand total weight of all removed pollution was 54,873 pounds! These numbers show that when a community comes together, we can accomplish anything. I am so proud of our results and never imagined we would be so successful our first time. With each year, our efforts will bring us closer to restoring this natural resource back to its beautiful, healthy state. A goal that is worth working hard for! Again, thank you for your time, energy, and support. **WE ALL DID A GREAT THING** and we should each take a moment to really recognize our success; for our water, our community, and ourselves.

In addition, I am still inviting and encouraging any monetary donations. The success of this cleanup required more money than our organization was able to raise, therefore, I have had to pay for some expenses out of personal funds. Any donations would really help and assure the future success of the Connoquenessing Creek Cleanup Project.

Sincere Thanks,

Christina Handley, President of Allegheny Aquatic Alliance

CORRESPONDENCE
November 6, 2012

FROM:

1. Zelienople-Harmony Chamber
2. Allegheny Aquatic Alliance
3. Local Government Academy
4. PSAB
5. Butler County Emergency Services
6. WBCA
7. COG

8. BCTCC
9. Rex Energy
10. Butler Co. Dept. of Recycling
11. Veterans Day Committee
12. Power Smart
13. Google

SUBJECT MATTER

- Chamber of Commerce Schedule of Events
Thank you for Creek Clean up
Meeting for Implementing GASB 67 & 68
November Update
Info on Marcellus Shale Gas Wells
Minutes
Cranberry Vehicle & Equipment Auction
COG Care Update
Update on Tax Collection Committee
Permit Applications for Drilling or Altering Wells
Fall Newsletter
Veterans Day Parade
Energy Savings Workshop
Google Ads