

July 2, 2019

# HARMONY BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING July 2, 2019

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

OTHERS PRESENT:

LWC July 2, 2019  
Council Meeting  
FRANK GRANICEN  
Joe Dippold  
Susan Atermas  
Cathy Rape  
Phyllis Metz  
Frank Luek  
Don Sims  
GREG SUCH  
Jim Mully  
ALLEN BAKER  
Richard Patrus  
Belzyle  
Kathy Yule  
Josh Mearl

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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 Phyllis Metz, the Harmony Borough Council unanimously approved the June 4, 2019 Council meeting minutes.

**SOLICITOR'S REPORT:**

Solicitor Matt Racunas reported that the Meeder Easement has been drafted, Matt will email the Easement to Josh Meeder. Matt reported that he will work with Amy to file claims with appropriate insurance companies on the trucks that hit the planters in the Square. Solicitor Matt also reported that he spoke to Calvin Church, all documents will be submitted by Friday, July 12<sup>th</sup>. Matt has no report regarding the Main Street Bridge, the letter was sent to the Railroad. Dave Szakelyhidi commented that the Borough has a report from the PennDot inspection, the bridge is deficient. Amy is to send Solicitor Matt a copy of that report and Matt will send PennDot a letter asking them to follow up with the Railroad.

**BOARD REPORTS/APPOINTMENTS:**

**Appointments:**

Greg Such reported there are no new appointments.

**COG:**

Joe Dippold had nothing new to report.

**HARB:**

Dave Szakelyhidi reported that there was a meeting but no business.

**Water Authority Board:**

Dave Szakelyhidi reported that the lab cabinets have been replaced and have new instruments at the Water Plant.

**Parks Board:**

Susie Altemus reported that the concert got rained on but the fireworks went off. The next concert will be July 11<sup>th</sup> with the Swinging BopCat Big Band. Susie reported that Trail is in bad shape with ruts. Greg Such commented that we may need to drag it again. Frank Grannon commented that the Canoe Launch is full, Frank is to follow up with Barbish to clear it out.

**Library Board:**

Kathy Luek thanked Harmony for allowing the Library to have the Wine Walk here, there were 589 people paid, 44 complimentary; they netted over \$14,000. The Library is in the middle of their summer reading program which benefits children of all ages. Tom Nesbitt will be doing a program at Scholl Auditorium at Passavant on August 1<sup>st</sup>. The next big event will be BOOK the CASINO NIGHT at the Library on Saturday September 21<sup>st</sup>. Kathy also asked Harmony to donate to the Library.

**Planning Commission:**

Frank Luek had nothing new to report.

**WBCA:**

Greg Such had nothing new to report. Dave Szakelyhidi stated that he spend 2-1/2 hours at the WBCA meeting, he asked questions and they were fair and answered the questions. One question he had asked was when the Campground is inundated with water can they shut that off so all that water doesn't go into the sewer system; they said they had no provisions and weren't making any provisions to do that. Dave also commented that the meeting went into executive session, he and Zelig's Engineer went out into the hall and the Board proceeded to vote without bringing them back into the meeting. Greg Such commented that they didn't think anybody was there, it was an oversight, it was not intentional. Solicitor Matt commented that there wasn't any intention to exclude anybody, the Board thought everybody had gone. Frank Luek inquired if it was going into the manholes in the campground. Dave Szakelyhidi commented that he assumes they're not all solid hook-ups, Laura Ebbert replied that they are all solid hook-ups and they all have caps; they probably were not all capped, especially once the water reached a certain height. Greg Such commented that the back ground is, there was excess water at the pump station behind US Liner because of that water started coming back up through the sewers into some of the lower basements, the question was the campground people pulled trailers and all of that was going into the pump station, the pump station was running as fast as it could but could not drain the campground and other places. Dave Szakelyhidi had asked if there should be a way to shut the campground off; it was not engineered for that; as the Sewer Authority goes through their upgrade plan there is a possibility to look at it and put it on their list.

**Shared Services:**

Frank Grannon had nothing new to report.

**Parking and Signage:**

Greg Such had nothing new to report.

**Historic Harmony:**

Rod Gasch was unable to attend the meeting.

**Harmony Business Association:**

Sherry Cepek was unable to attend the meeting.

**Other Meetings:**

Joe Dippold reported that the EMA is staying with the structure we have now; Harmony, Jackson, Lancaster & Zelig all in the same EMA. Robbie Gregor will take over as the EMA Coordinator; Jon Kovacic will stay on as a liaison in Cranberry Township; will meet again in two weeks to formalize things. Mayor Rape commented that the name is the Seneca Area EMA. Joe Dippold commented that they're moving in the right direction. Cathy Rape commented that Robbie Gregor is a fireman already and will take all the courses for the EMA.

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**Other Meetings Cont.:**

Phyllis Metz reported that the Butler County Boroughs Association meeting was very good, very informative.

Greg Such commented that WBCA purchased eight pumps that can be signed out by residents; there are two types, a high-speed pump that pumps down to 4” and a low-speed pump that pumps down to 2””; you have to sign-up in advance but it is first come first serve. Solicitor Matt commented that they are free but they have to be signed out and returned during regular business hours.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

**Josh Meeder – 206 Mercer Street** – Josh reported that there will be a flood benefit concert July 14<sup>th</sup> at Jergel’s. Butler County Tourism was instrumental in putting it together, Jergel’s donated the space, Jim Donovan and The Sun King Warriors donated their time, Dennis McCurdy is playing. Tickets are on sale on-line, 600 tickets. Anyone affected by the flood there are links on Josh’s site, Facebook, Butler County Tourism, there is a place you can apply for funds. It will be judged by an independent group of five people – 1 from the community, a couple from the Tourism, one from the church and one from the business community; money is being distributed at the end of July. In addition to that they will be supply Harmony Fire District with four additional submersible pumps. There are two tickets, a \$30 ticket gets you in at 4:00pm, and a \$20 ticket gets you in at 5:00pm. Dennis starts at 6:00pm and Jim starts at 7:00pm. Greg Such congratulated Josh for the nice work.

**Rob Patinski – 840 Edmond Street** – Rob asked who is in charge of ShuBrew, which borough/township. Phyllis Metz responded Jackson Township. Greg Such commented that they straddles the line, half their property is in Jackson Township and half is in Harmony Borough. Mr. Patinski stated when there is a band, there is no place to park anywhere so if he would have a party at his home there wouldn’t be anywhere for people to park. You have the noise of the band, drunks staggering on the road, it is a family area. Cars whip off Rt 68; it’s a death waiting to happen. Jackson and Harmony should be able to do something to stop it. Greg Such commented that we can’t stop it, they have a right to do business, they don’t violate our noise ordinance because it ends by 9:00pm; they have cleaned up the parking and have kept that under control. Greg commented that we can ask the Police to patrol. Jason Sarver commented that some of Council had met with the owners previous on some issues and they were very respectful and put an end to them right away; we can revisit them on some issues; judging how they were the first time, they will do what they can. Cathy Rape commented that they have talked to them about the parking, they need to let their customers know where parking is throughout the borough and people need to walk.

Kathy Luek commented that the Borough could put a stop sign at First Street (and Edmond) it might help; Council responded that there isn’t enough room.

**Laura Ebbert** – Laura reported that the Western Pennsylvania Ride for Kids event will be August 4<sup>th</sup> at the Seneca Valley High School and will start at 10:30am. Laura submitted an Event Form to Phyllis Metz.

**BOROUGH STAFF REPORTS:**

**Police Report:**

Report submitted via email.

**Office:**

Amy Brown had nothing new to report.

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**Borough Director of Operations:**

Frank Grannon reported that he received the permit from the state, the signs have been installed, and the new paint is in, waiting on dry days to get the crosswalk painted. Cathy Rape commented the stop bars too; it draws attention that there is a stop sign there. Frank reported that he has been getting some complaints about people parking by intersections because the yellow curb is faded or gone. Frank stated that curbs need to be repainted, he thinks code is 30'. Chief Miller commented that 30' is the State law. Frank stated the main complaint is Bluff and Center Streets, cars coming out of Bluff need to make a wide turn and are going into people's yards because a car is parked too close to the intersection. Mayor Rape commented that they all have driveways they should park in them. Frank inquired if he should do the 30 ft. Council responded that it's the law; Don Sims suggested painting the ones that are an issue. Frank Grannon reported that Shane Eppinger was hired to mow, he doesn't have a driver's license so the guys need to shuffle him around but it's been working out pretty good, he does a nice job. Frank reported that the dump truck needs a lot of repairs for inspection; it has brake issues from all of the salt.

**Zoning and Codes:**

Allen Bayer report submitted.

Allen reported that he and Dave Szakelyhidi attended a MS-4 course in Cranberry, it was an interesting course; Dave commented there is a lot of stuff you have to comply with.

**COMMITTEE and OTHER BUSINESS:**

**Public Safety:**

Phyllis Metz reported that Laura Ebbert submitted an Event Form for the Western Pennsylvania Ride for Kids, Police escort through town. The FleaTiques will be July 20<sup>th</sup> and October 12<sup>th</sup> with the Sleepy Hollow, the Northside of the Square will be closed. In a motion made by Frank Luek and seconded by Joe Dippold, the Harmony Borough Council unanimously approved the Western Pennsylvania Ride for Kids and the FleaTique Event Forms.

**Business Development:**

Cathy Rape had nothing new to report.

**Personnel:**

Greg Such reported that there were four responses to the RFP (request for proposal) to manage the pension systems, Randy Rhoades the attorney is pulling the results together.

**Finance:**

Joe Dippold had nothing new to report.

**Streets:**

Don Sims thanked Frank (Grannon) for keeping up with everything prepping for winter. Thanked Laura Ebbert for taking the wood chips. The drainage issue on Mercer Street, before anything is sent to Josh (Meeder) Don needs to talk to Frank and our perspective excavator, Sam (Hopkins) has some reservations about an area,

**Streets Cont.:**

we might need to figure out the best way to dig before we continue forward.

Solicitor Matt asked for someone to email him when ready.

Jason Sarver commented that he asked some other boroughs what they do with leaf clean-up, they use local farmers. Frank Grannon commented that they have to have a DEP permit.

**Facilities:**

Dave Szakelyhidi reported the bricks have been repaired, Frank Grannon added that Scott supplied a lot of the bricks himself; he used what we had and brought bricks in. There was supposed to be a stack of bricks in the attic but when the building was redone they blew insulation in and you can't see the rafters to walk over and you can't see the bricks.

Dave Szakelyhidi reported there are four catch basins on Monroe Street that need attention, one by the new house has a big chunk missing and a void under the blacktop, that one needs something right away so the road doesn't collapse into the hole. The one across from Dave's driveway has a fault in the concrete and the grate is broken in half because there isn't any support underneath it. Greg Such commented that we were doing 3-5 per year. Frank Grannon commented that he doesn't have anyone to do them now, Don Rape retired. Greg Such inquired if Tom Haus would do them. Dave Szakelyhidi commented that Zelig uses M&B Concrete. Frank is to call Chad in Zelig. Greg Such commented that we should do 3 to 5, Frank Grannon commented that it wasn't numbers it was dollar amount, what we budget. Don Sims stated to get a price then we'll get it ratified. Greg Such commented to pick the four worst.

Dave Szakelyhidi reported that there is supposed to be off-street parking, rental properties are probably the worst abuse of it. Frank Luek commented that they count a parking spot on the street in front of the residence as a spot. Dave commented that the problem is everyone is parking on Monroe Street, alleys are not maintained, Apple Alley is a trail and Cherry Alley is non-existent, no gravel; the Borough should do something about it. Talked about putting millings on them but it didn't happen; if you look at the curb cut there is grass, it's time to re-established where alleys are. Jason Sarver commented that he'd be happy to have millings just in the potholes on the alley behind his house; if it is smooth people have a tendency to drive too fast. Don Sims inquired if there were any millings left, Frank responded yes if he can get them broke up. Greg Such inquired if the millings were substantial enough. Frank Grannon commented it comes down to the budget, what can we afford to put on the alleys. Jason commented about using more for the alleys, Frank responded labor staff. Sam Hopkins commented that he has two tenants parking on Cherry Alley, they have trucks; it would be nice if it was flat back there. Greg Such commented about Aster Alley, behind the Weaver's cabin it is pretty holey. Frank Grannon commented that we put them in and the garbage trucks come in and pound it back out. Jason Sarver inquired what happened to them, Frank responded that it sinks into the ground, or with flood waters they just wash out. Put on the agenda for the next meeting.

Frank Grannon reported on a price on the back door, it is an undersized door with an 82" opening, \$1800 door/frame plus install. Scott Eldridge will give price, probably

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**Facilities Cont.:**

will be time and material because he doesn't know what he'll get into until he starts cutting. Dambach will get Frank some numbers.

Frank inquired about the stone stacked by the basement door. Scott Eldridge

inquired about the stone; he will put a retaining wall up in exchange for the stone.

Cathy Rape inquired if they are historic stones. Frank Grannon responded that he wasn't sure but probably not, everything else is poured concrete. Greg Such HARB would need to approve the material. Joe Dippold inquired how much the stone was worth; Council will look at the stone.

Cathy Rape inquired if it would be feasible to have pile of sand for Harmony Borough people to get sandbags. Frank Grannon inquired where to store it that it won't get grass or weeds in it. Jason Sarver commented that Josh may have something with a cover.

**Grants:**

Greg Such had nothing new to report.

**Training & Conferences:**

Greg Such reported that they are listed on the Correspondence List.

**Trash Cans:**

Greg Such reported that Cathy had made a note about the trash cans and this had been discussed previously. Greg stated he is fine with emptying the trash cans after the concerts and asked Frank Grannon to have the guys empty the trash cans before the concerts. Cathy Rape commented every Friday, Greg responded every other Wednesday then they are emptied for the concerts on Thursday. Frank Grannon commented if the water guys are to empty them the cans have to have bags so it doesn't go all over their clothes. Cathy Rape commented they need to be emptied every week; Frank Luek responded they typically are emptied every week. Cathy commented you can't have smelly stuff in the 90 degree heat in the garbage cans in the Square and have people wanting to sit on the benches. Frank Grannon responded that you have stuff on the guy's clothes that are making drinking water. Why don't we pay Vogel to pick them up every week? Greg Such inquired if Mr. Eppinger (Shane) could empty them. Frank responded that he will only mow and he doesn't drive. Dave Szakelyhidi commented to make it part of the employees job description. Greg Such commented that it should be the streets department job, not the water employees. Frank is to get a quote from Vogel and Waste Management. Jason Sarver commented maybe it could be bundled with a community pick-up, once a year they go around for volume pick-up. Frank Luek stated he will empty the garbage cans.

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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 \$ **9,834.77**

**Bills Already Paid** in the amount of \$ **8,235.91**

**Payroll** in the amount of \$ **5,707.23**

**Fire Tax Bills Payable** in the amount of \$ **411.71**

**Parks Board Bills Payable** in the amount of \$ **495.00**

**Parks Board Bills Already Paid** in the amount of \$ **500.00**

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

**Adjourned: 8:05 pm**

As there was no further business to discuss, the Harmony Borough Council adjourned the July 2, 2019 meeting at 8:05 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,



Amy Brown, Recording Secretary



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

**June 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. Prepared May 2019 Time and Activity Reports.
4. Created barking dog nuisance violation at 511 Main St.
5. Attended June HARB meeting.
6. Spoke with Chris, 748 Spring St., regarding removing some structures at the rear of his property.
7. Created two violation letters pertaining to trees blocking crosswalk sign at Pittsburgh and Grandview.
8. Created violation notice to Harmony Inn pertaining to vegetation along Spring St. sidewalk.
9. Returned phone call to Claire on Old Little Creek asking if an endocrinologist doctor was setting up an office in Harmony. I told her not that I know.
10. Spoke with Tim Sapienza regarding hydrant blockage at US Liner.
11. Created violation notice for 200 S. Pittsburgh St. of tree branches blocking stop sign.
12. Created demolishing building permit for 562 Main St.
13. Created high grass violation notice for 421 and 437 Highland Ave.
14. Inspected 4 property violations. Only one has been corrected.
15. Prepared June 2019 Time and Activity Reports.

Respectfully submitted,  
Allen E. Bayer