

August 4, 2020

HARMONY BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING August 4, 2020

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT:

Greg Such

Phyllis Metz

Frank Luek

Dave Szakelyhidi

Joe Dippold

Don Sims

Jason Sarver

Mayor Cathy Rape

OTHERS PRESENT:

Susie Altemus

Frank Grannon

Steve Ferris, Butler Eagle Reporter

Sam Hopkins

Kathy Luek

Chief Jim Miller

Solicitor Matt Racunas

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CALL TO ORDER:

Council President Greg Such called the meeting to order at 7:06 pm. This meeting was held remotely through Zoom virtual meeting.

PLEDGE OF ALLIGANCE:

MINUTES:

In a motion made by Don Sims and seconded by Phyllis Metz, the Harmony Borough Council unanimously approved the July 7, 2020 Council meeting minutes.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT:

Solicitor Matt Racunas did not have an update on the Main Street Bridge matter. Matt gave a background on the matter stating that he had sent a letter to Railroad regarding the condition of the Main Street Bridge and some concerns we had, Matt also had some correspondence with their attorney. Their attorney sent a letter stating he review Matt's photos and his client had done an inspection and did not see any issues. Matt followed up with the Penn Dot Report that pointed out the concerns we had; around that time COVID hit and since that time Matt has not received a response. At this point the Borough does not have any liability, it is a Railroad issue. We do not want any of our residents getting hurt even though it is not our fault but Matt will continue to follow up with their lawyer. Matt added that most of the firms in Pittsburgh are still working remotely.

Council discussed the Ordinance to rescind the handicap parking space at 714 Spring Street and designate it as a No Parking zone. No action was necessary as the subject was voted on and approved at the July meeting.

Solicitor Matt also reported on parking spaces for residents within the Borough, we do have for residential dwellings a requirement for two spaces, as well as for duplexes and quadraplexes. The problem we have in the Borough is more of a preexisting nonconforming or long period of use. A lot of the homes were constructed prior to these regulations being put into place, will have a difficult enforcement type issue to stop people from parking on the street. Frank Luek commented on the statement "provide parking spaces for an apartment" it does not say off-street parking. We could change our rules to say apartments must have off-street we could do that parking but as long as it says parking space, that is not off-street parking. Matt agreed and added that if Council enacts a change now, a Zoning Ordinance Amendment; it is only going to work going forward so any existing apartment buildings will be able to continue to do it until they discontinue the use of the apartment building. Frank Luek inquired if the apartment building changed hands, Matt stated only if the use changes or expands. Matt reported that Council could designate certain areas on the street as permit parking or seasonal parking. Dave Szakelyhidi commented that Sam's duplex parks on the street, Dave thought at a previous council meeting Sam agreed to put gravel parking in the back for his duplex. Dave stated the problem is that the Borough won't maintain anything in the alley and the alley has turned to grass. Sam Hopkins commented that there is parking in the back of that duplex. Dave Szakelyhidi commented that the problem is there is no gravel on Peach Alley. Sam Hopkins inquired if the tenants were taking up too many spots; Dave Szakelyhidi responded yes, they are parked all over the street. Solicitor Matt commented that if the alley is a designated paper alley and not opened to the public, it is likely by operation of law that it has been vacated by the Borough whether or not we could legally gravel on it Matt would need to look into it, the Borough

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SOLICITOR'S REPORT CONT.:

would spend more than what it is worth, Matt suggested working with Sam on a solution. Sam

Hopkins commented that he didn't know there was an issue. Dave Szakelyhidi commented that all of their vehicles are on the street, he would prefer if the residents had off-street parking. Solicitor Matt commented that Sam has always been willing to be open-minded and listen to the concerns of the Borough Council, may be Sam, Dave and Greg can work on coming up with some solution that eliminates some of the parking on the street. Sam Hopkins commented that all the houses would probably appreciate having access to their back yards through the alley. He's never heard the story why the Borough abandoned all the alleys it seems that people use them. Solicitor Matt responded that is it probably an issue of cost. Dave Szakelyhidi commented if Sam could pay for gravel behind his property, everybody pay for their own gravel. Matt again suggested Greg, Dave and Sam work together. Cathy Rape inquired if there was a driveway off the street for the duplex. Sam Hopkins responded it's just an alley. Matt suggested following up with it next month to see if it has been resolved.

Solicitor Matt reported on the recreational fire ban, it has been elevated with the recent rains. Greg Such commented that it had come from the Fire Chief asking for a recreational ban for the 4 communities. Greg took Zelig's Resolution and edited it, and the Swift Reach announcement that Jackson used and put something together; if we need to do it again we have the documents and could have the Mayor do an emergency proclamation. Solicitor Matt also reported the changes to the IPMC have been completed.

BOARD REPORTS/APPOINTMENTS:

Appointments:

Greg Such reported that we have an appointment, Joe Dippold to the Water Authority Board. Dave Szakelyhidi reported that all Water Authority members were emailed and agreed to accept John Rice's resignation and recommend appointing Joe Dippold to the Water Authority Board. In a motion made by Dave Szakelyhidi and seconded by Jason Sarver, the Harmony Borough Council unanimously approved the appointment of Joe Dippold to the Harmony Water Authority Board. Joe Dippold abstained from the vote.

COG:

Joe Dippold had nothing new to report; no meeting.

HARB:

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

317 German Street – Laura McClain – New business sign. In a motion made by Dave Szakelyhidi and seconded by Jason Sarver, the Harmony Borough Council unanimously approved the Certificate of Appropriateness for 317 German Street.

309 German Street – Jeff Byko – New copper gutters and downspouts. In a motion made by Dave Szakelyhidi and seconded by Phyllis Metz, the Harmony Borough Council unanimously approved the Certificate of Appropriateness for 309 German Street.

HARB Cont.:

616 Wood Street – John Ziegler – New solar panels on the southern roof, 21 – 24 panels. In a motion made by Dave Szakelyhidi and seconded by Phyllis Metz, the Harmony Borough Council unanimously approved the Certificate of Appropriateness for 616 Wood Street.

550 Main Street – Sam Hopkins – Replace rear patio door with same style, wrap building in Tyvek to prevent current water infiltration while design for new building skin continues. (1 year max). Sam Hopkins commented that the water tightness of the building has failed and the whole building needs to be skinned over to protect the structure underneath. There are not many options as the bricks are 200 years old and nothing can be attached to it. He proposed a new building facade to HARB, he needs to research something that HARB will approve and the Borough will love. You can look straight through the house from the inside to the outside, the entire building needs to be wrapped in some type of weather proofing because interior renovations can't proceed because humidity is 85% and when it rains, it rains inside. Sam does not want it to take a year but to come up with a design and then to get contractors. Sam commented that the first stage is to encapsulate the back portion, the wooden portion while he waits for brick to show up because he didn't want to Tyvek and have to rip it off, place brick and then put the Tyvek back down. Joe Dippold made the motion to approve the Certificate of Appropriateness for 550 Main Street. Phyllis Metz seconded the motion. Frank Luek commented that in the Historic District the building needs to be maintained exterior as it is; there is no new skinning old buildings. Sam Hopkins commented that the bricks are wet inside, it is clear they failed. Frank Luek commented to repair the bricks and paint them. Sam Hopkins commented that the building system is max construction and it is not to be painted outside or inside that is what caused the brick to be destroyed. Sam commented that if you start pulling the brick out, it is 3 or 4 brick thick. If you pull out the street facing brick and then you have a pile of dust inside, right now the wall is falling down. There are two cracks on the south wall from the foundation to the roof that are straight through 3 courses of brick. There is a whole wall missing because it turned to dust. People have been fighting it, replacing bricks and put concrete in on the north wall. If someone can tell Sam how to replace clay bricks that aren't going to absorb water straight into the house, he'd love to see it. Sam has talked to many brick manufacturers, a company that restores Colonial Williamsburg, they said the bricks have been left from previous owners and abused and covered incorrectly and the house is starting to collapse. He doesn't want to pay the money to reskin it but we have to make a decision to let it fall down or save it. HARB said to Sam last year, I wish you'd buy this building to save it. There is no way to replace the bricks the way it is built; they are all interlocked together. Solicitor Matt suggested tabling this until next month and any Council person who would like to see these themselves, it is a lot to ask them to have it Tyvek for a year but it is cost prohibited for Sam. Jason Sarver added it would be an uneducated vote. Greg Such asked if Council had a problem with Tyveking the back. Joe Dippold amended his motion to approve the Certificate to replace rear patio door and Tyveking the back. Don Sims seconded the motion. The second part of the Certificate will be addressed next month. Sam Hopkins commented that he owns three Harmonist buildings that are covered, the Rope Maker's Shop, the Rapp House because of the brick and the Bottlebrush because of the brick. Frank Luek commented that it was prior to the Historic District. Sam stated that he was asked by HARB last year to buy the Neff

HARB Cont.:

550 Main Street Cont.:

House to save it because it was falling apart. The Borough abandoned the Neff House by raising the road in front of it, the Museum had the opportunity to buy the Neff House and save it and they didn't; and he stepped in and saved it and it's hard to hear people knocking on him when he's trying to do a good thing. Dave Szakelyhidi commented that Council would all like to work with Sam, and hopes he understands what HARB is charged with, they are charged with preserving and to help you make decisions. Dave suggested contacting the Department of Interior to get recommendations on what to do with it. Solicitor Matt Racunas commented that he didn't want to get too bogged down with this, it will be a discussion next month. Council wants Sam to know that they are behind him and praise him for the work he has done on his recent building. Matt represents a lot of communities; it is very rare to have someone like Sam who does such an investment in a small community like this. They want to work with you but at the same time they want to make sure that the things you are doing adhere to the overall vision of Harmony Borough to keep it historic. It was approved to replace the door and wrap the rear of the building, give Council a month to come and look at it and come back next month and figure it out. Sam Hopkins commented that if anyone knows of a way to go over 200 year old brick, please let him know because he's talked to everybody and they say to tear it down. Jason Sarver inquired if the goal is to reseal it. Sam Hopkins responded yes. Dave Szakelyhidi commented that the building now has air conditioning; it will help dry it out.

Cathy Rape thanked Sam Hopkins for livening up Mercer Street by painting the house red. Jason Sarver also commented that it looks good.

Water Authority Board:

Dave Szakelyhidi reported that we already covered the resignation of John Rice and appointment of Joe Dippold.

Parks Board:

Susie Altemus thanked Frank and the guys for helping the Parks Board with the grant, they did a tremendous job. They got the Canoe Launch done, the fall chips at Swampoodle Park, everything looks good. Still waiting for the park benches to come in and still trying to resolve the last piece of playground equipment. Susie talked to Lance, trying to get a small slide that would attach to an existing piece of equipment and that would finish up the grant for the Parks Board.

The Parks Board decided to cancel the August 13th concert because of the virus and the CDC guidelines. Susie thanked Joe from the Rodger Brothers and Armstrong for allowing the Parks Board to keep their donations for the concert and put it towards the Silvester. Susie reported that the Silvester will most likely be virtual, she is looking into it.

Frank Grannon reported the park benches are in, they need built. Susie stated that they want to take the existing park benches from the Borough building and Wood Street Park down to Swampoodle will need to discuss how to do that. Talked about cement underneath but may need to sit them in grass for now. Greg Such inquired if the guy from the County came down to look at the Canoe Launch. Susie responded not yet, will come in September, will also look at the Trail because of the run off on the hillside. Cathy Rape inquired if it is a spring or runoff from Murphy Tractor.

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Parks Board Cont.:

Susie responded that she thinks it is just from heavy rain that causes big ruts on the hillside. Cathy Rape inquired if the Parks Board mulch every year. Greg Such responded every other year. Cathy would like some mulch around the granite sign on Main Street, Susie commented that it not part of the Parks. Cathy commented that it wouldn't take much. Greg Such commented that they could accommodate that. Greg also commented that he's been walking the Trail and it seems pretty solid to him.

Library Board:

Kathy Luek reported that the Library is open, masks are required; a limited number of people at a time, all of the youth programs are online; they are doing what they can to keep active.

Planning Commission:

Frank Luek had nothing new to report.

WBCA:

Greg Such reported that the Wood Street issue bill is not in yet; the plan is to get the Gas Company to pay it; it was their workmanship that caused the issue.

Shared Services:

Frank Grannon had nothing to report. Cathy Rape inquired if limb pick-up was done for the year; she wanted to trim the trees in the triangle. Frank Grannon will bring his trailer down and will dispose of the limbs at his house.

Parking and Signage:

Greg Such had nothing to report.

Historic Harmony:

Kathy Luek reported that the antique gun show has been cancelled due to the limit of 25 people in the building at a time. There will be another raffle 'Grill and Chill', the prize is a \$500 gift certificate for Brittner's Meats, August 19th will be the last day to buy tickets; you can buy tickets on line or at the Museum. Harmony Museum is teaming up with Zelig's Historic Society for a family scavenger hunt, the Hunt for History. They pay a fee to get the book, do it on their own time then entered into a drawing for basket; the information is on the website.

Cathy Rape inquired if the Christmas Market is off the plate, Kathy Luek responded as it normally is, yes; but there could be small market outside, they are still working on it. Greg Such thanked Kathy Luek for her service.

HBA:

Greg Such reported that Sherry was not present.

Other Meetings:

Greg Such reported that there was a County Commissioners meeting last Friday most of the discussion was around Census; we are looking pretty good as far as Census response; we are at 89% the area above 422 not so good. Also discussed identifying losses due to COVID, these are actual expenses the Borough incurred, they sent a

Other Meetings Cont.:

spreadsheet for us to fill out, Greg will get together with Frank and Amy. There will be another one for non-profits and the fire department will have their own. The Storm Water Committee Project will hold a virtual meeting tomorrow between Zelienople, Harmony and Jackson to talk about projects. Cathy Rape inquired if we had two projects. Greg Such commented that Council agreed on those last month. Cathy commented reading the minutes she couldn't tell what was decided. Greg Such commented one area was the new development where it goes under the road and eventually under 79. Cathy commented that is Jackson Township and inquired if they are letting water down on the road that we will have to take care of? Greg Such commented that the line under the street is deteriorated and it floods the other side of 79. Don Sims commented that yes the water comes down off the new development comes into the storm system, it will induce a lot more water runoff and it will overwhelm our system and Frank Grannon pointed out that after it goes under 79 it overwhelms the road on the other side; it was determined that we will do a study. Cathy Rape commented that she doesn't understand why if there is water coming from a new development, do they not have retention pond? Don Sims responded yes they do. Cathy Rape inquired that we are still expected water to come down anyway. She doesn't understand and would like a better explanation other than let's fix Jackson Township's water run-off. Don Sims commented that he doesn't know who to answer that, water is coming in, it runs downhill and it comes into our Borough; we are trying to look at how to address it jointly. Cathy Rape inquired what the second project would be. Don Sims responded it is all tied into the Spring Street area, coming under 68, going to the Center of Harmony and exiting to the Connoquenessing Creek through a multitude of pipes and ditches. Greg Such commented the intent there is to look for a way to slow the water and catch it more in Swampoodle before it ends up coming down. Cathy Rape inquired if he was talking above First Street like a retention pond. Greg Such responded, on the back side of Moyer's most likely. Jason Sarver commented that it is coming from multiple points into that valley then we end up having to handle all of that water that is what this study is going to look into. Dave Szakelyhidi inquired if Penn Dot was going to be part of that study. There is no retention for the 79 corridor from the 1970s, is there a way to get Penn Dot to be a partner? Greg Such responded that one of the constraints was that it needs to be done in a timely manner, Penn Dot would not meet those criteria. Don Sims commented that it would not hurt to include Penn Dot; they are inducing a tremendous amount of water. Greg Such will bring it up in the discussion at tomorrow's meeting to include Penn Dot. Cathy Reap commented that the second project is a retention pond behind Moyer's or in that area, again this is Jackson Township's property, it's more of a project for them but if they would take control of trying to get that property and eminent domain it for something like that, it would be great. Greg Such commented that she's almost engineering the solution. The intent is to discuss how to stop the water flow from coming down and Jackson has asked for the meeting. Cathy Rape responded ok, she just wanted to be clear on the projects. Greg Such commented that his heart still rest on the Center of Harmony as well; we will see what the other communities have.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

None

BOROUGH STAFF REPORTS:

Police Report:

Chief Miller reported the written report will be emailed later this week; Emile had been off since last Thursday. They had some complaints about large crowds at CVE for ball, the Police talked to the school district. They received some information from the Governor's office regarding mask laws; try to follow the best we can. Greg Such inquired about the Southwest Pennsylvania Commission, Chief Miller commented their formal report should be coming in September or early fall. Zelig voted to go with Harmony, Don (Pepe) and Chief Miller will try to get a hold of Penn Dot to request them to do the study to lower the speed limits. Chief doesn't look for anything to happen until early fall or maybe next year.

Joe Dippold thanked Chief Miller for the extra patrols. Chief Miller commented that they've been down at the boat launch a few times and have asked people and the ones they talked to said they have more problems with the Fed Ex trucks and Amazon trucks than the boaters. They had good conversation with the residents; they will still keep an eye on it. Jason Sarver responded that any of the residents along Jackson Street near where the hump is, they are up in arms about it. Chief Miller stated that sometimes people are afraid to tell them anything. Jason Sarver responded that he didn't mind relaying it. Greg Such inquired if the Borough could paint the hump yellow. Chief Miller responded that the Borough could paint it, it wouldn't hurt anything; it might slow people down. In a motion made by Joe Dippold and seconded by Jason Sarver, the Harmony Borough Council unanimously approved to paint the hump yellow.

Office:

Amy Brown had nothing new to report.

Borough Director of Operations:

Frank Grannon reported that Mark Sapienza has the truck bed and is undercoating it. Frank and the guys took the old bed off and undercoated the frame. Mark is ready to install the bed; Frank will drop the truck off tomorrow. Jason Sarver inquired if Mark led us to the bed, Frank responded yes he did. Frank reported that they got the limestone spread at the Canoe Launch, and just general maintenance throughout the Borough.

Zoning and Codes:

Allen Bayer report submitted.

Greg Such reported that Allen could not attend tonight's meeting. Greg reported that the resident on Jackson Street who was going to build an addition in the floodplain is not going to due to the elevation and the floor height not matching up, he is going to do a patio instead. In order to do that they need a letter from an Engineer stating that it will not cause any more flood issues.

COMMITTEE and OTHER BUSINESS:

Public Safety:

Phyllis Metz reported on the Event Form for a block party on Peffer Street, August 29 from 3:00 – 10:00pm. They did not say if they want the street closed, Phyllis will call them.

In a motion made by Jason Sarver and seconded by Joe Dippold, the Harmony Borough Council unanimously approved the Event Form for the Peffer Street block party contingent on hearing if they want the street closed. Joe Dippold inquired why the contingency. Greg Such responded to have the form completed, we won't deny it but we need to know what they want. Phyllis Met also reported that Brian Mendoza would like to have a food truck at the Methodist Church in September or October; he will submit an Event Form. Phyllis also reported that the grant for records she was looking into will not apply for what we need, it is for digitizing records.

Greg Such reported that the Fire District requested a millage increase of 1.5 mills to help build the new fire station. Jason Sarver inquired if it comes out to about \$2/month. Greg Such commented that the downside is that the high priced side of town ends up paying more than the Historic District. Don Sims commented that he did the math, the cost is not equitable. Don inquired if Zelig, Lancaster or Jackson agreed to the overall 3 mills. Dave Szakelyhidi commented that he thought Zelig would go back to 3 mills. Dave commented that he thinks the borough should increase taxes 1.5 mills for the borough as well. Dave inquired if Joe Dippold was able to look at the amount it would generate vs what it would be to pay back, if we took the infrastructure loan for .56%. Solicitor Matt commented that none of this would be implemented until January when you pass the budget and set the millages and tax rate. Don Sims commented that he is not in favor of it but suggested putting the 3 mill increase (1.5 mill increase for the Fire District and the 1.5 mill increase for the Borough) on the ballot as a referendum in November.

Solicitor Matt responded that he does not know if the Elections Department would do a non-binding referendum, there are certain issues that have to go to referendum and there are others that you can ask for a non-binding; Matt is not sure if a millage increase and a fire tax increase if the Elections Department would support that but it would be worth a call to them to see. Don Sims commented that he would like to request that and inquired if Council would entertain that. Dave Szakelyhidi commented that he would support it; Joe Dippold commented that he was against it because it feels it is more important to go in with every other community than to be held to a referendum. Dave Szakelyhidi commented that Joe is referring to the Fire Tax, Dave is referring to the combination; he is not opposed to letting the public have their say. Greg Such commented that the 1.5 increase would be about \$11,107. Joe Dippold commented that it would cover a payment on a .56% annual rate for \$100,000.00 over a 10 year period. Don Sims commented that he would be the most penalized from Council and it would cost him about \$100 more per year for the 3 mill increase. He is not the highest in the borough, added it is not equitable to ask people in the community to pay more constantly. Greg Such commented that he wasn't sure how that could be fixed. Don Sims suggested taking the \$11,000 that we currently pay and add the \$11,000 for the fire department and divide it up between those you send tax bills to and make it equitable for everybody. Jason Sarver

Public Safety Cont.:

commented fair tax. Don Sims stated it would be a flat tax, it would be more equitable; everybody would pay the same amount. Dave Szakelyhidi commented that it would be more like a per capita tax. Jason Sarver commented that we need to consider there are quite a few that are minimal fixed income, elderly. Joe Dippold inquired if we went with the per capita tax if we would need to go with the other municipalities. Don responded no, it's whatever Council agrees to doing. If Council agrees to do the 1.5, we already know the numbers. If the other communities decide to go with 2.5 mills instead of 3 we can take that and break it across as a per capita. Greg Such will get information from Jackson tomorrow. Don will reach out to the Election Bureau regarding the referendum. Greg Such will send Council Butler County Townships' and Boroughs' current millage rates for school, local, county and the total with the exception of the fire tax. Cathy Rape commented that the Community booklet they send out every year they put the millage in it for every community.

Cathy Rape reported that she sent an email out before she knew Zelianople and whoever else was involved with the speed limit change on July 8th to Penn Dot about getting the speed limit lowered. She met with two Penn Dot guys, they drove Grandview Avenue from Main Street to the Jackson line and explained how she thought that Grandview was part of our main street, it is part of our town on both sides of Grandview and when we hit Zelianople at Division Street it is still 35 mph and it is residential on both sides of the street with business and it really should be 25 mph from Zelianople Main Street to the Jackson Township line across from Riggins'. They got her point and said they would take it to the top; that there would be another study going on, she assumes it is what Chief Miller was talking about. Cathy also pointed out the two crosswalks at Oliver Avenue & Division Street; and Pittsburgh Street. Cathy commented that it is a terrible hazard coming from Jackson Township towards Zelianople and you come up passed Riggins' and there's 3 or 4 cars stopped because pedestrians are crossing the street; people are going 45-50 mph there and need to slam on their brakes. Hopefully they got her message and will get passed on to higher ups. Chief Miller commented that SW Commission is concerned with the speed on Rt 68 all through Harmony, Zelianople and Jackson; last month Harmony Council voted to request a study and so did Zelig, we will proceed with that. Any speed signs under 35 the Borough or Township has to handle that. Penn Dot will look at it; we just need to get the paperwork in. They're also going to look at Rt 19 from Sitting Bull Drive through Zelig up to Perry Way; Rt 68 all the way through from Jackson into Zelig all the way to Beaver County. Cathy Rape commented that she thought it was great that they contacted her and she rode in the truck with them and pointed out all hazard areas. Sam Hopkins commented that he and Frank (Grannon) met with Penn Dot last spring or summer about the crosswalk on Pittsburgh Street, they were leery of re-testing that area because it would probably result in the speed limit being raised to 45 mph. They take 85% of the speed everyone is going. Chief Miller commented that the study from the Southwestern Commission indicates there is a problem and he was on the line with the Penn Dot officials and are aware of it, hopefully it will carry some weight with it.

Business Development:

Cathy Rape thanked Sue Franz for watering, she takes four days per week and Kristin Stumm and her family members take a day, Cathy also thanked the Rodgers Brothers and the Lagerhaus Bakery for all the water.

Greg Such reported that the Butler County Beautification Assistance, the juvenile officer would like to come into Harmony on August 17th for four hours with 4-5 kids to do some cleanup work, the curbs, the weeds along the curbs and weeding by the stone monument. Jason Sarver commented that Drew (Andrew Orient) was pulling weeds along Mercer Street by the Inn towards the intersection; he did a really nice job. Phyllis Metz commented if there are 4 or 5 for four hours they should be able to get Mercer and Main Street done. Greg Such commented that is what they are hoping to do, the Square is done. He does have one concern, it is the virus related concern; he does not want Frank around them because he doesn't want any accidents with the water operators. Greg will help with some supervision, he will lend his weed whacker and hand tools. Rodger Brothers have volunteered the picnic table they have in their parking area as a gathering spot. Cathy Rape inquired about the restrooms. Greg Such commented that he was thinking about the borough building, leaving the back door unlocked and having Amy lock herself in. Cathy Rape commented not to stop at the bridge; the weeds are just as high as the sidewalk going out passed the barn to the Trail. Greg Such commented he is a little leery of that because of safety reasons. There was consensus to move forward on that.

Personnel:

Jason Sarver had nothing new to report.

Finance:

Joe Dippold had nothing new to report.

Streets:

Frank Grannon reported we received five bids for the paving project, paving Spring Street from Mercer Street to the Railroad and then the Railroad to German Street. Voelker Paving was low bid at \$13,513.50 and Shields Paving was high bid at \$25,025. In a motion made by Don Sims and seconded by Joe Dippold, the Harmony Borough Council unanimously approved to accept Voelker Paving's bid of \$13,513.50. Frank Grannon thanked Amy for getting the ad in the paper in a timely manner. Don Sims thanked Frank for getting five bids.

Facilities:

Dave Szakelyhidi stated the borough building is in good shape now, last year we had some spalling brick around the bottom where we throw the salt, it took all summer to do the brick work. Dave inquired if using calcium would be better. Dave also would like to ensure we continue on the street light replacement, we were to do some much per year when the tax money came in.

Grants:

Greg Such had nothing new to report.

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Training & Conferences & Correspondence:

See 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 \$ **17,853.56**

Bills Already Paid in the amount of \$ **6,021.61** (\$5,658.29 after HBWA reimburse)

Fire Tax Bills Payable in the amount of \$ **252.81**

Parks Board Bills Payable in the amount of \$ **131.00**

Payroll in the amount of \$ **6,427.63**

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

Adjourned: 8:55pm

As there was no further business to discuss, the Harmony Borough Council adjourned the August 4, 2020 Zoom virtual meeting at 8:55pm.

Respectfully Submitted,



Amy Brown, Recording Secretary

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

July 2020

1. Stopped by the office periodically to pick up mail, complete Building Permits and sign violations notices.
2. Filing and administrative work.
3. Completed June monthly Activity Report and Time Report.
4. Attended July HARB meeting.
5. Followed up with phone calls to Jeff Byko regarding the need for HARB approval for new gutters and down spouts and to Pat Murray for HARB approval of business signs at 317 Main St.
6. Attended July Council meeting.
7. I spoke with Laura McClean, Massage & Wellness on German St., regarding HARB approval of signage.
8. Performed vegetation inspection at 421 Highland Ave.
9. Received a call from Don Patterson, 783 Spring St., regarding a water main break across from his house. I informed Dave Szakelyhidi of the break.
10. Completed a building permit for sidewalk replacement at 550 Main St. due to water line replacement.
11. Worked with Scott Kelsey, Signs of Excellence, regarding a building permit for front wall of Fox's Pizza.
12. Performed one trash inspection per complaint received.
13. Spoke with Brandon Mencoza, HZMC, regarding their having a fall event with food trucks and if a permit would be needed. Parking of the food trucks would be on Pittsburgh St. I advised Brandon to contact Chief Miller regarding the parking on Pittsburgh St.
14. Performed one trash can inspection per received complaint.

15. Spoke with Nick at 121 Jackson St. As a result of the floodway requirements the floor level on the rear addition of his house would need to be 4' above the current floor level which would be unacceptable, therefore Nick will not proceed with the addition. Instead Nick is proposing to lay a patio in the 14' x 36' area of the foundation he had previously installed for the addition. I told Nick that I would review the FEMA ordinance accordingly and get back to him with any requirements he would need to adhere to.
16. I reviewed the flood plain ordinance #426 to identify requirements for the patio at 121 Jackson St.
17. I spoke with Nick, 121 Jackson St., and explained to him that he would need to provide a letter from an Engineer stating that the patio concrete would not raise the Base Flood Elevation, BFE, or stating a permeable material that would be used to prevent an increase in the BFE along with a building permit. He said that he will do so.
18. Inspected house at 259 Mercer St. to insure that painting had been HARB approved.
19. Completed building permit for 2nd floor addition at 221 Bluff St. and a building permit for front porch roof at 206 S. Pittsburgh St. Dropped building permits off at the office.
20. Spoke with Pat Kipin regarding have a going out of business sidewalk sale for 2 weekends.
21. Spoke with Clyde Bennett, 109 Park Way, regarding which zoning district the property is in, what is allowable or not and the required setbacks.
22. Completed July Time and Activity Reports.

Respectfully submitted,

Allen E. Bayer