

April 5, 2022

HARMONY BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING April 5, 2022

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT:

Greg Such

Phyllis Metz

Frank Luek

Dave Szakelyhidi

Joe Dippold

Don Sims

Jason Sarver

Mayor Cathy Rape

OTHERS PRESENT:

Susie Altemus

Allen Bayer

Emily Budney

Rodney Gasch

Frank Grannon

Nick Hewlett

Sam Hopkins - virtually

Josh Meeder - virtually

Chief Miller

Matt Racunas, Solicitor - virtually

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CALL TO ORDER:

Council President Greg Such called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm. This meeting was held in-person and remotely through Zoom virtual meeting.

PLEDGE OF ALLIGANCE:

MINUTES:

In a motion made by Don Sims and seconded by Phyllis Metz and Joe Dippold, the Harmony Borough Council unanimously approved the March 1, 2022 Council meeting minutes.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT:

Solicitor Matt Racunas reported that the LGUDA documents for the RACP loan, the Debt Ordinance, has been advertised. Matt stated that it is ready for adoption and will need a post-advertisement after the adoption.

In a motion made by Joe Dippold and seconded by Jason Sarver, the Harmony Borough Council unanimously approved to adopt the Debt Ordinance and advertise the Debt Ordinance post adoption.

The amended Storm Water Management Ordinance has been advertised and is ready for adoption.

In a motion made by Dave Szakelyhidi and seconded by Jason Sarver, the Harmony Borough Council unanimously approved the adoption of the amended Storm Water Management Ordinance.

Solicitor Matt reported that there is a Status Conference for the resident who filed the appeal to a Right-to-Know request regarding the WBCA-Lancaster meeting, he was not satisfied with what was sent and has filed an appeal in the Court of Common Pleas.

INVITED GUESTS:

Emily Budney from CVE PTO presented a fundraiser for the PTO, Macopoly, similar to the Zelicopoly. Emily is asking Harmony businesses to donation \$200 to have a spot on the board game. There will be 500 boards, available in October. Mayor Rape inquired what the profit would be for the PTO. Emily responded that some games will be sold at wholesale for \$25 and some at retail for \$40; the profit is estimated to be between \$18,000 and \$20,000.

In a motion made by Don Sims and seconded by Dave Szakelyhidi, the Harmony Borough Council unanimously approved the \$200 donation for a block on the Macopoly CVE PTO Fundraiser Board Game.

BOARD REPORTS/APPOINTMENTS:

Appointments:

Greg Such reported there are no appointments.

Council of Governments (COG):

Phyllis Metz reported the next meeting will be April 26 at 3:00pm at the Butler Township building.

HARB:

Dave Szakelyhidi reported that there are three Certificate of Appropriateness that HARB approved and recommends to Council.

519 Main Street – Pat Murray – Paint the front doors, Benjamin Moore Indigogo Blue, replace in-kind broken windows one in front, 1 on side, and one in rear. New a/c condenser installed right side at rear, conduits to be ivory color.

In a motion made by Dave Szakelyhidi and seconded by Frank Luek, the Harmony Borough Council unanimously approved the Certificate of Appropriateness for 519 Main Street.

532 Main Street – Matt Foreman – Replace shingles in-kind.

In a motion made by Dave Szakelyhidi and seconded by Frank Luek, the Harmony Borough Council unanimously approved the Certificate of Appropriateness for 532 Main Street.

523 Main Street – Delsa White – Re-paint first floor windows white.

In a motion made by Dave Szakelyhidi and seconded by Frank Luek, the Harmony Borough Council unanimously approved the Certificate of Appropriateness for 523 Main Street.

Water Authority Board:

Dave Szakelyhidi reported that the Water Authority would like to hire a new manager and this will be discussed in executive session.

Parks Board:

Susie Altemus reported that the Reno Grant was not awarded to the Parks Board. Summer Concerts have been scheduled and they are as follows:

June 30 – Allegheny Brass Band

July 14 – John Burgh Band

July 28 – Good Guys Duo

August 11 - This, That, & The Other Thing

The fireworks that we typically have after the first concert will be 40% less fireworks for the \$3,000 cost; to have the same number of fireworks the cost will increase \$1,200. The Borough pays for half of the cost of fireworks and the Parks Board pays the other half (\$1,500.00 each). Susie asked if Council would consider paying the additional cost to keep the number of fireworks the same as previous years.

In a motion made by Dave Szakelyhidi and seconded by Don Sims, the Harmony Borough Council unanimously approved to pay the additional \$1,200 for the fireworks.

There will be a clean up day at Wood Street Park on April 12th, Volunteers from Glade Run will be helping.

A port-o-john will be set up at the Canoe Launch from May 1st through October. Susie also reported that Jackson Township expanded the Walking Trail to Wise Road, they widened the foot path behind Murphy Tractor. The trail will eventually connect over to the soccer fields. Jackson Township will help with the drainage on the hillside with a French mattress. Frank Luek commented that it's a ditch with a big rock in it with a screen overtop of it. Susie commented that they put some of those cages on the top of the hillside of the creek. Frank Luek and Susie reported

Parks Board Cont.:

there is a trail from Tollgate to the Park 'n Ride. Susie commented that they are starting to tar and chip some of the trails, maybe they would do the hillside. Greg Such reported that Chris Rearick requested a letter of support from the Borough for a DCNR Grant that Jackson Township is applying for. It is to build restrooms and a concession stand at the Reservoir Park.

In a motion made by Don Sims and seconded by Dave Szakelyhidi, the Harmony Borough Council unanimously approved sending a letter of support to Jackson Township for their DCNR Grant.

Library Board:

Frank Luek reported that April 9th is Comedy Night at the Steamfitters as a fundraiser for the Library, tickets are \$50. June 16th is An Evening with Author James Patterson at 7:00pm at the Steamfitters, tickets are \$35.

Planning Commission:

Frank Luek had nothing new to report.

WBCA:

Greg Such reported that Lancaster Township approved the Pump Station Plans, there is one community left on the Harmony Pump Station. Dave Szakelyhidi reported at the Steering Committee they inquired how to pay for the Pump Station and were given different scenarios; no additional tap-fees, historical tap-fees, and a 3% inflation yearly. Cathy Rape commented that there were some questions about HRG being the engineering company. Some municipalities thought that was maybe exploding the prices. Larson Engineering was questioning everything that HRG was doing throughout the process and made recommendations, collaborated and chose different options or kept what HRG said. Cath said she was satisfied with it is the least amount of money that could be spent; they did put a lot of contingencies in it that may not be spent. The bid process will probably be in 2024 and start to be constructed in 2025. Two engineering companies looked at every aspect of it, Dave Szakelyhidi went to Altoona to look at a similar plant; Cath doesn't think they, as part of the steering committee, can do much more. Greg Such commented that due diligence has been done. Don Sims inquired if the plan for construction would be in phases. Dave Szakelyhidi replied that it would be in two phases. Cath Rape commented that they have to do it in a couple phases because a couple of the tanks used now will be used for something else later. They need to build something and get it online and then redo this and get that online. Dave Szakelyhidi commented that they have to impound some of the water from the site and slowly release it after a heavy rain. They have a very small footprint they are going to be using and they are already in the floodplain. They do not have a plan yet what they will do with their stormwater runoff. Cathy Rape commented that they are talking about using roof tops as rain gardens. Jason Sarver thanked Dave and Cath for attending all the meetings.

Shared Services:

Frank Grannon reported that limb pick-up will begin May 5 and will be the first Thursday of the month with the last day being September 1, 2022. Greg Such

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Shared Services Cont.:

commented that it is not a tree service. Jason Sarver inquired on the size of the limb; Frank Grannon responded no bigger than 3" diameter. Amy will post it to the Borough's website, Jason will post it on social media.

Parking and Signage:

Greg Such had nothing new to report.

Historic Harmony:

Rodney Gasch reported that the House and Garden Tour will be June 11th, with 10 houses to tour. Tickets are 25 for the tour, \$30 for the tour plus a box lunch in Stewart Hall. Butler County History Day on May 7th between 10am – 3pm, Harmony Museum is participating with a bake-oven demo and a tour of the Wine Cellar. Washington's Trail 1753 is also sponsoring author Jason Cherry in Stewart Hall to discuss and sign his books on George Washington and the French and Indian War. Going on now is the special exhibit in Stewart Hall filled with fascinating artifacts that tell the story of Western PA 1753 to 1814 – George Washington to Commodore Perry. The exhibit is open 12-4 Tuesday through Sunday.

HBA:

Cathy Rape reported the HBA meeting will be this Thursday at Wunderbar. Cath asked Sherry if they could change the meeting date to the Thursday before the Council meetings, she hasn't heard anything back.

Other Meetings:

Stormwater Management Meeting - Greg Such reported that the next Stormwater Management meeting is 4/11 at Jackson Township with speakers that Jerry Andrea has arranged to come in, public is invited to this meeting. Cathy Rape commented that since the Borough has been fighting a housing plan across the creek since 2004, the allowable 1-foot increase in depth of flooding could significantly add to the flood damages to upstream property. The community may wish to adopt a more restrictive floodplain, surcharge less than 1-foot to prevent this increase in damages. When we and other communities had the chance to adopt something more restrictive, she doesn't think anybody did; we went to 3" less. This information has been out there a long time and we have been fighting people building in the floodplain and no agency sticks up for the town that's getting flooded.

County Commissioners' Meeting - Phyllis Metz reported there was a Commissioners' Communication Meeting, the County Commissioners attended a meeting in Harrisburg and discussed farmland conservation, and economic and transportation development. They also discussed running public meetings, the Sunshine Law and the Right-to-Know Act and the way harassment issues are being used. They discussed the opioid crises, spearheading the flow of the FDA monies coming and how to use the funds. If there are any ideas on how to use the monies to notify the commissioners. The Covid cases have dropped between 5-0 for patients being hospitalized and continues to encourage vaccinations. Two Master Gardeners with the Penn State Extension are holding two events, "Seed to Supper" in April and "Flower and Food Festival" in May at Alameda Park. Master Gardener, Glen Bupp will visit sites free of charge, public or private to help you out. There is another

County Commissioners Meeting Cont.:

program “2+2 Management” either virtual or in-person for large groups for Farmers to keep up with the latest developments. At the next meeting the bridge Engineer is going to discuss the state of the bridges in Butler County.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Rick Schneider – Edward Jones – Pension Specialist. Rick commented that the Borough’s pension is good but he can make it great, 15% savings, serviced locally. Greg Such inquired if they could do defined contribution and defined benefits. Rick Schneider responded, absolutely. Greg Such will get the RFP to Rick Schneider.

Susie Altemus – Susie inquired on the Amber Alert regarding a fugitive on their street. Chief Miller commented that there was not a fugitive on Seneca Drive, they do not issue an Amber Alert for that.

Josh Meeder – Josh inquired if there is a Zoom link for the Storm water management public meeting. Josh also followed up on the proposal made at the March 1st meeting regarding the stormwater drain from Mercer Street to the Creek. Greg Such commented that Tom Thompson is to talk to Sam to see his concerns, there isn’t a timeframe yet.

BOROUGH STAFF REPORTS:

Police Report:

Report submitted via email.

Office:

Amy Brown had nothing new to report.

Borough Director of Operations:

Frank Grannon reported that he ordered a load of salt. Frank talked to Marilyn Weyman regarding the ice on sidewalk and flooding in back yard, it is a private issue. Frank reported that the cost of disposing the old files was \$224.00 at Seneca Landfill. Phyllis (Metz) did a good job! Phyllis Metz commented that there are 11 boxes of files that need shredded; she will check with Waste Management, Cath Rape also suggested checking with Vogel. Nick Hewlett recommended that it be a certified DOD or remove the hard drive. Greg Such commented to let him know, he can remove the hard drives. Frank Grannon reported that the storage building garage door is up. The new light order is to be shipped April 8th. Frank spoke to Mark Sapienza regarding the wiring for the new light, Mark doesn’t want the Borough to pay for it, he’ll do it himself. He got 1 light up on the hill, he had to modify the light/bolts.

Street sweeping is May 11th. Voelker will be in April 11th or 12th to patch potholes with hot mix, weather permitting.

Zoning and Codes:

Allen Bayer report submitted via email.

Engineer Report:

Tom Thompson was unable to attend the meeting.

Public Safety:

Phyllis Metz reported that she has received the Certificate of Insurance for the Wine Walk on June 4th, the Event requests the closure of the Square. Police Service is also requested, 2 police officers and the constable for traffic management adding that the constable wants paid. Chief Miller commented that the Library takes on liability for the constable. Solicitor Matt commented that closing the streets does not open the Borough up for any liability. Jason Sarver inquired if the Borough was following the correct protocol to close the streets, Chief Miller responded yes.

In a motion made by Dave Szakelyhidi and seconded by Don Sims, the Harmony Borough Council unanimously approved the Library's Wine Walk.

Phyllis Metz reported that the Seneca Valley Athletic Association would like to have a parade April 23 from the Park to the ballfield, approximately 30 minutes at the beginning of the baseball tournament.

In a motion made by Don Sims and seconded by Dave Szakelyhidi, the Harmony Borough Council approved the parade.

Phyllis Metz also reported CVE PTO will have a Fun Run on Saturday, May 7th. No street closures, it will be on the sidewalks from 9:00-10:00am; approximately 125 people.

In a motion made by Dave Szakelyhidi and seconded by Frank Luek, the Harmony Borough Council unanimously approved the CVE PTO Fun Run.

Business Development:

Cathy Rape had nothing new to report.

Personnel:

Jason Sarver reported that they will hold a Committee meeting soon, and that an executive session is needed.

Finance:

Joe Dippold reported that the auditor's comments improved (from the changes we've made). Greg Such reported that the Liquid Fuels check came in. Frank Luek inquired if Amy received tax information from Butler County Tax Collection; Amy responded not yet.

Streets:

Don Sims reported that they will be paving this year, where will be determined by which roads need addressed. Frank Luek suggested Main Street from the Square to the Creek. Don Sims commented that the drains keep failing and he would like to address that before putting money into a road. Greg Such commented Main Street to Rt. 68. Nick Hewlett commented that the Water Authority is looking to replace lines at Edmond and Second Street. Frank Grannon commented that they usually pave a year after the repair to let it settle. Dave Szakelyhidi commented that the Water Authority would piggyback to pave the driveway at the water plant.

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Facilities:

Phyllis Metz reported that she raised \$3,000 for the Christmas decorations, she ordered the garland for the bridges and a deposit of half the cost was sent. The light poles will be next. Greg Such thanked Phyllis.

Grants:

Greg Such reported that Jackson Township requested a letter of support for the third phase of the park project at Reservoir Park. Council was in agreement to send the letter.

Training & Conferences & Correspondence:

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 \$ **14,146.98**

Payroll in the amount of \$ **7,194.43**

General Bills Already Paid in the amount of \$ **6,628.90**

Fire Tax Bills Payable in the amount of \$ **3,846.99**

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

Greg Such called for an executive session at 8:09pm to discuss personnel. Out of executive session at 8:48pm.

In a motion made by Jason Sarver and seconded by Phyllis Metz, the Harmony Borough Council unanimously approved to extend the offer of employment to Faith Wydra,

Adjourned: 8:50pm

As there was no further business to discuss, the Harmony Borough Council adjourned the April 5, 2022 In-person and Zoom virtual meeting at 8:50pm.

Respectfully Submitted,



Amy Brown, Recording Secretary

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

March 2022

1. Stopped by the office periodically to pick up mail, complete Building Permits and sign violations notices.
2. Filing and administrative work.
3. Attended March Council meeting.
4. Spoke with Kevin Dietrich living on Pittsburgh St. wanting to know if a building permit was required for his kitchen renovation. He is removing a load bearing wall which does require building permits.
5. Performed 2 violation inspections, sidewalk at First and Spring Sts. and abandoned vehicles at Tod Diminno's property. Neither violation has been corrected.
6. Spoke with Toni Urban with Ryan Electric regarding electrical inspection at SV high school. I referred Toni to Jackson Twp.
7. Prepared for 3/7/22 meeting with Jodi Correll to review construction, demolition, POD, and roll-off dumpster building permits.
8. Met with Jodi Correll and her husband to review the 5 required building permits for the demolition and reconstruction of the room on the rear of their house.
9. Prepared documents for Matt for court hearing for sidewalk violation at First and Spring Sts.
10. Completed preparation of documents for First and Spring Sts. sidewalk violation hearing. Inspected the violation and it has not been corrected.
11. Tod Diminno called today to advise me that he has cleaned out and removed the abandoned vehicle from his front yard and was now working on the vehicle in his rear yard and to please not sick the dogs on him. He

- said that he is working hard to clean up his property and to find a way to keep the water flowing without the grate filling up with debris stopping the water flow.
12. Spoke with Oxford Realty regarding their selling the Zylem building on Division St. and related R1 zoning.
 13. Picked up and processed a building permit for a garage reconstruction at 156 N. Charles St.
 14. Inspected sidewalk violation at the corner of First and Spring St. before hearing tomorrow. Violation has not been corrected.
 15. Attended a free webinar, Flooding 101, given by the PA Silver Jackets Team of the National Weather Service at State College in conjunction with the US Army Corp of Engineers, FEMA and PEMA. This week is Flood Safety Awareness Week in PA.
 16. Attended a hearing at the District Magistrate in Evans City with Matt Racunas pertaining to the sidewalk violation at the corner of First and Spring Sts owned by Zachary Shumaker. His defense was that he did not fix the sidewalk because the borough water coming into his building used for brewing beer was brown. The District Magistrate will render a decision within five days.
 17. Dropped off the building permit for the garage at 156 N. Charles St.
 18. Received notification from Matt that we received a judgment in the amount of \$473.25 against Shu Brew.
 19. I prepared March Time and Activity Reports.

Respectfully submitted,

Allen E. Bayer