

COOPERSBURG BOROUGH COUNCIL

Regular Meeting Minutes

May 21, 2024

The meeting of the Coopersburg Borough Council was held in Borough Hall on Tuesday, May 21st & was called to order by Council President Dowdle at 7:00 p.m.

OPENING CEREMONIES – The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

All present were Mayor Hovis, Council Members Dietz, Dowdle, Ellenberger, Norman, Poot, Ritter, Yeager, Manager Paashaus, Solicitor Gross McGinley, McCarthy Engineering, Jr. Council Bealer. The Police Chief was absent.

AGENDA

A Motion was made by Poot & seconded by Dietz to approve the Agenda as written. **The Agenda was adopted by a vote of 7-0.**

PUBLIC COMMENT

Craig Thatcher, 134 Young Ave., requested that Dog Leash signs be added to the Liberty Trolley Trail. There was an incident with a unleashed dog chasing his daughter & other concerns.

Denise Landis, 304 S 9th St., requested an update on the concerns about the illegal lot clearing behind her house, owned by 314 S 9th Street. The Manager gave a summary of the Lehigh County Conservation District inspection & explained that LCCD will be issuing a violation notice & enforcement. The details of that enforcement are yet to be determined, but the owner must comply &/or face penalties for destruction of wetlands.

Rudy Gross, 344 S 9th St., requested an update on the concern about stone being placed on his property along the stream by the Liberty Trolley Trail. There was agreement to remove the stone beyond the retaining wall.

CONSENT AGENDA

A Motion was made by Dietz & seconded by Poot to receive the Monthly Reports (Financial Statements, Council Information Report, Police Report, Engineer Report), & approve the previous meeting Minutes from April 16, 2024. **The Consent Agenda was approved by a vote of 7-0.**

ACTION ITEMS

1. A Motion was made by Poot & seconded by Norman to approve the Resolution appreciating Benjamin Bealer for his service as Junior Council Person. President Dowdle read the Resolution aloud. **Resolution 2024-10 passed by a vote of 7-0.**

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

1. Infrastructure – Council Member Dietz gave the following updates:
 - 9th Street Wetland/Tree Issue – LCCD will take actions for enforcement.
 - Ashford Reserve – Construction & site preparation has started, & blasting may occur as needed. DEP is the permitting authority.
 - Oxford Ridge – LCCD has expressed that the deadline to submit a modification has passed & may begin enforcement. The developers are not in agreement with the correction.
 - Stone Harvest – The Notice of Termination is still pending.
 - MSK – Plans are recorded. Contractor may begin work.
 - MS4 – Public Works staff is continuing to work on MS4 procedures, education, & projects.
 - Oil & Chip – Oil & Chip of S 9th Street & Young Avenue is scheduled for August of 2024.
 - Water Authority – Less than 7 meters remain to be replaced, & they will be rehabbing the pump station at Tilghman & Locust Street.
 - Coopersburg Diner – The 2nd NOV was sent for grease & pretreatment concerns. The owner installed a secondary grease trap & increased the frequency of cleaning. Upper Saucon cleaned the manhole & inspected. It appears to be working but will be inspected weekly.
 - Comprehensive Plan – 3rd meeting occurred, & the plan is continuing to be updated.
2. Public Safety – Mayor Hovis invited all of Council to the re-opening of the Coopersburg Farmers Market on June 2nd. Ellenberger stated that he planned on having an information tent at the opening.
3. Administration & Finance – Council Member Poot stated that there was an update to the financial reports. The update is to identify any concerns quickly & easily. Additionally, Poot stated that he attended the General Assembly of Lehigh County & gave some information about the meeting.

REPORTS OF PROFESSIONAL ADVISORS

1. Solicitor: Attorney Ulrich stated that the RE transfer of St. John's was scheduled for Thursday, May 23rd.

2. Engineer: Engineer Perelli stated that Ashford Preserve was continuing site improvement, & that he will now be the engineering representative after Craig Bonenberger retired.
3. Borough Manager: Manager Paashaus stated that the Coopersburg 5k was scheduled for this Saturday.
4. Jr. Council Member: No additional report.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS –

1. Oxford Ridge remains.
2. Non-smoking Ordinance Draft remains.
3. DROP Ordinance remains.

NEW BUSINESS – None.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

- Council entered Executive Session at 7:28PM for a pending litigation.
- Council returned to Normal Session at 7:57PM. No Action was taken.

ADJOURNMENT

A Motion was made by Norman & seconded by Dietz to adjourn the meeting. The Meeting ended at 7:58PM.