

Lanesboro Council Meeting - February 6, 2007

Absent - Mayor Chris Maby, Councilman Stan Rockwell

Motion to accept minutes of previous meeting - unanimous.

Visitors: Cora Cameron, Roland Salamon, Dale Rockwell, Paul Corse, Tim Tompkins, Will Potter, Linda Barnes, Andrez Tomczyk, Dennis Marten, Frank Schmidt.

Many of the visitors attended the meeting to voice their questions and objections to the new boro building. It turned into a very heated discussion with every one talking at once and no one listening to any answers given. Questions asked - Why a new building? - Why on the property donated (flooding concern), What other options have been explored? Council President, Dan Boughton stated that there would be a community meeting to discuss the condition of the present Boro Hall, the need for a new building, and the plans that have been proposed. A notice will be sent to all Boro residents to the date and time of the meeting. It was also a concern as to the increase in the garbage and sewer rates. It was stated that the rates have not been raised in 12 years and with the increase in fuel, truck repairs, insurance and landfill fees it was a necessary raise. It was stated by on councilman that the only reason for the increase was due to the new building.

Correspondence and resolutions:

Kid Safe Night @ Blue Ridge School - to be held March 8, 2007 at the Blue Ridge High School. Topics included internet safety, abduction prevention, child identification, child abuse, spousal abuse, gun safety, weapons laws, child & teen sex offenses, fire & emergency information, drugs & underage drinking, etc. All Susquehanna County residents are invited.

Reports:

Mayor:

1. Attending a mandatory FREMA flood plain management hosted by DCED in Montrose tonight will provide update at the next council meeting, or earlier if something requires immediate attention.
2. High diamond plate sides on the snowplow box have been removed, as they were hampering the loading of the truck. The truck was used a total of 12 times in January for cindering. Maby has developed a policy and procedures memorandum that must be read and signed by everyone who used DPW equipment. Paid borough employees currently consist of Gary Boughton

covering snow plowing and cindering Monday AM through Thursday noon, and Jim Maby covering Thursday noon through Sunday night.

3. Salt contract had to be mailed in for 2007-2008 winter season. Maby checked with Oakland and Windsor DPW's to determine how much salt they use each year to assist in determining how much to order. A minimum of 60% of the reserved amount must be used; otherwise the municipality will be billed for storage by the supplying company. 40 ton was ordered, and will need to be stored onsite when it is delivered. The storage facility can be something as simple as a concrete pad with a metal building similar to the one covering used cars at French's (around \$1000.00) for what we need.

4. Sidewalk plans are being developed, and a meeting will be scheduled with the council sometime late in February for an update. A meeting was held with PennDOT to discuss the project, with a follow-up meeting scheduled as plans are developed, with PennDOT providing the bidding services for the project.

Streetscape approval is not likely to occur until late this year at the earliest, most likely sometime in the spring of 2008. Construction is anticipated to begin as soon as the grant is awarded.

5. Mayor Maby and Oakland Mayor Dudley met with District Attorney Jason Legg regarding the possible creation of a regionalized police force. Maby informed Mr. Legg that Lanesboro (with unanimous support from the council) is not interested in pursuing a regionalized police force at this time, but would possibly consider it in the future. Oakland Mayor Dudley also informed him that Oakland is of a similar mindset. Maby & Dudley also noted that the working agreement between Lanesboro and Oakland is working extremely well, but is still in its infancy and want to see how it develops before proceeding with any discussions involving Susquehanna. One of the keys to the agreement working well is that it is beneficial to all parties and that a similar agreement may be arranged in the near future with Thompson. Another point brought up was the problems experienced by both Oakland & Lanesboro regarding the Susquehanna mayor contacting them and/or members of their police force and having completely inappropriate conversations. Mayor Maby, Mayor Dudley and Mr. Legg agreed that the best thing to do was table the conversation for the foreseeable future.

6. FEMA buyout paperwork of 83 Main St. and 21 North Main St progressing.

7. Light bulbs replaced in the Post Office, and work is being undertaken for some sticking doors at the Post Office as well.

8. Maby would like to give a toke of appreciation to Ed Green for his time and donation of material related to the vacating of Depot St. Mr. Green donated, trucked in and installed barricades at the vacated portion of Depot St. Council consensus – All in favor.

9. Police – Thompson is interested in having Lanesboro provide police coverage. Maby and Chief Record met with Thompson Mayor Jim Delaney and Councilwoman Dianne Sabitelli to discuss the matter. Maby explained that the format would follow exactly how Lanesboro works with Oakland. Delaney and Sabitelli are planning to present it to the full council for review and would like to

set up an agreement as soon as possible. Maby would like the Lanesboro Council to consider approving an agreement, so that Solicitor Dewitt can develop the ordinance for advertising and approval at the March meeting. After discussion, motion by Roberts to draw up an agreement and 2nd by Wilkes. Unanimous.

10. Codes Enforcement – (3) calls, ongoing flood inspection.

11. The Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) is a federal agency that has received a grant to make stream bank repairs in areas where residents are jeopardized. Bruce Baessler contacted Maby about the Canawacta Creek near the Bedford residence. The grant is a 75/25 match – the NRCS provides 75% of the cost for construction plus all of the engineering fee, and the local share is 25%. There are 37 locations identified in the county and none have found a local match yet. Maby spoke with the Bedford's – they are willing to pay the local share. Lanesboro's involvement is being the project sponsor, which is a paper work thing only and does not involve any cost for the town. The grants are expected to be awarded by May with construction starting immediately thereafter. Local contractors are urged to participate but must be on the vendor list. NRCS is forwarding information to Maby on how the local contractors can get listed. Maby discussed other sites in town with the NRCS, including the Ron Lee property and the area near the retaining wall on Viaduct St. The Ron Lee property may be eligible for the second round of grants, as a distance from the stream to the affected residence has not yet been decided. The retaining wall area is not eligible for the program but was identified as an area of need. Maby is asking for a letter stating such from the NRCS that can be used in discussions with other federal and state agencies in the future. Council approval is needed for the project. After discussion, motion by Roberts to move forward, 2nd by Wilkes. Unanimous – so carried.

12. Gelineu property – house has been demolished and site cleaned up.

Adjournment – by Dilello, 2nd by Limbert, Unanimous.