

Lanesboro Council Meeting Minutes - December 2, 2008

- 1) Call to order - on December 2, 2008
- 2) Roll Call - Dan Boughton, Bob Mireider, Dale Rockwell, Stan Rockwell, Colleen Wilkes

Also Present - Secretary / Treasurer Gail Hanrahan, Mayor Chris Maby

Absent - George Houghton, Regina Dilello

- 3) Action on minutes of previous meeting

- Motion by Mireider, 2nd by Wilkes to pass as presented. Unanimous, so carried.

- 4) Correspondence and Resolutions:

- Letter from Solicitor Dewitt regarding Turnpike Terrace, read to council and audience. No follow up needed at this time.

- 5) Code Enforcement - 22.5 hours, with the majority on the code support grant. For legibility reasons, council asked that the reports be typed in the future rather than written.

- 6) Community Center- \$150 in rental. Question about availability - need to contact Regina Dilello for any bookings.

- 7) Mayor's Report:

- Bids for soccer field work came in much higher than expected, due to grant requirement that Federal prevailing wages be used for any work that exceeds \$2,000 in cost. Project has been scaled back for grading of the field only, and has been bid again. Work will be done in the spring.

- Sign contract signed and returned to Vacri Construction, should be erected in the next week or so. Lanesboro will need to remove old signs and posts. Signs should be salvaged - Maby recommends having

Boughton Jr remove signs and salvage, as he has a part time scrap metal business. After discussion, council authorized Jr to remove and salvage signs.

8) Police - Investigating potential alternatives for an office, will provide update at January meeting. Officer Golka will be working 2 shifts during the week, with remainder of hours scheduled for weekends.

9) Unfinished business:

- Discussion and vote on proposed 2009 budget (no tax or garbage/sewer increase) NEEDS A ROLL CALL VOTE - After discussion motion to pass as presented. For - Mireider, Wilkes, D. Rockwell, Boughton, and S. Rockwell None against. Motion carried.

10) New business:

- After discussion, the following decisions were made:

- Sewer billing - once an account is three months delinquent, a ten day certified letter is sent. If no response is received, the residence is posted. If no response is made to that, the water company is contacted for a shutoff. Clarification on how to bill, beginning immediately - anyone three months or more later must pay at least half of their bill and sign a statement for continuous monthly double payments until such time they are caught up. If the owner misses a payment, they are subject to immediate water shutoff. If the owner cannot pay half of the account balance up front, treasurer is authorized to determine if less is acceptable. If not acceptable, she will notify council and ask for direction.

- Potter property billing - property was billed for a period during which there was no water to the residence. Note - Lanesboro was not informed of the water shutoff until just recently, AFTER it had been turned back on. After discussion, motion by D. Rockwell to send letter to Potter indicating he must pay all of the bill for the time period during which water was turned on at the property. 2nd by Mireider. Boughton and S. Rockwell for, Wilkes against. Motion carried.

- Sewer billing for primary residences - when water is turned off

and a copy of the turnoff is provided on water company letterhead, sewer billing will be suspended during the time that water is off.

- Sewer billing for rental residences - per ordinance, sewer bills for rental properties shall always be billed, regardless of whether the building is occupied or water turned off.
- Interest rate - the ordinance provides for a 10% interest penalty per month. After discussion, motion by D. Rockwell, 2nd by Boughton that the interest rate shall stay at 10% per month, with a \$1000 cap on interest charges. Mireider and S. Rockwell for, Wilkes against. Motion carried.
- Non-payment of garbage account - letter shall be sent to the property owners in arrears, with follow up at the January meeting. Council in agreement that if restitution is not made, owners will be taken to small claims court. Note: Water shutoff can only be used for sewer billing. Small claims court could result in loss of personal property, which is auctioned off to pay off the debt. Any excess money (made beyond the amount owed) on the auctioned property is returned to the owner.
- Meeting minutes - can be emailed to all Councilmen and Mayor, excepting Wilkes (hardcopy mailed to her).
- The \$50,000 loan for the Mtn. Road construction had a processing error, and needs to be brought up again at the January meeting. S. Rockwell to contact Dewitt's office to see what the problem is, discuss with PennStar, and then follow up with contractor and engineer.
- Mountain Road payment to contractor - Lanesboro has \$45,000 in grant money to cover a portion of the bill. Motion by Mireider, 2nd by D. Rockwell authorizing Maby to cosign a check for this amount. S. Rockwell and Wilkes for, Boughton abstained. Motion carried, Maby signed the check.
- End of the year bills for sewer related items, \$4,100 payment to liquid fuels account, Fire Company workers comp, and contractor amount to \$20,500. There is currently \$12,000 available, with some more

to come with garbage and sewer billing. Treas. authorized to pay sewer related items, liquid fuels, and fire company. Contractor bill to wait until January, pending resolution of the borrowing of the money.

- S. Rockwell was contacted by Thompson about having Lanesboro provide snow removal for them. After brief discussion, general consensus is to pass on this request, given the lack of backup equipment and availability of drivers.

11) Visitors (requesting time on floor):

- none

12) Meeting left open until December 16, 2008 in case there needs to be a discussion regarding the Mountain Road financing.

13) December 16, 2008 meeting opened with D. Rockwell, S. Rockwell, Boughton and Dilello present. Also present Secy/Treas. And Mayor.

Ordinance passed for the borrowing of \$50,000.00 to complete grant project. Roll call vote:

for D. Rockwell, S. Rockwell, Boughton and Dilello. Unanimous - so carried.

Discussion of weight limits on all roads in Boro. Ordinance 1990-4 passed indicating a weight

limit of 5-ton on roads. Chief Record to research procedure to enforce ordinance.

14) Motion to adjourn - D. Rockwell, 2nd - Boughton.