

MINUTES OF THE CORNWALL BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING  
HELD ON MONDAY, OCTOBER 14, 2019 AT 6:30 P.M.  
IN THE CORNWALL BOROUGH OFFICE

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. by Council President John Karinch.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

PRESENT

Gerald Boughter, John Karinch, Marie Tribioli, Steve Tribioli, Beth Yocum, Al Brandt and Mark Thomas.

ABSENT

Ron Ricard

PUBLIC

Meeting attendance sheet is attached hereto.

PUBLIC COMMENT – WATER & SEWER QUESTIONS ONLY

No comment

WATER & SEWER BUSINESS

REPORTS

Gerald Boughter made a motion, seconded by Marie Tribioli, to pass the Director's water and sewer reports. Motion passed.

Gerald Boughter made a motion, seconded by Beth Yocum, to pass the Treasurer's report. Motion passed.

Gerald Boughter made a motion, seconded by Marie Tribioli, to pass the Secretary's report. Motion passed.

NEW BUSINESS

SEWER FORGIVENESS

The property at 132 Hillside Street had a substantial water leak. The city of Lebanon granted a sewer forgiveness and the water and sewer committee is recommending the borough do the same. The water is paid for as it comes into the borough and therefore no forgiveness can be provided on that side. Gerald Boughter made the motion, seconded by Steve Tribioli, to grant sewer forgiveness to the property at 132 Hillside Street. Motion passed.

METER PITS

DEP recommends that meters be placed in meter pits that are located outside. The borough plans to require that all new development install the meters in meter pits. Gerald Boughter made the motion, seconded by Marie Tribioli, to approve this requirement. Motion passed.

### PUBLIC COMMENT – BOROUGH BUSINESS

Chet Bogar, Briarwood Court, asked for permission to meet with the engineer to discuss the stormwater basin in Northgate. John Karinch asked Chet if he would come to planning meeting. Chet said he could do that, but he was told before to come to council meeting to try to address it. Chet said that the engineer never inspected the facility and the basin holds the water three days longer than it should. Gerald Boughter made a motion, seconded by Marie Triboli, to allow Hanover to inspect the basin.

Dale Waltman, Karinchville, spoke favorably about an increase in funding for the Lebanon County Library. At one time it was \$5,000 a year, then it was cut from the budget and now it is \$500. He said the library is a dynamic institution that goes beyond books. He feels that even though not everyone uses the library, everyone benefits from an informed public. He requests that the borough raise its donation to no less than \$5,000 a year.

### APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 9, 2019 COUNCIL MEETING

Marie Triboli made the motion, seconded by Al Brandt, to approve the minutes from the September 9, 2019 meeting. Motion passed.

### REPORTS

Gerald Boughter made the motion, seconded by Steve Triboli, to approve the reports as presented. Motion passed.

### OLD BUSINESS

#### BUDGET REPORT

John Karinch read the revenues, expenditures and earned income tax for the year to date into the record.

Stan Alekna asked if the EIT money the borough has received is correct. John Karinch said that it is supposed to be, but he doesn't know how it is getting audited. There have been some minor problems with accuracy in the past year or two. Stan said he hopes the borough doesn't run into the same situation they did before.

### STEVE BLACK – HILLTOP ESTATES

Steve Black was asking for dedication for the recently completed portion of Palmer Street. The street was paved and there are one or two items from the punch list to be completed. Marie Triboli made the motion, seconded by Gerald Boughter, to grant approval for the dedication contingent on everything on the punch list being completed. Motion passed.

### FURNACE STREET TREE ISSUE

John Karinch read a portion of the report from the certified arborist who visited the property. Rose Ellen Leshner felt that the report was accurate. Her main concern was that the arborvitae that was deemed an imminent threat by the arborist. Ed Leshner hoped that the work would be done by a professional. He asked what would happen if the 30 days pass with no action. John Karinch said they would get another notice then the borough would have to take them to court. Gerald Boughter made a motion, seconded by Beth Yocum, to send a certified letter to the owners of

131 Furnace Street notifying them of the action that needs to be taken to comply with the ordinance. Motion passed.

#### JEN WENTZEL, COMMUNITY CATS PROGRAM

Jen Wentzel, Furnace Street, came in along with the volunteers who will be helping with the Community Cats program and provided a list of those volunteers to council. Jen said they have been going over rules and regulations for the group and have also begun to assign roles to the members. They will be holding trainings soon that are open to the public as well. She said they are going to use the borough's zoning map as a basis and go from community to community to identify one or two areas that are in the biggest need of attention. They have done some TNR already and taken care of some minor issues. The group is looking for a location to house cats that are spayed or neutered. She will provide updates periodically.

#### FIRST AID AND SAFETY PATROL

John Karinch said he talked to Ed Price from FASP about the possibility of them using one of the garage bays at the borough office as a satellite location during business hours. They will send a proposal in the future. Marie Tribioli asked if we are going with FASP. John thought that was the way everyone was leaning. Marie said we should make a formal motion. It was reiterated that the contribution will be distributed quarterly, and no contract will be signed. Beth Yocum made the motion, seconded by Al Brandt, to officially use First Aid and Safety Patrol for ambulance service. John Karinch and Gerald Boughter voted "aye". Marie Tribioli and Steve Tribioli voted "nay". Motion passed 4-2.

#### NEW BUSINESS

##### MICHELLE HAWK, LEBANON COUNTY LIBRARY

Michelle Hawk, director of the Lebanon Community Library, was in attendance to give their annual update. Michelle talked about the services and programs that the library offers. Michelle gave statistics on what Cornwall residents used in 2018. She asked for an increase in funding for 2020.

Dale Waltman said that based on Cornwall's population, the borough is contributing 12 cents a year per resident to the library. It was suggested to discuss an increase during budget meeting.

Ruth Krebs asked why the funding dropped off so significantly. Mark Thomas said it was because the borough was broke. It was further explained that the EIT situation was the main culprit.

A question from the audience prompted further explanation about the EIT situation and the subsequent tax increase to cover the repayment.

##### M. WEBSTER EXTENSION

M. Webster Construction requested a 45-day extension to complete the police station. The contract ended on October 10<sup>th</sup>. The reason for the request was the change of engineer and waiting on certain material to come in. Beth Yocum made a motion, seconded by Al Brandt, to grant a 45-day extension to M. Webster Construction to complete the police station renovation. Gerald Boughter was opposed. Motion passed 5-1.

### PRL AGREEMENT

Marie Tribioli made the motion, seconded by Beth Yocum, to approve the agreement with PRL Industries that grants the borough access through their property to the dry hydrant when it is constructed. Motion passed.

### ACTUARY STUDY, POLICE PENSION PLAN

The police department is requesting a change in the DROP from 55 to 50. As a result, a study must be done to ascertain the cost of lowering the age from 55 to 50. Al Brandt made the motion, seconded by Marie Tribioli, to approve the study which is paid out of the pension fund. Motion passed.

### SNITZ CREEK TRIBUTARY PROJECT

Michael Schroeder, Quittapahilla Watershed Association, and Russ Collins, Trout Unlimited, were in attendance to discuss the Snitz 2 project.

This is part of a broader watershed implementation plan that they have been working on for years. The goal is to enhance the water quality and reduce the sediment load going to the Chesapeake Bay.

The first part of the project was talking to the landowners who would be impacted by the project. After getting letters of commitment, they went to DEP and got a grant for the initial design phase. They now want to go back and get more funding, but there is one owner holding out on the project.

John Karinch asked how a meandering creek would reduce the sediment. Schroeder said that the landowner's have showed him how the stream bank has eroded over the past few years along the sections they want to restore. The project would entail creating a wetland across this section of the project. However, with the owner holding out, the project is essentially stuck, and they are at this meeting seeking help to get it moving again.

Collins talked about the cost for rents for the two acres they are seeking. His estimate was \$600-800 a year, so for ten years it would be \$12,000-\$16,000. That is what he estimates the farmer would be losing over that period. Originally, the farmer was going to donate the land but has changed his mind.

Collins then looked at some of the numbers regarding the borough's MS4 plan and what would happen if the project would not happen. Collins was asking for \$16,000 for the perpetual easement for the farmer and \$100,000 for the project. He found that the cost to the borough would be \$1.12 per pound of reduction, which is much lower than the normal cost.

Schroeder asked about a stormwater fee, but John Karinch told him that the borough does not impose that on its residents, unlike other municipalities. There was talk about if the next MS4 permit would focus on agriculture. That is unknown currently.

There was a lengthy discussion about the design of the proposed project.

John asked Collins and Schroeder to come to the planning meeting on November 4<sup>th</sup>. They said they would be there along with Rocky Powell, who is involved in the technical aspects of the project.

John Karinch asked Jen Prunoske, Hanover Engineering, about the specifics of this grant. There was discussion about the grant that Schroeder and Collins were talking about and the Sunoco grant the borough received. Jen talked more about the Goosetown projects that were involved with the Sunoco grant and the difference between those and the project that was discussed tonight.

#### ADJOURNMENT

Gerald Boughter made the motion, seconded by Al Brandt, to adjourn the meeting at 8:09 p.m. Motion passed.

Cody Rhoads  
Secretary