

MINUTES OF THE CORNWALL BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING
HELD ON MONDAY, NOVEMBER 11, 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, Ron Ricard, Beth Yocum, Al Brandt and Mark Thomas.

PUBLIC

Meeting attendance sheet is attached hereto.

PUBLIC COMMENT – WATER & SEWER QUESTIONS ONLY

No comment

WATER & SEWER BUSINESS

REPORTS

There were no questions on the reports presented.

NEW BUSINESS

SCHEDULE A CHANGES FOR 2020 RATES

The water and sewer committee has decided to add a \$10 quarterly fee for sewer capital. This is being added due to the upcoming Dairy Road Pump Station project in North Cornwall Township. The borough's sewage travels through this station and the borough's contribution to the new pump station will be in the \$1.5 million range as of now. Ron Ricard made the motion, seconded by Beth Yocum, to approve the fee.

ISO REPORT

Barb Henry went over the latest ISO Report. This is an independent study where certain fire hydrants are chosen, and the capacities are studied to see if it meets fire flow availability. Cornwall Center has been earmarked as a future project in response to these studies. Cornwall Center is going to go on a priority list because that area has the least amount of fire flow. The dry hydrant at the Open Pit will soon be in place.

ACT 537 PLAN AND OLDS

The Act 537 plan has not been updated since 1992. Part of the plan is On Lot Disposal Systems (OLDS) and the borough will need to have an ordinance in place if the Act 537 plan is updated. OLDS entails a three-year turnover for all the septic systems in the borough. Barb has a copy of an OLDS ordinance that is used in another municipality. If the borough starts working on the plan now, it can move at its own pace. If DEP mandates it, then it will have a time frame on it.

Marie Tribioli made a motion, seconded by Ron Ricard, to begin working on the OLDS ordinance. Motion passed.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Rose Ellen Leshner, Furnace Street, reported that the tree issue has been taken care of and she thanked Cody Rhoads for his help in resolving the issue.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF OCTOBER 14, 2019 COUNCIL MEETING

Gerald Boughter made the motion, seconded by Ron Ricard, to approve the minutes of the October 14, 2019 minute with one correction under the “Adjournment” section. Motion passed.

REPORTS

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

OLD BUSINESS

BUDGET REPORT

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

SNITZ 2 PROJECT

Russ Collins, Trout Unlimited, Mike Schroeder, Quittapahilla Watershed Association, and Rocky Powell, Clear Creek Consulting, were in attendance to discuss the project and shared a PowerPoint presentation with the audience.

There are nine landowners along the project, including one owner that they are working on a resolution with. The project will restore 2,310 linear feet of the creek from the culvert near Culvert Street to the culvert by the Rails-to-Trails. Russ discussed the current state of the creek and the proposed improvements to the area.

John Karinch asked if any part of the area could remain crop land. Rocky Powell said it would not be possible because the area will be flooded year-round. There was some debate if that would be the case. Essentially the grant wouldn't allow the area to be planted with crops regardless of the viability of the area.

Russ talked about the timeline of the project to date and where they are at now. He also talked about the MS4 credits available to the borough. Another aspect he looked at was the price per acre for soybeans, which is what is being grown on the land that the owner wants compensation for. In total, they are asking the borough for \$116,000 that will go towards the project. The total cost for the TSS reduction of the other MS4 projects in the borough are \$13.52 per pound and \$13.45 per pound. The cost for the Snitz 2 project is \$6.07 per pound and the borough's cost would be \$1.12 per pound.

The project is stalled until they get approval from the final landowner to move forward. Al Brandt asked if the phosphorous numbers calculated were from the farmland. Rocky said the

numbers were calculated by using the acceptable standard, not actual measurements from the farm.

Jeff Bamberger asked if the project could be moved to a different location in the borough. Rocky said they identified 24 different projects to do in the Snitz watershed. Snitz 3 is on the Stoner property. Snitz 4 is in the Cornwall Hills area. This project can't be moved as the landowner owns most of the land next to the creek.

Mark Thomas expressed concern over the price of the project and the possibility of increased prices in the future.

Al Brandt said he was reluctant to compensate a landowner who is likely contributing to the problems that are trying to be corrected.

Gerald Boughter said it's up to the property owner whether he wants to give up his land. He said council has been kicking this around for an hour and nothing is being decided. He said the borough can't afford this. John said the other projects would cost the borough \$600,000. Al said while he agrees with Gerald, meeting the MS4 standards are a federal requirement. Gerald said the bottom line is the borough can't afford it. John said they must afford it.

Steve Tribioli would like to see the land appraised to see what a fair amount would be.

After further discussion about the project, Steve Tribioli made a motion, seconded by Marie Tribioli, to appraise the land and give John Karinch authorization to negotiate with the landowner if needed.

NEW BUSINESS

ADOPT 2020 PRELIMINARY BUDGET

Marie Tribioli made a motion, seconded by Steve Tribioli, to adopt the 2020 preliminary budget with the addition of another \$20,000 dedicated to MS4. Motion passed.

POLICE STATION FURNITURE PURCHASE

Chief Harris said he requested quotes because the total purchase of the furniture, desks and filing cabinets exceeded \$11,100. Steve Tribioli made the motion, seconded by Gerald Boughter, to authorize Cody Rhoads to write a check for a deposit to the lowest bids and then a check for final payment once the items have been received.

RESOLUTION 2019-8

Gerald Boughter made a motion, seconded by Al Brandt, to appoint Cody Rhoads as an alternate for the Lebanon County Tax Collection Committee for 2020. Motion passed.

BOROUGH-WIDE GARBAGE HAULER

Marie Tribioli was approached by a resident who asked if Council would consider contracting with a single hauler for trash collection in the borough. Marie went over the options for borough-wide collection.

John Karinch said he talked to Tom Smith about this a few years ago. It would alleviate some of the truck traffic in the borough and, as a result, the wear and tear on the roads. His only concern was taking away the freedom of choice for residents.

Mark Thomas said he would crush this quick as it is unamerican. Al Brandt said he would be against it as well.

Jeff Bamberger said he sees six or seven trucks go down his street a week. Eliminating those extra trips would increase safety and reduce wear and tear. He also felt the fee would decrease with a borough-wide hauler as it has for his daughter in a different municipality. Mark Thomas said it isn't a safety issue and we don't know the tax implications of those municipalities.

Al Brandt made a motion, seconded by Gerald Boughter, to table the discussion. Motion passed.

YARD WASTE SITE

John Karinch said he talked to South Lebanon recently about taking yard waste from Cornwall Borough residents at their new facility. South Lebanon was not interested at this time. In the past, Tom Smith had gotten a grant to create a site, but council declined to accept the grant at the last second. There is a small area behind the borough office where residents can bring brush. Tom said they no longer chip the brush pile on site because it got too big. They take it off site now to get it done.

Tom Smith talked about some of the benefits and pit falls of a yard waste site. The borough will continue looking into options for the residents.

WALKER STREET STOP SIGN

Gerald Boughter said once Palmer Street is dedicated, he would like to see a stop sign added where Palmer meets Walker. A traffic study will need to be conducted before doing so.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Gerald Boughter made the motion, seconded by Ron Ricard, to adjourn into executive session at 8:07 p.m. to discuss the police contract. Motion passed.

ADJOURNMENT

The board entered back into regular session at 8:34 p.m. With no further business to discuss Gerald Boughter made the motion, seconded by Ron Ricard, to adjourn at 8:34 p.m. Motion passed.

Cody Rhoads
Secretary