

MINUTES OF THE CORNWALL BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING
HELD ON MONDAY, JUNE 8, 2020 AT 6:30 P.M.
IN THE CORNWALL BOROUGH GARAGE

Council President John Karinch called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

PRESENT

Council President John Karinch, Marie Tribioli, Steve Tribioli, Ron Ricard, Thomas Burton, Mayor Mark Thomas and Manager Cody Rhoads

ABSENT

Al Brandt

PUBLIC

Meeting attendance sheet is attached hereto.

SWEARING IN OF BRUCE CONRAD

Mayor Mark Thomas swore in Bruce Conrad to fill the vacancy on council.

PUBLIC COMMENT – WATER & SEWER

Chet Bogar said that one question the Northgate HOA received related to the switch to the high side was whether it would be the same water. It was confirmed that the water would still be the same after the switch.

WATER & SEWER BUSINESS

REPORTS

Marie Tribioli made the motion, seconded by Ron Ricard, to approve the director's water and sewer reports. Motion passed.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Ron Ricard asked if a community has private roads, could other residents access the community for purposes such as walking. John Karinch said Iron Valley was the only other private community, but he did not recall any complaints. Mr. Ricard said this was just a hypothetical.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Ron Ricard made the motion, seconded by Steve Tribioli, to approve the minutes of the May 11, 2020 council meeting. Motion passed.

REPORTS

Ron Ricard made the motion, seconded by Marie Tribioli, to accept the reports. Motion passed.

John Karinch asked Tom Smith if he ever got references for Hammaker East, the company that was the low bid for the chip seal projects. Mr. Smith said he did receive references that

Hammaker was reputable and did good work. They are from Western PA and expanding into this area.

Mr. Karinch also read the borough's revenues, expenditures and EIT collections for the year to date into the record.

OLD BUSINESS

GLRA REPRESENTATIVE

Ron Ricard and Harold MacFadden attended the last GLRA meeting via teleconference. Mr. MacFadden volunteered to be the Cornwall representative. Ron Ricard made the motion, seconded by Marie Tribioli, to appoint Harold MacFadden as Cornwall Borough's representative on the GLRA board. Motion passed.

NORTHGATE ACTION PLAN

Chet Bogar was in attendance to represent the Northgate HOA. They had received Hanover's report and the subsequent letter from Solicitor Cleary. Their solicitor was crafting a response to those items.

John Karinch and Tom Burton both felt this issue is more of a civil matter, to be handled between the HOA and the developer, Louie Hurst. Marie Tribioli said that official plan is a legal document and council signed off on it. She felt the onus is on the borough to make sure it is built to specifications.

Mr. Bogar hoped to schedule a meeting between the HOA, the developer and his engineer and Hanover Engineering. Mr. Karinch suggested the meeting take place at next month's planning commission meeting.

Bruce Conrad asked who paid for the report that Hanover completed. He was informed that the borough paid for the report. Mr. Karinch felt that Mr. Hurst should bear the cost.

Mr. Conrad said his understanding from reading the report and solicitor's letter was that the borough's prior engineer, Steckbeck Engineering, inspected these issues and signed off on them.

Mr. Bogar said that they have never received any inspection reports despite asking for them numerous times. He said that the most recent house constructed in Northgate was two feet closer to the property line than it should have been when construction started. The HOA said they would allow that change, but in return they wanted the inspection report for a pipe that ran through the property. Instead, the concrete slab was torn up and the house was moved to the proper location.

Mr. Karinch asked about self-inspecting, which has been mentioned in the past. Mr. Bogar said they have taken their issues to other engineers and lawyers and get the same answer, all improvements need to be inspected by the borough.

Mr. Karinch said the borough would have to get the inspection reports from Steckbeck Engineering. Mayor Thomas felt this was a civil matter and the borough should not be involved. Ms. Tribioli said if the inspections were not done, the responsibility does fall on the borough.

Mr. Conrad felt a subcommittee would be beneficial to investigate the matter further, which would include interviewing Steckbeck Engineering. He believes there are pieces missing and he would like to get those facts before reporting back. He also felt Mr. Hurst should be responsible for the cost of the Hanover report.

Mr. Bogar said he has no desire to pursue legal action, he would just like to see the basin work completed. His contention is that the borough signed the plans, but it was not built to the plan specifications and that is plain as day.

RESOLUTION 2020-4

Marie Tribioli thought the fees were still too high. Steve Tribioli asked Cody Rhoads if he investigated the fees further. Mr. Rhoads said the topic was discussed at length at the water and sewer committee meeting. The fee structure is standard across municipalities and the committee felt it should stay as is. Bruce Conrad made the motion, seconded by Ron Ricard, to adopt Resolution 2020-4. Motion passed.

NEW BUSINESS

KRALL PROPERTY PURCHASE

John Karinch said he recently spoke with Russ Collins regarding the project on the Krall property. The grant money is still available, and Mr. Collins felt that the borough should move forward with the purchase. Steve Tribioli said it was important to get the property purchased. Mr. Karinch relayed that one acre will cost \$21,000 and the borough will waive the stormwater fee, if one is implemented, for the Krall property for five years. Steve Tribioli made the motion, seconded by Tom Burton, to move forward with drafting an agreement for the purchase. Motion passed.

ELECT VICE PRESIDENT

Marie Tribioli nominated Ron Ricard for vice president. There were no other nominations. All present voted in favor.

REVIEW COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS

John Karinch stated that with recent changes on council there are some vacancies on the various committees. Mr. Karinch asked Bruce Conrad if he would serve on the finance committee. Mr. Conrad accepted the appointment.

Marie Tribioli is currently the only member of the recreation committee. Tom Burton volunteered to join that committee as well. Cody Rhoads mentioned Elliott Bonds as a possible community member of the committee if he is interested. Ms. Tribioli said she would reach out to him.

Mr. Karinch and Al Brandt currently comprise the highway committee. Ron Ricard was appointed to join the committee.

It was decided to leave the council representation on the Board of Health vacant for the time being. Cody Rhoads will explore if the Board of Health is needed moving forward.

Mr. Ricard asked if we could add more residents to the committees over time. Everyone felt that was a good idea and the committees will continue to be updated.

PERMISSION FOR CORNWALL UMC TO CLOSE ALDEN STREET

Tom Burton made the motion, seconded by Marie Tribioli, to allow Cornwall UMC to close Alden Street on August 14th from 4 p.m. to 9 p.m. for their annual Peach Festival. Motion passed.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business to conduct, Marie Tribioli made a motion, seconded by Ron Ricard, to adjourn the meeting at 7:22 p.m. Motion passed.

Cody Rhoads
Secretary