

MINUTES OF THE CORNWALL BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING
HELD ON MONDAY, JANUARY 10, 2022, AT 6:30 P.M.
IN THE CORNWALL BOROUGH GARAGE

Council President Bruce Harris called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

PRESENT

Council President Bruce Harris, Council Vice President Bruce Conrad, Council Pro Tem Ron Ricard, John Karinch, Al Brandt, Thomas Burton (arrived at 6:45 p.m.), Beth Yocum and Mayor Mark Thomas

ALSO PRESENT

Borough Manager Cody Rhoads, Highway Superintendent Tom Smith and Borough Engineer Chad Smith

PUBLIC

Meeting attendance sheet is attached hereto

REMEMBRANCE

Bruce Harris remembered former borough employee Tony Louwerse, who recently passed away, and spoke about his contributions to the community.

Bruce Conrad, John Karinch and Mark Thomas each shared their memories of Tony as well.

PUBLIC COMMENT – WATER & SEWER

John Mohn, 5 Willow Street, was following up on the issues he presented at last month's meeting. Mr. Karinch spoke with Barb Henry about the problems there and went over those with Mr. Mohn. Mr. Karinch said he also looked at the trees and sidewalk and felt those were done properly. Mr. Mohn said he understood that aspect but was disappointed in the lack of communication from the developer.

Ron Ricard asked Mr. Mohn what response he would like to rectify this situation. Mr. Mohn appreciated the question and said it would simply be an apology from Landmark stating that there should have been some type of communication.

WATER & SEWER BUSINESS

REPORTS

John Karinch made the motion, seconded by Bruce Conrad, to approve the water and sewer reports. Motion passed.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Greg Roussey, 123 Pine Street, stated that at the reorganization meeting a motion was made to appoint a new engineer. He did not feel that this motion was done properly under the Sunshine Law. He felt requests for proposals should be solicited from at least three firms.

Mr. Karinch felt there was some ambiguity to that when it came to reorganization. Mr. Rhoads thought Mr. Roussey's interpretation was reasonable but said the agenda could be amended tonight to make it formal.

Bruce Conrad made the motion to amend the agenda to add the appointment of Steckbeck Engineering for borough business and Entech Engineering for the borough's water and sewer business. Motion passed.

Thomas Burton questioned as to why Steckbeck Engineering should be rehired. Mr. Karinch stated that he felt they were fired unjustly and did good work for the borough.

Jo Roussey, 123 Pine Street, wanted to thank the highway department for the job they have done plowing this winter.

APPOINT ENGINEERS

John Karinch made a motion, seconded by Beth Yocum, to appoint Steckbeck Engineering and Entech Engineering as borough engineers. Thomas Burton "nay", Al Brandt "yay", Bruce Harris "yay", John Karinch "yay", Beth Yocum "yay", Bruce Conrad "yay", Ron Ricard "nay". Motion passed 5-2.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Bruce Conrad made the motion, seconded by Ron Ricard, to approve the minutes of the December 13, 2021 council meeting and the January 3, 2022 reorganization meeting. Motion passed.

REPORTS

Al Brandt made the motion, seconded by John Karinch, to approve the reports. Motion passed.

OLD BUSINESS

COFFEE WITH COUNCIL

Mr. Conrad stated that the first meeting had five residents present and he felt it went well. The next meeting will be on Wednesday, and all are invited. Mr. Conrad briefly discussed some of the topics that were covered.

CORNWALL CENTER INTERSECTION

Mr. Harris stated that there was not much new to report. Mr. Karinch and Mr. Rhoads had been in contact with Jon Fitzkee in the planning department. There is hope that the project will make it on to the 2023 TIP.

There was discussion about the possibility of a roundabout with some being in favor of them and some opposed. Mr. Conrad thought it was important that the borough have continued input on any plan.

Joel Smith, 28 Burd Coleman, stated that he lives on the corner of the intersection where the improvements are proposed. He said that there are a lot of near misses there.

Mr. Thomas felt making Burd Coleman a one-way street would solve any problem.

Gary Kohr, 13 Freeman Drive, hoped that other options would be considered and not just a roundabout.

NEW BUSINESS

NEW HIGHWAY EMPLOYEE

Mr. Harris wanted the minutes to reflect that the borough hired Derek Walker to replace Mike Parker, who retired at the end of the year, in the highway department.

SPEED LIMIT - 72 TO CORNWALL CENTER, DECELERATION LANE – NORTHGATE

Mr. Ricard reviewed that speed limit from Cornwall Center to Route 72 and the fluctuations that occur. Mr. Ricard would like to see the speed limit uniformly changed to 35 MPH from 322 in Quentin to where it changes to 25 MPH in Cornwall Center. He would also like to see a deceleration lane added at the entrance to Northgate.

Ron Ricard made the motion, seconded by John Karinch, to request that PennDOT do a traffic to determine if a consistent speed limit and deceleration lane would be appropriate. Motion passed.

RESOLUTION 2022-2 (DISPOSITION OF RECORDS)

John Karinch made a motion, seconded by Bruce Conrad, to approve Resolution 2022-2 that authorizes records to be disposed. Motion passed.

RESOLUTION 2022-3 (EIT REPRESENTATIVE)

Mr. Rhoads stated that the 2022 representative would be Dave Lloyd, West Cornwall Township, with Lois Herr, Mt. Gretna, as the alternate. Bruce Conrad made the motion, seconded by Ron Ricard, to authorize Resolution 2022-3. Motion passed.

APPOINT CHRISLAND ENGINEERING AS CONFLICT ENGINEER

Bruce Conrad made the motion, seconded by John Karinch, to appoint Chrisland Engineering as the conflict engineer. Motion passed.

COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS

Mr. Harris distributed the list of committees and asked the council members to respond to him with their interest.

LOCAL EMA COORDINATOR

Mr. Harris stated that he has been the EMA Coordinator for the last 15 or so years. His certifications have expired, and he no longer has the time to do it. Mr. Harris spoke with Bob Dowd, from the Lebanon County Department of Emergency Services, and was told that other municipalities are facing the same issue. The position is on a volunteer basis and does require a certain level of training, which can make it hard to fill. The county is willing to appoint someone to serve as the borough's coordinator. John Karinch made the motion, seconded by Bruce Conrad, to ask the county to appoint a representative as Cornwall's EMA Coordinator. Motion passed.

ELECTRIC POLICE VEHICLE

Mr. Ricard stated that he has been looking into the possibility of electric vehicles for the police department. He has spoken with a few departments across the country who are utilizing this practice. Mr. Ricard asked that if anyone has questions or comments, please contact either him or Mr. Rhoads.

Mr. Burton asked about costs. Mr. Ricard stated that it costs \$0.19/mile for a gas car compared to \$0.03/mile for an electric vehicle. He did not have a firm idea on costs of the different types of cars. There was a possibility that grants could be sought.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

John Karinch made a motion, seconded by Bruce Conrad, to adjourn into an executive session to discuss a legal matter at 7:39 p.m. Motion passed.

Council reconvened at 8:43 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business to conduct, John Karinch made the motion, seconded by Bruce Conrad, to adjourn the meeting at 8:43 p.m. Motion passed.

Cody Rhoads
Secretary