

MINUTES OF THE CORNWALL BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING
HELD ON MONDAY, FEBRUARY 8, 2021 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, Council Vice President Ron Ricard, Marie Tribioli, Steve Tribioli, Al Brandt, Thomas Burton, Bruce Conrad, Mayor Mark Thomas and Manager Cody Rhoads

PUBLIC

Meeting attendance sheet is attached hereto.

PUBLIC COMMENT – WATER & SEWER

No comments.

WATER & SEWER BUSINESS

STATUS OF NEW WATER METERS

Ron Ricard asked what the status of the meter replacement project is. John Karinch said the plan is to wait a month or two before sending letters out to the next phase of residents, with replacements scheduled in the spring and summer.

REPORTS

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

PUBLIC COMMENT

Alan Olsen, Grant Circle, addressed council by reading a January 7th, 2021 post Mayor Thomas made on Facebook.

Dan Hottenstein, Mosaic Drive, read a statement from a non-partisan group of Cornwall Borough citizens addressing the post and asked that it be entered into the minutes.

Mr. Olsen referenced a petition condemning Mayor Thomas' post that was signed by 168 citizens that asks that the Mayor apologize for the post. They did not submit the petition for fear of reprisal but did have Cody Rhoads verify the list earlier in the day.

Ron Morrison, Brandywine Drive, said the complaint about the Mayor's post was a progressive, cancel culture ploy by a progressive group.

Hal Conte, Lebanon Daily News, asked Mayor Thomas if he believes the pandemic is a hoax as he has stated. Mayor Thomas did not have a comment.

Mayor Thomas said he stands by what he posted, and he is sorry it spilled over into council business. He believes it is religious persecution and the forefathers who served gave him the right to say it.

A Mosiac Drive resident said she was appalled by a public figure making those statements and felt the Mayor should hold himself to a higher standard.

Thomas Burton said Mayor Thomas has the right to say what he said, and he is totally appalled people are trying to squash his rights. Mr. Burton can tell the residents complaining have not lived in the borough a long time.

Mark Dutchess, Karinchville, commended the job the highway department did during the latest winter storm.

Bryce Martin, CQM, requested permission to place sponsorship banners on the outfield fence at the Minersvillage field. There would be no cost to the borough. Council had no issue with CQM placing banners on the outfield fence.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Marie Tribioli made the motion, seconded by Ron Ricard, to approve the minutes of the January 11, 2021 council meeting. Motion passed.

REPORTS

Al Brandt made the motion, seconded by Marie Tribioli, to approve the reports. Motion passed.

Mr. Ricard asked when the cable franchise agreement expires and if other companies would be given notice to bid on the contract.

OLD BUSINESS

FIRE COMPANY

There was nothing new to report regarding the fire company this month. Mr. Burton asked if there was a committee for the fire company because he has some questions. Mr. Karinch said there was not, but Mr. Burton is welcome to attend the next time the borough meets with them.

SALE OF 2015 DODGE CHARGER

The high bid for the 2015 Dodge Charger on Municibid was \$9,000. Bruce Conrad made the motion, seconded by Steve Tribioli, to approve the sale of the 2015 Dodge Charger for \$9,000. Motion passed.

NEW BUSINESS

EIT LOAN

Mr. Karinch said there has been discussion about making an extra payment on the EIT loan. He said he is not against it but would like to see what 2021 will bring before committing to spending that money. Mr. Ricard mentioned that he asked Mr. Rhoads to check in with PLGIT to see if there were any refinancing options through them.

SPRING HILL ACRES DRY HYDRANT

The fire company would like to place a dry hydrant in a pond at a private residence on Larch Circle for fire protection purposes. Tom Smith and Mr. Rhoads visited the site and felt the highway department could do the work. The material cost would likely be a few thousand dollars. Marie Tribioli made a motion, seconded by Ron Ricard to move forward with the dry hydrant. Al Brandt voted against. Motion passed 6-1.

ZONING HEARING BOARD APPOINTMENT

Ron Ricard made a motion, seconded by Marie Tribioli, to appoint Dale Waltman to the Zoning Hearing Board and Chet Horst as the alternate. Motion passed.

NEW TRUCK

The Highway Department has 1996 and 1998 International trucks. With the order to delivery time being around 10 months to a year, it was suggested that authorization to replace the 1996 International be considered so the borough can take delivery in 2022. Mr. Conrad asked if North Lebanon had any trucks they were looking to get rid of. Mr. Smith will check with Ed Brensinger. Mr. Smith will also get a quote for a new truck. The matter was tabled until the March meeting.

2021 PAVING PROJECTS

Council asked Mr. Smith to bring a list of options to the March meeting.

Mr. Ricard asked for an update on the Tice Lane bridge. Steve Dellinger said that Hanover could serve as the designer and construction coordinator/facilitator. The construction contracts would be between the borough and the contractor and culvert supplier. Mr. Conrad felt the issue should be addressed sooner rather than later.

APPROVE WAIVERS FOR CORNWALL JUNCTION

Chad Smith, Steckbeck Engineering, and Pat Dennis, Landmark Homes, were in attendance representing the project. Chad Smith reviewed the project for council. It consists of 37 single-family homes, there will be three stormwater basins and it will have public connections to water, sewer and gas. Mr. Smith requested the following waivers for the project:

1. Subdivision and Land Development Ordinance, Section 305 – Bruce Conrad made a motion, seconded by Steve Tribioli, to approve the waiver. Motion passed.
2. Subdivision and Land Development Ordinance, Section 402.C.4 – Bruce Conrad made a motion, seconded by Marie Tribioli, to approve the waiver. Motion passed.
3. Subdivision and Land Development Ordinance, Section 406 – Due to minimal traffic impact, the developer was proposing to waive the traffic impact study and instead pay the borough the \$5,000 it would cost. The consensus among council was that they did not want a \$5,000 payment. There was further discussion about the traffic impact. Hanover's suggestion was to do the assessment and see if the study is needed after that is completed.

4. Subdivision and Land Development Ordinance, Section 510.A.7, 511.2.B, 511.3.A – Bruce Conrad made the motion, seconded by Steve Tribioli, to approve the waiver conditional on Willow Street receiving a complete overlay. Motion passed.
5. Subdivision and Land Development Ordinance, Section 511.C.3 Marie Tribioli made a motion, seconded by Bruce Conrad, to approve the waiver. Motion passed.
6. Subdivision and Land Development Ordinance, Section 512.A & B – There was discussion about the role and necessity that stone monuments play in the surveying process. Bruce Conrad made a motion, seconded by Al Brandt, to approve the waiver. Motion passed.
7. Stormwater Management Ordinance, Section 304.10.H – There was discussion regarding how stormwater will be handled within the development. Bruce Conrad made a motion, seconded by Al Brandt, to approve the waiver if the developer clearly communicates in writing the responsibilities for each individual homeowner's responsibility for the stormwater basin. Motion passed.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business to conduct, Marie Tribioli made the motion, seconded by Ron Ricard, to adjourn the meeting at 8:07 p.m. Motion passed.

Cody Rhoads
Secretary