

MOSCOW BOROUGH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MAY 16, 2016 MEETING

A meeting of the Moscow Borough Council was held on May 16, 2016 at 7:00 p.m. at the Moscow Borough Building, 123 VanBrunt Street, Moscow, PA. The following Council members were either present or absent:

Daniel F. Edwards – Mayor	Absent	Marc Gaughan	Absent
Arthur Pencek – President	Present	William Heim, Vice-President	Present
Joseph Castrogiovanni	Present	Thomas Lynch	Present
Edward Gaughan	Present	Rosemarie Warner, Secretary	Warner

Also present were Constance Sanko (Secretary/Treasurer); David Lamm (Building Inspector/Zoning Officer), Bruce Zero (Solicitor), Matthew Zero (Junior Council Member), Frank Hubbard, and Mary Black.

Citizen's Comments: Mary Ann Black, 911 Apple Tree Road, reported that the grass is overgrown on the property adjoining hers at 913 Apple Tree Road, and asked if the Borough could do something about it. She had previously contacted Dave Lamm, who contacted the bank that it is believed is in possession of the house since it is in foreclosure. Attorney Zero said that until clear ownership of the property is determined that there is nothing that can be done and the Borough cannot go onto private property for liability reasons. Mrs. Black asked the Borough to continue looking into the problem.

Moscow Volunteer Fire Company: Tickets for the Moscow Volunteer Fire Company Chicken BBQ are available at the Borough Office or from any fire company member.

Minutes of the May 2, 2016 meeting: Joe Castrogiovanni made a motion to accept the minutes of the May 2, 2016 meeting as written. Tom Lynch seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Treasurer's Report: Connie Sanko presented a list of bills to be paid from the General Fund. Ed Gaughan made a motion to pay the bills as presented. Bill Heim seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously with a roll call vote.

Council members were provided with copies of the Real Estate Tax Collector's Report.

Junior Council Persons: Matt Zero said that this will be his last meeting as a Junior Council Member and thanked Council for allowing him to serve and that he is thankful for the opportunity. Council members thanked Matt for his service and wished him well in the future.

Grants:

- Redevelopment Assistance Capital Program Grant: A telephone conference was held on May 4, 2016. Two resolutions are required to be adopted to meet the provisions of the grant for reimbursement:
- Resolution #256 - 2016 is for the use of \$69,885.00 for non-RACP related funds from the Borough's General Fund (\$39,700.00 for VanBrunt Street, \$2,000.00 for bid bonds for VanBrunt Street, \$11,041.00 for the Borough's share of the grant; and \$17,144.00 for the portion of VanBrunt Street that was removed from the grant due to the paving being non-RACP related). Bill Heim made a motion to adopt Resolution #256 - 2016. Tom Lynch seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously with a roll call vote.
- Resolution #257 - 2016 for use of \$11,904.00 from the Borough's General Fund for RACP related expenses. Bill Heim made a motion to adopt resolution #257 - 2016. Ed Gaughan seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously with a roll call vote.

Correspondence:

Letter from The Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection regarding the North Pocono School District Track and Field Renovations granting approval for the permits needed for the project. The school will begin work as soon as graduation is over.

Police Report:

- A National Night Out committee meeting was held on May 16, 2016.
- The Moscow Borough Police Department and the Moscow Borough Emergency Management Coordinator were provided with copies of the Steamtown National Historic Site Excursion Train Emergency Operations Plan 2016.
- An application was submitted to the United States Department of Justice for a bulletproof vest.

North Pocono Council of Governments: Bill Heim is still working on getting information for Group Health Insurance.

Building/Zoning Officer's Report: Dave Lamm reported on the following issues:

- There are several issues regarding high grass that he sent letters to the property owners for.
- The property at 1217 Church Street is for sale. The adjoining property owner has some concerns with the operations taking place with the horses and the use of the property. Dave is looking into the matter.
- There was an issue with someone on Market Street installing a fence.

Planning Commission:

- Art Pencek would like to meet with Attorney Zero to see how to handle the situation at the Spectrum Collision property on Market Street where there is an abundance of vehicles. . Dave Lamm said he has spoken to Mr. Facciponti several times but that his father-in-law is the property owner.
- Frank Hubbard submitted a letter requesting waivers for the duplex project. Mary Liz Donato submitted comments regarding the waivers. After a brief discussion Council tabled the matter until Greenman - Pedersen submits its recommendations. Upon receipt of the recommendation from Greenman - Pedersen, Attorney Zero will draw up a resolution for the next meeting pending approval from the Planning Commission.
- Amendment to the Zoning Ordinance pertaining to residential properties in a commercial zone: comments were received from the Lackawanna County Planning Commission. A Public Hearing will be scheduled for June 6, 2016 at 6:30 p.m. prior to the Council meeting.
- Questions have been raised as to whether or not the Special Exception granted to Marianne Sizelove for the property at 215 Main Street (former Twiddley Bits and Treasures property) stays with the property.

Recycling: Monthly Recycling Report for April: 5.54 tons paper; 6.29 tons commingled; 5.54 tons cardboard; 1.27 tons electronics; 23.91 tons brush; 18 trips to recycling center.

- **Municipal Building:** Tom Lynch spoke to a contractor who he will be meeting with to give an estimate on painting some of the exterior doors to the Borough building.

Financial Report:

Peoples Security Bank provided a proposal for a \$200,000.00 loan for the Stephens Heights project and various paving projects. Prior to submitting an application the Borough must receive approval from the Pennsylvania Department of Economic Development Local Government Unit Debt Act. One of the requirements is to pass an ordinance increasing the indebtedness of Moscow Borough, Lackawanna County, Pennsylvania, by the issue of a general obligation note in the amount of \$200,000.00 for sundry purposes; fixing the form, number, date, interest, and maturity thereof; making a covenant of the payment of the debt service on the note providing for the filing of the required document; providing for the appointment of a sinking fund depository for the note; and authorizing execution, sale and delivery thereof. Art Pencek read Ordinance #238 - 2016 . Bill Heim made a motion to advertise Ordinance #238 - 2016. Tom Lynch seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously with a roll call vote. The ordinance will be voted on at the June 6, 2016 meeting.

Solicitor's Report:

- Attorney Zero submitted a draft ordinance for enforcing park rules. Since Rose Warner was not at the meeting to make any recommendations this matter was tabled for the next meeting.
- Attorney Zero submitted a draft resolution for naming the parks in the Borough. This matter was tabled for the next meeting as well.

Old Business:

- Art Pencek said that he has not made any contacts regarding the issue with the pond at the intersection of VanBrunt Street and Orchard Street.
- Attorney Zero said a resolution will be required for the fee schedule for right-to-know fees.
- William Lombardi previously sent an email with a draft ordinance from Moosic Borough pertaining to dogs. It is felt that the Borough's ordinance is more stringent.

Adjournment: Bill Heim made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Tom Lynch seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Minutes submitted by Constance Sanko