

Meeting Minutes  
February 23, 2016

The regular monthly meeting of the Gordon Borough Council was held on Tuesday, February 23, 2016, re-advertised and rescheduled from February 9<sup>th</sup> due to inclement weather. The meeting was held at 7:00 p.m. in the Gordon Municipal Building with Council President Michael Rader presiding. Council persons present: Michael Rader, Richard Babb, Brian Hansbury, Jeffrey Hoffman, Shannon Dumboski and Valerie Stitzer. Also present: Borough Manager/Secretary-Treasurer Paul Snyder, Assistant Linda Gately and Solicitor Christopher Riedlinger; Citizen Leo Rauber and Reporter John Usalis. Absent: Councilman Jason Quick and Mayor George Brocius.

President of Council Michael Rader called the meeting to order with the Pledge of Allegiance. Motion by Hoffman that council accept minutes from the reorganization meeting January 4<sup>th</sup>, 2016, and the last regular meeting also on January 4<sup>th</sup> as presented by the secretary-treasurer carried unanimously.

Council was provided a line item budget of all accounts showing month and year to date revenues and expenditures against budget. General Account financial report: January opening balance \$104,795.<sup>58</sup>; January 2016 ending balance \$92,170.<sup>50</sup>. Motor License Fund January opening balance \$64,182.<sup>38</sup>; no expenditures and interest receipts of 22.<sup>95</sup>; balance end January: \$64,205.<sup>33</sup>. Snyder reported Community Hall Improvement Fund balance of \$2,213.<sup>50</sup>. BB&T no longer provides monthly written statements since their November 2015 merger with Susquehanna Bank. The secretary-treasurer will pick up enrollment forms to gain access to online account information. Motion by Stitzer that borough council accept the General Account financial report and Motor License Fund report as these reports were written and read by the secretary-treasurer. The motion carried unanimously.

Sewage Revenue Account financial report: \$190,122.<sup>35</sup> opening balance 1/1/16, interest receipt of \$67.<sup>55</sup>, Sewage Quarterly Property Bill receipts of \$23,115.<sup>81</sup> & Penalty receipts of \$240.<sup>17</sup>; with Miscellaneous reimbursements of \$533.<sup>64</sup>; \$30k transfer to Sewage Operations & Maintenance Account to meet obligations; balance 1/31/16 of \$184,079.<sup>52</sup>. Sewage Operations & Maintenance Account financial report: \$670.<sup>90</sup> opening balance 1/1/16, receipt of \$30k Sewage Revenue Account transfer and \$4.<sup>16</sup> interest; expenditures for wages, treatment plant/pump station maintenance and office expenses total of \$8,423.<sup>48</sup>; balance 1/31/16 was \$22,607.<sup>18</sup>. Sewage Reserve Account financial report: \$69,927.<sup>80</sup> opening balance 1/1/16, \$11.<sup>88</sup> interest; \$69,939.<sup>68</sup> balance on 1/31/16. Dumboski motion for borough council to accept financial reports for the Sewage accounts as written and read by Secretary-Treasurer Paul Snyder. The motion was carried unanimously. Snyder reported the pump station meter reading this month showed a lot of rainwater going into the system, probably due to local sump pumps running. Hoffman added that water was over the curbs. Daily readings should be 25-35k/day, whereas reading approached 165k the first day, 136k the second and 112k the third day during the storm. The resulting bill will be more than \$600 more than usual amounts. Council discussed ways to determine from where the illegal water entries into the system are coming.

Emergency snow removal invoices were received from both Paul Dean Construction (backhoe/operator \$1,610.) and Kimmel Construction truck/operator, \$2,026.<sup>50</sup>), paid from the general account (instead of motor license fund) due to possible reimbursement through PEMA, with 40 hours of labor/materials usage turned into SCEMA. Snyder added that part-time borough worker Paul Dean had filed an unemployment compensation claim listing the borough, and that Snyder had received a Relief of Charges approval notice from our dispute of this claim. Motion by Hansbury to pay emergency services invoices carried unanimously. Hansbury reported it was difficult to get in and out of Rattling Run development during the snow event, which constitutes an emergency vehicle response hazard. Snyder agreed we need to do better, and added that before the 33' wide McKnight roadway was turned over to the borough, Snyder had Kiehl Excavating do the plowing effectively. A letter received from John Blickley at SCEMA stated that Gordon has yet to name an Emergency Management Coordinator as mandated by Municipal Code Title 35. The borough must nominate an EMC and submit the paperwork Blickley sent for approval and appointment by the governor.

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Snyder read current invoices for borough council approval, including municipal building heating oil from Groody (\$370), Central Penn/Paper (\$85.<sup>20</sup>), F550 brake pads (\$282.<sup>98</sup>) and tires (\$327) for 2002 Chevy, PTD internet service (\$99.<sup>95</sup>), PPL for pole barn (\$23.<sup>28</sup>), street lights (\$1,008.<sup>94</sup>), building (\$49.<sup>86</sup>) and park (\$23.<sup>28</sup>), Service Electric telephone (\$42.<sup>16</sup>), and Butler Township police (\$2,750). Hoffman motion to pay general account invoices was approved unanimously. It was also recommended that Paul Snyder contact Mid Penn Bank to receive a bank card for the general account to be used for purchase of gas, rather than outlaying personal cash to be reimbursed by the borough. Snyder will also investigate a gas charge account at Turkey Hill (Wex) or other borough vehicle fuel sources.

Tiley reported last month that the municipal building oil burner air handler may not last the winter, with a quote of \$2500 for a four day job to replace the system. Rick's Refrigeration and Plumbing provided a quote of \$10k to replace the shaft. Antz Energy Systems checked the blower, fire box, shaft, pulleys, and found no problems, adding that the RPMs are fast, the pulleys work well, and they did not recommend replacement of the system as necessary at this time. Antz also noted that when and if a new heating system is installed, it should be placed on the roof for easier service access.

Biros' electrician reported that pump #2 has a defective magnetic starter in the control panel. They recommend replacement of the rusted galvanized chains on top of each pump with two 50' stainless steel cables at a cost of \$1,016. The cord going to one pump is rotten. Their original \$1870 quote did not factor in using our spare pump. The revised quote is \$950. Hoffman motion to proceed with both quotes was approved unanimously.

Snyder reported that a workmen's compensation plan auditor will be here at the borough office on February 16<sup>th</sup>. New general account QuickBooks checks were received and are being issued as of February, 2016. Motion by Hoffman to pay regular monthly outstanding invoices carried unanimously.

A UCC Permit was issued to PGHD Engineering Company, Huntingdon, for new water line hookups from Elm to Royer Street (Hobart), replacing laterals to homes also. This work will be completed when the weather breaks.

Solicitor Christopher Riedlinger, Esq., reported that the March 10<sup>th</sup> Weber code violation court case has been rescheduled to April due to the district attorney's scheduling conflict. Delinquent Sewage account collector Portnoff relayed that due to statute of limitations expiration December 2012, it is too late to file against the Rattling Run former Clamser property to collect on a lien for tapping fees during development in May 2009. Clamser maintains that they paid the fees to the contractor (Hampton) and they were not passed on to the borough. Riedlinger added that any personal action must have been filed by 2015, and recommended the fees and lien be written off. Riedlinger also briefly discussed a letter received from borough engineer Don Cuff of Entech Engineering regarding councilman Quick's request to investigate feasibility of traffic control stop signs placement on Hobart and McKnight Streets.

Monthly CEO reports for November 2015 to January 2016 was presented to council with the code enforcement officer's activities, progress and hours. Stitzer requested that Code Enforcement Officer (CEO) Robin Ennis follow up with the post office property owner Lori Ann Kaminski (Kulpmont) regarding regulations for sidewalk snow removal. Council President Mike Rader will ensure this is communicated to Mayor Brocius due to his absence from this meeting.

Butler Township Police Chief Ed Tarantelli submitted his January 2016 report with 33 calls: 11 follow-up investigations, 10 phone assignments, 2 thefts, 2 disturbances, 2 EMS calls, 2 assists, 1 domestic, 1 assault, 1 request for assistance and 1 noise complaint.

Councilman Brian Hansbury reported that he has registered for the state's Low Volume Road Maintenance Training, as required for the borough to receive funding for future gravel road work.

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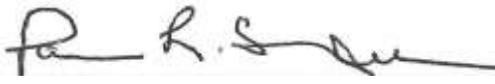
Dumboski asked if the contract changed with County Waste, who began garbage pickup in the borough at 4:30 a.m., and that the truck didn't stop at Troutman's.

Valerie Stitzer received a request to have a park cleanup day before March 20<sup>th</sup>. Recommended helpers are those who are required to perform community service and volunteers. Dom Puglia had also offered last month to have his club and scouts perform park cleanup with his reservation request for softball. Motion by Dumboski carried unanimously to approve Puglia's request for Tuesdays and Thursdays from 5-6:30 p.m. or Mondays-Wednesdays-Fridays. Stitzer added that another park request from Jackie for Mondays and Wednesdays may be the same as Puglia's and will confirm. Motion by Hansbury carried unanimously to approve Over Age 50 Softball's request for the park at 4-8 p.m. Sundays and 5-8 p.m. Tuesdays, starting April 10<sup>th</sup> through end of September. Dumboski's motions for the Methodist Church of the Cross March 25<sup>th</sup> park use and Mike Sterner's Phillies Little League team (Ashland) for Monday through Saturdays when available were also approved by council. As Recreation Committee chair, Val Stitzer will coordinate the schedule and resolve overlap situations for each group's request. The borough will also confirm FOG (Friends of Gordon) is doing their annual Good Friday Egg Drop.

Councilman Hansbury questioned when the police agreement was up for renewal. Rader responded the contract is renewed annually and should be due again this summer, and Riedlinger is also Butler Township's solicitor. Butler Township pays their workmen's compensation and taxes, and Gordon Borough pays a flat fee for services. Hansbury suggested the mayor should talk to Butler Township before the next contract renewal date to add guaranteed contract hours and deliverables. Councilman Richard Babb asked if the mayor could coordinate police speed traps in the borough. Babb added that he and resident Leo Rauber fixed a stop sign knocked over from a traffic accident in the borough. Rader thanked them for their quick work. Snyder responded that downed stop signs are the state's responsibility to replace; he contacts PennDOT when an accident occurs that requires their help.

During Old Business, Dumboski asked about the possibility of having Walmart add a sign at the bottom of the mountain directing truck traffic up. Rader replied that part of the PennDOT engineering plan map included signage. Rader also said he would verify with Dennis Toomey's office that buses will be considered exempt from the travel restriction and may still come down the mountain. Dumboski also questioned whether alleyway No Parking signs could be posted on Oak Street, since the police informed her no action can be taken without these signs. Snyder said the borough already has No Parking This Side signs already in stock and he would post, but Dumboski replied it would be better to have no parking on either side of the alley. An ordinance may have to be updated to include Oak Street.

There being no further business, a motion by Valerie Stitzer to adjourn this meeting of Gordon Borough Council carried unanimously upon voice vote. The meeting adjourned at 8:20 p.m.

Attest:  Paul L. Snyder, Secretary-Treasurer February 23, 2016