

Meeting Minutes

June 13, 2017

The regular monthly meeting of the Gordon Borough Council was held on Tuesday, June 13, 2017, at 7:00 p.m. in the Gordon Municipal Building. Councilpersons Present: Richard Babb, Shannon Dumboski, Brian Hansbury, Todd Houser, and Jason Quick. Also Present: Solicitor Christopher Riedlinger, Mayor George Brocious, and Secretary-Treasurer Linda Gately. Citizens: Laura Mummery, Linda Trautman, Patti Hornberger, Suzie Hocking, Lynn Korn, Jackie Babb, and Leo Rauber, Jr. Absent: Councilmen Jeffrey Hoffman and Michael Rader. Council Vice President Brian Hansbury called the meeting to order with the Pledge of Allegiance. Motion by Richard Babb for council to accept minutes from the May 9th regular meeting as presented by Secretary-Treasurer Linda Gately carried unanimously.

General Account Balance 5/1/17: \$90,147.¹⁰, Receipts: \$34,782.⁴⁸, Expenditures: \$50,798.⁶¹, Balance 5/31/17: \$78,904.⁸¹. MPB CD 0830 balance: \$14,414.⁸⁴. MPB Muni Fund 3430 balance: \$2,181.¹⁶. BB&T General Account CD 8835 balance: \$5,092.⁴⁵. Community Hall Improvement Fund Balance (unchanged) 5/31: \$1,665.⁸⁶. Motor License Fund Balance 5/1: \$55,061.⁵⁴, Interest Receipt: \$22.⁴⁰, no Expenditures; Balance 5/31: \$55,083.⁹⁴. Motion by Shannon Dumboski for council to accept the treasurer's May financial reports for both the General Account and Motor License Fund as read carried unanimously.

Sewage Account financial reports: Revenue Opening Balance: \$290,849.³², Receipts: \$2,744.⁷⁸, inc. \$107.¹⁰ interest, \$45k transfer to Op./Maint. Acct. to meet obligations; Balance 5/31: \$248,537.⁴². Sewage Reserve MPB CD 6530 (unchanged) Balance: \$70,232.⁴¹; Revenue MPB CD 0431 Balance: \$86,253.⁵⁸. Sewage Operations/Maintenance Account Balance 5/1/17: \$5,837.⁶³, Receipts: \$45k transfer and \$9.²⁸ interest; Expenditures: \$38,639.⁵⁷ inc. semi-annual sewage loan payment (\$22,553.⁰³), Balance 5/31: \$12,207.³⁴. Shannon Dumboski's motion to accept all Sewage financial reports as read carried unanimously.

General account invoices for payment to date: Aqua PA (\$418), Berkheimer EIT/LST (\$247.¹¹), SWIF (\$835), MPB roof loan (\$802.⁷⁸), Lavas commission May (\$27.⁵⁸), Riedlinger (\$975), Siana, Bellwoar & McAndrew LLP (\$409.⁵⁰), PPL \$850.³³ LED St. Lts., \$352.⁸¹ HSV St. Lts.), Republican-Herald Ads (\$352.⁸¹ and \$173.⁵²), Entech (\$349.³⁰) Butler Twp. (\$5,500), Chamber (\$325), POCS (\$15.²⁰), CNA Surety-bond (\$754.³⁸), Independent Dock & Door (\$105), BIU (\$775). Sewage account invoices for payment to date: Riedlinger (\$478.²⁵), SCMA-treatment plant (\$6,011.⁸¹), Entech (\$2,217.⁵⁰). Council was given a line-item YTD account. Richard Babb's motion to pay sewage and general account invoices carried unanimously.

Mayor George Brocious received Butler Township Police Chief Ed Tarantelli's May report, with 15 calls and complaints within Gordon Borough as follows: 7 follow-up investigations, 4 phone assignments, 1 fire dispatch, 1 request for information, 1 harassment complaint, and 1 request for assistance. Brocious thanked Washington Fire Co., who brought a ladder, ambulance and 15 rescue personnel for a resident's death. Council asked Brocious to set up a meeting with Butler Township Supervisors regarding Gordon police coverage. The mayor received three requests to perform wedding ceremonies, and asked if the fire company community hall air conditioning would be working in time for the first event July 15th. Other weddings are scheduled for September 2nd and October 1st. Councilman Quick answered that contractor Cool Works has completed the HVAC installation in the council room, and will work on the offices next. The community hall, not on the original scope of renovations, will be a next round priority. Plan to block the section with a completely inoperable unit to have the remaining functional one dedicated completely to handle the hall.

Solicitor Christopher Riedlinger, Esq., presented property owner Laura Mummery with a \$5,000 check in exchange for the deed to the 1.2 acre tax parcel 46-1-9(3), a lot adjoining the road along East Plane Street. Riedlinger reported the tentative SCMA-Gordon sewage system turnover date is now August 1st, with the borough and SCMA agreeing to waive one month's residential sewage fees during the transition in July. Gordon will still bill and collect for 2Q17 sewage service. The borough will coordinate with Aqua PA on disconnecting service to delinquent sewage system accounts prior to the transfer date, as per our 1995 agreement. The borough is sending letters for 4Q16 and 1Q17 delinquencies not previously turned over to Portnoff, whose last notice included up to 3Q 2016. Riedlinger will try to coordinate a future SCMA presentation for the community of expected sewage changes before the transfer agreement is finalized.

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Duly advertised Hazardous Material Ordinance 2017-02 was presented for adoption in order to obtain reimbursement if extraordinary expenses are incurred to contain or extinguish a borough fire. A motion by Shannon Dumboski for council to approve this ordinance was unanimously approved. Motion by Jason Quick allowing Vice-president Brian Hansbury to sign the agreement in President Mike Rader's absence was approved unanimously. Riedlinger asked the borough secretary to forward a copy of the signed and sealed ordinance for him to file at the courthouse, and recommended the affidavit of advertising run accompany the ordinance's placement in borough records.

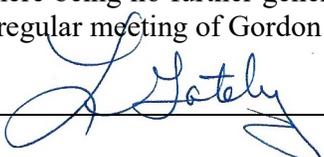
Code Enforcement Officer Robin Ennis reported District Justice Christina Hale will file violation citations but she has a backlog on serving warrants due to only one available constable in the county. Riedlinger requested a list of blighted properties the borough may gain conservatorship over in a judicial tax claim sale, or have right of first refusal. The solicitor added that the borough may cut the grass on abandoned properties and place a lien to collect. Riedlinger suggested CEO Ennis check the floodplain ordinance and see if a citation is applicable for Kost refusing to comply with issued permit specifications for his privacy fence. Stefanisko's UCC garage permit was issued. Shoffler applied for a shed permit.

Jason Quick reported that due to an imminent safety risk, Gladski Tree Removal took down one of four rotted trees in the park for \$2,000. PPL trimmed tree limbs near power lines. Hadesty's Hardware donated a posthole digger at no charge. Quick thanked Richard Babb and Leo Rauber for their help operating their own equipment to knock down the remaining diseased trees. Council reviewed vegetation management bids from DBI Services (\$1,000) and Ehrlich (\$1,200) to spray curbing along McKnight, Biddle and Hobart Streets, the fence line around the ballfield, and both sides of the creek bed. Babb's motion accepting the low bid approved unanimously. Quick's motion to donate \$9 found in the park to the Community Hall Fund passed unanimously. Council tabled quotes obtained from Pioneer Pole Buildings, JWL, and Zawada for a garage extension. Independent Dock & Door repaired the garage door cables. County Waste delivered a recycling container for the borough building. More follow up is necessary on a discrepancy of Red Oak Hydraulics' \$422.²⁵ dump truck rear hydraulic system repair quote approved last month and the actual repair invoice received for over \$1,500. Quick said the truck was in disrepair due to maintenance neglect, but even with a replacement motor the bill would have only increased by \$200. A vendor has been found to paint crosswalks. Paul Dean completed process training for raising manhole covers. The borough paid \$700 to repair a manhole cover PennDOT damaged during March's storm.

Motion by Richard Babb to adopt the BB&T Resolution and Agreement for Deposit Account dated 6/13/2017 authorizing BB&T to accept this resolution to change signatories for the borough as discussed last month. Motion approved unanimously. The resolution, signature card and addendum will be stamped with the borough seal and returned to BB&T Ashland. Council Vice President Brian Hansbury read his letter of resignation effective June 30, 2017, upon the recommendation of solicitor Riedlinger due to a move outside the borough. Motion by Quick to accept the resignation with regret passed unanimously. Council thanked Hansbury for his service to the community and ongoing support through his work at SEDCO. Letters of interest for the open post will be reviewed next month.

Citizen Suzie Hocking asked about the 25 year-old \$1,055.⁹⁴ centennial fund balance. The committee is a privately run fundraising group to support local endeavors. The three remaining members must meet and vote to turn over the existing balance to another organization. Lynn Korn asked to have speed limits lowered to slow Swift (Walmart) and UFP trucks in town. Jackie Babb had a high grass complaint.

The next regular Borough Council meeting is Tuesday, July 11th at 7:00 p.m. in the Gordon Municipal Building. There being no further general business, a motion made by Shannon Dumboski at 8:20 p.m. to adjourn the regular meeting of Gordon Borough Council carried unanimously.

Attest:  Linda S. Gately, Secretary-Treasurer June 13, 2017