

Meeting Minutes
November 14, 2017

The regular monthly meeting of Gordon Borough Council was held Tuesday, November 14, 2017, at 7 p.m. in the Gordon Municipal Building. Council Present: Richard Babb, Shannon Dumboski, Jeffrey Hoffman, Todd Houser, Richard Korn, and Jason Quick. Also Present: Solicitor Christopher Riedlinger, and Secretary-Treasurer Linda Gately. Citizens: Jim Marlowe, Carol Fetterolf, Tracy Hughes, Lynn Korn, Dennis Morgan, and Leo Rauber, Jr. Absent: Mayor George Brocious, and Councilman Michael Rader.

Council Vice President Houser called the meeting to order with the Pledge of Allegiance. Motion by Dumboski seconded by Hoffman for borough council to accept the minutes from the October 10th regular meeting as presented by Secretary-Treasurer Linda Gately carried unanimously.

General Account 8709 (MPB) Checking Opening Balance October 1st: \$30,925.⁶⁷ inc. \$100 petty cash; Receipts (inc. Swg.): \$262,660.³¹, Expenses: \$22,171.⁸¹, \$3,015.⁷⁹ uncleared checks; Balance on 10/31/17: \$274,429.⁹⁶. MPB Gen. Acct. Muni Fund 3430 balance (unchanged) 10/31: \$2,181.¹⁶. MPB General Acct. CD 0830 Balance on 10/31/17: \$14,490.⁵³. BB&T Gen. Acct. CD 8835 Balance on 10/31: \$5,113.⁸³. General Reserve MPB CD 3802 Balance 10/31: \$70,442.⁶⁷ @ 1.2% int., matures 5/2/18 (formerly Sewage Revenue CD 6530). MPB Sewage Revenue CD 0431 Balance 10/31: \$86,486.³⁴ (0.8% int., matures 4/5/19). Community Hall Fund (MPB 2966): \$498.⁷⁶. (\$.06 interest, \$367.⁵⁴ gen. acct. hall reimbursements). Motor License Fund 9509 (MPB) Balance 10/1/17: \$53,159.⁸⁶, \$20.⁹⁷ Interest, Expenses: \$68.⁶⁷, (asphalt), Balance 10/31/17: \$53,112.¹⁶, MLF CD 20018 (BB&T) Balance 10/31/17: \$84,090.³⁴. Babb seconded Hoffman's motion to accept all accounts' October finance reports as read; motion carried unanimously.

Invoices: General Account-Aqua PA (\$418), Berkheimer EIT/LST (\$72.⁶⁸), BIU-Engr. (\$888.⁸³), Butler Twp. Police (\$2,750), Gene's Supply (\$118.²⁰), Entech (\$465), Lavas-tax comm. (\$37.⁴⁹), MPB roof loan (\$802.⁷⁸), PPL (\$856.⁵⁰ LED, \$363.⁴⁹ HSV St. Lts., \$120.³⁸ Muni Bldg.), PTD (\$99.⁹⁵), Riedlinger (\$563), SWIF workmen's comp. ins. (\$1,005), DCED-UCC permits (\$12). Dumboski's motion to pay all invoices carried unanimously.

In the absence of Mayor Brocious, Borough Manager Jason Quick read Butler Township Police Chief Ed Tarantelli's monthly report, with 34 calls and complaints within the Gordon Borough in October. Code Enforcement Officer Robin Ennis talked with the EPA, who offered to send an air quality monitor if needed for a complaint of noxious chimney smoke at 700 Hobart Street. A letter was sent to the owner of 607 Hobart last month, who advised Ennis he had no money to fix the problem. The investigation is ongoing. Fire Report: Citizens' Volunteer Firemen's Relief Fund received \$3,196.⁹⁵ turned over from the borough per Act 205; Form AG 706-B was returned to the state by the borough secretary. A fire company audit was completed by the state auditor general's office, with two minor noncompliances found. The Ladies' Auxiliary will host a Christmas party Sunday, December 3rd at 3 p.m. in the social hall followed by a tree lighting at 5 p.m. at Simpson UMC. FOG's Pumpkin Glow Night Saturday, October 28th was not well attended. Last month, the mayor noted that Gordon Citizens' Fire Company No. 1 is donating \$2,500 spread over three years to Schuylkill Firefighters' Financial Development Organization, who requested each municipality give \$5k toward the \$2.4 million cost of the new fire school project. Motion by Korn and seconded by Hoffman for the borough to match the fire company's pledge in a single payment made in January 2018, so the total requested pledge amount will be fulfilled. Motion carried unanimously.

Solicitor Christopher Riedlinger, Esq., presented duly advertised ordinances 2017-04 (Street Excavation-Refilling, amending Ordinance 07122016 and adding Resolution 11142017A approving a permit application, fee of \$100 plus a \$50 excavation fee to include the first 10 linear feet), 2017-05 (Disability Parking Sign and adding Resolution 11142017B approving a permit application, \$50 initial fee/\$10 yearly renewal) and 2017-06 (Rental Occupancy Permit and adding Resolution 11142017C approving a permit application with an inspection fee of \$25 per unit). A motion by Babb, seconded by Dumboski adopting these ordinances, resolutions and permit applications, carried unanimously.

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Riedlinger said the 209 East Biddle (old school) Tax Parcel 46-4-103 deed is pending for our CDBG demolition project. The contractor will preserve the cornerstone and bricks for a potential fundraiser, according to Borough Manager Jason Quick. Riedlinger recommended the borough council should adopt the required annual resolution for appointing an independent auditor (Lettich & Zipay, CPAs) at the next meeting. Councilman Korn asked Riedlinger to follow up in writing Verizon a letter regarding trees down on phone lines behind his house in the borough.

Borough Communications/Committee Reports: Jason Quick advised council the final invoice total for the skid steer Bobcat loader with attachments slightly exceeded last month's \$50k approval (by \$122.⁸³); no council objections. Quick had PennDOT winter maintenance training and a SCEMA's hazard mitigation seminar last week, will go to NSCOG's 7 p.m. meeting Nov.15th at the Mahanoy Township Municipal Building, and PA One Call's excavator training Thursday morning, Nov. 16th. Hughes, Houser and Quick will attend the free elected officials' dinner seminar 6-8 p.m. 11/16 in Pottsville, with DCED/PSAB presentations on Budgeting, Sunshine Law, & Meeting Procedures/Protocol. South Schuylkill COG is hosting a meeting on tax reform on 11/19 at 7 p.m.; NSCOG is invited to attend. Location to be announced via email.

Jason Quick reported building permits were issued to BEE Contractors-McKnight duplexes, new construction; Boyer-porch roof, screen door, sidewalk; Friday-roof; and Fetterolf/Creasy-roof. Quick received a Sherwin Williams paint quote for the hall in 2018 (\$1,557.⁶⁹ materials, using prison labor). He bought 24 industrial sinks through Equipment One's online auction for pickup at Danville State Hospital for \$127.⁰⁹ borough cost, and resold the 20 surplus @\$10/ea. (\$200 cash) to various local vendors. Quick is also getting quotes for replacement bathroom stall partitions (\$3k) as part of the remodel project including the four sinks mentioned above (\$10-15K project total). A Cool Works check for ½ (\$9,475) the low hall HVAC bid was issued after receiving all quotes (\$18,950-CoolWorks; \$27,950-Advantage; \$58,800-Antz and \$38,315-Drumheller), approved by council last month. Concrete pads were poured for HVAC installation.

Gordon will get 15 free garbage cans from Walmart to share with the fire company. A mockup municipal building hallway entrance rug with borough logo was priced to keep foot traffic damage to a minimum. Quick received \$94 scrap value for recycling old ladder and HVAC unit (with two more units to recycle), added garage lights and rain gutters, repaired the municipal building hallway water fountain, replaced the battery on the '02 Chevy borough truck, winterized lawn mower, prepped borough trucks for winter (plow cutting edges delivered), and replaced a stop sign at McKnight and Charles Streets that was run over by a truck. Dumboski reminded Quick that stop signs in the Rattling Run Development had not yet been posted as discussed, and that council had also requested adding three new LED street lights to make the area safer.

The council recreation committee will take the lead on a proposed community park design contest via the Gordon Borough Facebook page to get quotes on what is needed before application for a playground equipment grant begins in March 2017.

Finance Committee members Houser and Korn, and to review 2017 YTD budget performance with Secretary-Treasurer Gately to draft a proposed 2018 budget. The 2018 projects list and budget figures for roads and land/building maintenance were presented for approval to advertise for the mandatory ten day public inspection period before adoption of next year's budget and Tax Ordinance 2018-01, with no planned increase in borough taxes. Motion by Babb, seconded by Korn, to pay off the \$43,788.¹² Mid Penn Bank roof loan #2002022 balance carried unanimously. Motion by Hoffman and seconded by Korn to advertise the proposed 2018 budget for the mandatory ten day public review period before adoption December 12th carried unanimously. Motion by Babb and seconded by Hoffman to advertise 2018 borough council meeting dates in December was approved unanimously. Motion by Dumboski, seconded by Hoffman, approved unanimously to close both BB&T CD accounts before maturity (roll Motor License CD 20018 and General CD 8835 into separate 1.2% 6 month CDs,) in order to remove BB&T as a depository at the January meeting.

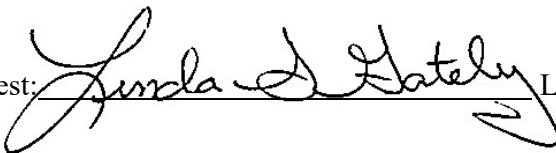
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Public Participation: Resident and incoming 2018 councilperson Tracy Hughes must contact Frannie Brennan at the county election bureau to claim her seat, won by write-in votes in the general election. Hughes stated that since Jason Quick opened up the creek, she feels safer taking her children to that area of the park, and it looks fabulous! Quick responded that plastic bottles have been in the creek, and he is also looking into a dye test to detect illegal discharge to keep it clean. Citizen Leo Rauber asked for more detailed breakdown of police reports. He was told some information is confidential in ongoing investigations. A restroom for the park and snow maintenance plans were also briefly discussed.

The next regular Gordon Borough Council Meeting is Tuesday, December 12, 2017 at 7 p.m. in the Gordon Borough Municipal Building, immediately following the special budget meeting at 6 p.m. There being no further general business, motion by Hoffman and seconded by Babb carried unanimously to adjourn the regular Gordon Borough Council meeting at 9:20 p.m.

Attest:  Linda S. Gately, Secretary-Treasurer November 14, 2017