

Borough of Gordon Council Meeting Minutes July 5, 2021

The regular monthly meeting of Gordon Borough Council was held Monday, July 5 at 7:00 PM. Council Vice-President, Jeffrey Hoffman, led the Pledge of Allegiance and Secretary Cathy Moyer held roll call. Council members Richard Babb, Richard Korn, Shannon Dumboski and Tracy Hughes were present providing a quorum. Operations Manager George Troutman, and Solicitor Chris Reidlinger were also in attendance along with three citizens. Council member Todd Houser and Mayor George Brocious were not in attendance.

Public Comment: Citizen Leo Rauber questioned whether the plans for a Veteran' Memorial at the old school lot were definitely going to happen. He was informed that the AMVETS who are looking at doing the project do not have enough funds to do it at this point. Also, the issue of repairing the steps was also addressed, George Troutman said that he intends to work on them at some point in the future.

Councilwoman Shannon Dumboski asked about what happened on Elm Street. Operations Manager George Troutman informed Council that someone put fireworks in the pipe going under the road and the pipe caught on fire along with the road.

Mr. Rauber then asked if the new pole building would be placed on a cement pad or if the cement work would be done after the building was installed. He was told that it would be done after the building was placed on the lot.

Minutes: Minutes from the June 7, 2021 meeting were presented.

A motion was made to accept the meeting minutes of June 7, 2021 monthly meeting.

Motion: Shannon Dumboski Seconded: Tracy Hughes

Treasurer Report: Secretary Cathy Moyer gave the financial report for the month of June. She explained that we received a FEMA reimbursement of \$216,209.60 of which \$212,193.35 was paid to Heim construction for the work they did. Also, the Borough received their ARPA allotment of \$37,890.25 which will be deposited into a separate account. The Borough received income of \$262,748.25 and had expenses of \$ 237,547.06. The Borough had a balance of \$ 161,704.38 in the General Fund and \$37,701.87 in the Motor Licensing Fund. The Community Hall Fund is at \$2,788.23 and the Park Savings Fund is at \$35,304.85.

A motion was made to approve the Treasurer's report as presented.

Motion: Shannon Dumboski Seconded: Richard Korn

Payment of Invoices: A motion was made to pay the invoices for July.

Motion: Tracy Hughes Seconded: Richard Korn

Solicitor's Report:

Solicitor Reidlinger commented on a letter he sent to Council about Jr. Firefighters. He referred to a manual that covered the subject of Jr. Emergency Workers. It does allow 14-year-olds to work as Jr. Firefighters but only under certain conditions doing certain allowable activities. He will give Council a list of these activities and the Secretary will contact SWIF to see if they are covered under worker's compensation.

He also asked if the committee had met to discuss the Quality-of-Life Ordinance. Council members Shannon Dumboski and Tracy Hughes had met with Nicholas Hazlett and items to be included were discussed. Ms. Dumboski expressed her concerns that the report looks like there is a lot getting done but it is not being seen in town. There are a lot of ongoing problems. Operations Manager George Troutman then explained that when he goes to COG meetings other municipalities are experiencing the same problems because of the court system. Solicitor Reidlinger suggested they address these issues to the Code Officer when he arrives.

Mayor's Report:

Police Report: With the Mayor absent, Vice-President Jeffrey Hoffman gave the totals for the Police Report. There were 14 calls and complaints in the month of June.

Fire Company: No report.

Code Enforcement Report: The Code Enforcement Officer reported 15 hours for the month of June. A motion was made to pay him in the amount of \$525.00 for 15 hours in the month of June.

Motion: Richard Korn Seconded: Shannon Dumboski

Operations Manager Report:

Mr. Troutman gave his report for the month of June.

1. He has been working on the steel beams for the area of the creek wall behind the church which is moving. The project is complete except for 2 beams which he is waiting for our engineer to look at.
2. All the trees that were to be removed in the park are down and the area is cleaned up. He noted that he would like to see money put in the budget for the next few years because of the trees that will have to be removed.
3. Mr. Troutman then informed Council that the pipe on Elm Street that was damaged by fireworks will be repaired. He has been pricing pipe and for plastic pipe it would be \$1500.00 and for galvanized pipe it would be \$1800.00 to \$2,000.00. He then asked that he be given \$3,000.00 for the entire repair. A motion was made to allocate up to \$3,000.00 to repair Elm Street.

Motion: Richard Korn Seconded: Tracy Hughes

Old Business:

During the executive session Solicitor Reidlinger explained that a decision had to be made that night as to whether to pursue a PIB loan for the purchase of the new truck. The timetable for getting the loan is around 60 days which may be cutting it close should the truck be ready for delivery sooner than expected. Also, the cost for him to do the Local Unity Debt Act would be \$1500.00. Treasurer Cathy Moyer had put out to Council the two options they had for buying the truck. The PIB loan was Option #1.

The Treasurer found that the State Allotment for Equipment purchases had accumulated to \$73,963.63. Option #2 was presented showing Council how the truck could be paid off with the MLF CD coming up for renewal at the end of July. Option #2 used \$70,247.01 of the CD, \$3,716.62 from the MLF account and 537.50 from the General Account.

A motion was made to use Option #2, paying for the truck outright with the MLF CD #318011215.

Motion: Richard Babb Seconded: Richard Korn

New Business:

A motion was made to pay wages to Richard Babb in the amount of \$277.50 for 18 ½ hours worked in the month of June.

Motion: Shannon Dumboski Seconded: Tracy Hughes

A motion was made to reappoint Shannon Dumboski and Tracy Hughes as representatives to the Schuylkill TCC.

Code Enforcement Officer, Nicholas Hazlett arrived, and a discussion was held on some of the problem code enforcement issues in the Borough in particular the Atehia properties, the Webber property, and several vehicles in town.

Public Comment:

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 8:15 PM.

Motion: Shannon Dumboski Seconded: Richard Korn

The next meeting will be held on August 2, 2021.

*All motions unanimous unless noted.

Attest: _____ Cathy Moyer, Secretary /Treasurer August 2, 2021