

Borough of Gordon
Council Meeting Minutes
May 1, 2023

The regular monthly meeting of Gordon Borough Council was held Monday, May 1, 2023. Council Vice-President Tracy Hughes led the Pledge of Allegiance and Secretary Cathy Moyer held roll call. Council members Richard Korn, Tracy Hughes, and Jackie Hughes were present providing a quorum. Mayor George Brocious, Solicitor Christopher Reidlinger, and Secretary Cathy Moyer were also in attendance along with four members of the public. Council members Jeffrey Hoffman and Shannon Dumboski were not present.

Public Comment:

Jason Quick noted an incident where a four-year old boy was on the street at the Fire Company and he had to locate his parents. He had wandered away from home. He mentioned this so as to keep a look out for him should he wander away again.

Edward Moran and Edward Ulceski asked permission to stay overnight in the Park before the fishing rodeo in order to set up and ensure there is no vandalism before the rodeo. They were told that they could come in anytime after 3:00 due to a wedding earlier in the park.

The Fire Company asked if George Troutman could help on May 28th to close roads for the 5K run. Permission was granted.

Cheryl Varnell asked if the cameras were working in the Park. Also, she questioned the status of a property by the Park where they have chickens and ducks that smells bad. It was also questioned as to the status of property owners having junk cars on their property.

Minutes: Minutes from the April 3, 2023 monthly meeting were presented. Mayor George Brocious noted a correction. The Fire Company is having their golf tournament on May 13th not April 13th. The Secretary noted the correction.

A motion was made to approve the meeting minutes of April 3, 2023 monthly meeting.

Motion: Richard Korn Seconded: Jackie Hughes

Treasurer Report: Treasurer Cathy Moyer gave the financial report for the month of April 2023. The Borough received an income of \$26,696.74 and had expenses of \$107,848.07. This was due to paying the Streambank Project in the amount of \$78,575.52 and the Grosser Street repair of \$10,800.00. The General Fund had a month end balance of \$78,222.80, the Motor Licensing Fund had a month end balance of \$52,240.53. The Community Hall Fund is at \$2,938.52. The Park Savings account stands at \$3,597.39. The Treasurer also noted that the ARPA account was now closed due to paying the Streambank Project invoice. A motion was made to accept the Treasurer's report as presented.

Motion: Jackie Hughes Seconded: Richard Korn

Payment of Invoices: A motion was made to pay the invoices for May 2023.

Motion: Richard Korn Seconded: Jackie Hughes

Solicitor's Report:

911 Addressing Update: Prior to the meeting the Solicitor went over a list of problems with the addressing in the Borough that was given him by Scott Krater. A motion was then made to allow the 911 Center to work on a plan to update and correct these issues.

Motion: Richard Korn Seconded: Jackie Hughes

Garbage Bill Issue Update: The Solicitor reported that he received a response from Jonas Kreiter on the problem with garbage billing. He explained that GFL has over 50 municipalities that they handle and only three of them have their billing directly with the customers like Gordon Borough does. He discussed that many municipalities pay GFL directly and they handle billing the customers. But that requires someone to collect the payments and deal with the issue of non-payments. It was also suggested that the Borough pay the garbage through a tax increase to the citizens, but for 325 households that would be \$93,600.00. At this time GFL would like a list of its customers in the Borough. The Secretary will use the Schuylkill County Parcel Locator to compose the listing.

706 Hobart Street Update: The Solicitor gave an update on the FEMA violations at this property. A new letter will be sent out with information on specific violations and the timeline of 6 months to correct the violations.

Mayor's Report:

Police Report: Mayor George Brocius read the police report for April. There were 11 calls and complaints.

Fire Company: Mayor Brocius reported that the Fire Company will be having a golf tournament on May 13, 2023 and they are having a 5K run or walk on May 28, 2023. He also reported that they are having the floor repaired in the truck room.

Code Enforcement Report: Code Enforcement Officer, Nicholas Hazlett, gave an update on a few properties that he has been dealing with. The issue of people buying properties and then selling them to Mr. Aquea was addressed as was the property by the park with chickens and ducks. He will be turning in his wages for April along with the May report.

Operations Manager Report:

Part-Time Worker Wages: George Troutman reported that Richard Babb had 12 hours in the month of April. He assisted with the street sweeping and cutting down trees. A motion was made to approve paying Richard Babb \$180.00 for 12 hours in the month of April.

Motion: Richard Korn Seconded: Jackie Hughes

He next noted that there was a burning complaint concerning someone using a fire ring. It was noted that there should not be a problem with if they are just burning firewood.

Line Painting: Mr. Troutman reported that he received the proposal for line painting at a cost of \$700.00. But he would like to get the streets crack sealed prior to line painting and that would be at a cost of \$7800.00. But if they did both the cost would be \$9,150.00. This would be an expense that could be taken from the Motor Licensing Account. A motion was made to have the crack sealing and line painting done at a cost of \$9,150.00.

Motion: Jackie Hughes Seconded: Richard Korn

Park Pavilion Roof Repair: Mr. Troutman next proposed repairing the roofs on the pavilion at the park. Material would cost in the area of \$2,982.53. He reminded them that we have \$10,000.00 budgeted for the Park and could be reimbursed from the Park Savings Account, A motion was made to repair the roofs at the Pavillions at a cost of \$2,982.53.

Motion: Richard Korn Seconded: Jackie Hughes

Rental of Milling Machine: Mr, Troutman made a request to rent a milling machine for some road repairs at a cost of \$300.00 a day. A motion was made giving permission to rent a milling machine a cost of \$300.00 a day.

Motion: Richard Korn Seconded: Jackie Hughes

Rental of Stump Grinder: Mr. Troutman then requested that he be allowed to rent a stump grinder at a cost of \$200.00 a day. He wants to get rid of the stumps in the park left from cutting trees down. After they are ground level he would cover them over with top soil to make it level. A motion was made to allow the rental of a stump grinder at a cost of \$200.00 a day.

Motion: Richard Korn Seconded: Jackie Hughes

Request for New Push Mower: Mr. Troutman informed Council that the push mower needed to be replaced. He found one on sale at a cost of \$339.00. Jason Quick reminded them that the old push mower had been purchased several years ago from Richard Babb. A motion was made to allow the purchase of the new push mower at a cost of \$339.00.

Motion: Jackie Hughes Seconded: Richard Korn

Old Business: None

New Business: None

Public Comment: Jason Quick gave some more information on the upcoming 5K Run being held by the Fire Company.

Adjournment: A motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 8:00 P.M.

Motion: Richard Korn Seconded: Jackie Hughes

The next meeting will be held on July 3, 2023.

*All motions unanimous unless noted.

Attest: _____ Cathy Moyer, Secretary /Treasurer June 5, 2023

