

LORAIN BOROUGH / REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
February 8, 2012

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM by President Harold Berkebile, Jr. President Harold Berkebile, Jr. led Council in the Pledge of Allegiance. Roll call was taken by Michelle Misner. Council members in attendance:

Mr. Harold Berkebile, Jr.
Mr. Gary Hoffman

Mr. James Fresh
Mr. Ken Gibson

Mr. John Raspotnik
Mr. Michael Hammers

Also in attendance:

Mayor George Randolph
Solicitor Alex Svirsko

Fire Chief Tom Callihan

Engineer Ken Mesko

Minutes

A motion was made by Michael Hammers second by James Fresh to approve the Minutes from the January 11, 2012 Regular Council Meeting as written.

MOTION CARRIED 6-0

Treasurer Report

Michelle Misner reviewed the following reports with Council:

- January Balance Sheet
- January Deposit Detail
- January Profit & Loss Budget vs. Actual
- January Transaction List by Vendor
- January Municipal Authority Reports
- January Payroll

A motion was made by Ken Gibson second by John Raspotnik to accept the Treasurer's Report as written.

MOTION CARRIED 6-0

Tax Collector Report

Carol Petry submitted the following Tax Collector Report for January 2012:

*R.E.: \$327.62 *O/T: \$49.00 *EIT 2011: \$3458.08

A motion was made by James Fresh second by Gary Hoffman to accept the Tax Collector's Report as written.

MOTION CARRIED 6-0

Correspondence

Michelle Misner discussed the following correspondence that was submitted to Lorain Borough:

- 2012 PMAA Board Member Training brochure.
- Volunteer Firefighter Relief Audit Report.
- Paving schedule requests from the Greater Johnstown Water Authority and Peoples Gas.
- Robert C. Edwards Association Scholarship information.

Items were reviewed by Council, but no action was taken on any of the above.

Citizen / Visitor Comments

Citizens Signed In: Rudd Johnson

Mr. Johnson expressed his concern to have the solid waste ordinance enforced. Council discussed the pros and cons of having the residents required to retain their own solid waste company to remove their weekly garbage or have the Borough adopt one company and bill the residents. It was agreed that the Borough will not take on the responsibility of collecting garbage removal fees from the residents. Council agreed that it should be clarified that each residence is required to retain a solid waste removal company. James Fresh suggested having reports written up as Council members see infractions while around the Borough. Alex Svirsko clarified the difference between the nuisance ordinance and the solid waste ordinance. This has been moved to New Business for further discussion.

Fire Chief Report

Fire Chief, Tom Callihan, reported 15 calls for the month of January 2012. All members of Council are invited to attend any training classes. The next in-house fire training is going on at the time of this meeting. An Advanced First Aid Class will be held March 15, 2012 at 6:00 PM at the fire hall. A CPR class will be held March 25, 2012 at 6:00 PM at the fire hall. Classes are \$3.00 each. NIMS training is available at all times and any Council member who is not NIMS certified needs to be as soon as possible. There are two new junior firefighters and one new member to the department. The PA Grant was awarded for the amount of \$25,582.67, the fifth largest in the state. This will help pay on the vehicles and upgrade equipment. The 2012 Safer Grant was written in the amount of \$296,000. This grant is a very difficult one to write. If awarded, it will go to recruit retention. It is a four-year grant and will help with the cost of a bunk house to allow for 24-7 live in members (college students that are members are able to live in the bunk house rather than college dorm) of the department along with a free AFLAC points system for prepaid MasterCards for incentive programs. The ADA Grant is being written for the ability to provide a handicap accessible ramp. There is an upcoming grant seminar March 17-18, 2012 and the cost is \$350.00 at the fire hall. VFRA (audit review) is dual for Oakland and Lorain. Park showers for the Thunder in the Valley rental were discussed. Tom will discuss with Gary Hoffman to iron out details and the necessary materials and manpower needed to build them. Ken Mesko will also consult in regards to the location these showers can be built.

Mayor / Police Report

Mayor George Randolph reviewed the Police Report submitted by the Johnstown Police Department for the month of January 2012. There were 27 calls with four arrests. He attended a Police Advisory Board meeting and told Chief Foust Council's decisions regarding changing signs to no longer allow dogs at the park. Chief Foust mentioned the K-9 unit run their dogs at the park and asked for an exemption to continue to allow them to use the park. Further discussion of that is discussed in New Business. Animal control is not covered under the current agreement between the Borough and the Police Department unless the animal poses a risk to others. Alex Svirsko mentioned having an ordinance that allows the Borough to pass any costs related to capturing and transporting stray animals onto the pet owners. The Police Department has a partial agreement in place and Alex is working with them. We have to give the Police Department the authority to catch strays and bill the owners directly. Mayor Randolph mentioned the steel fire ring in the long building and if any more are needed, he can get them at \$25.00 apiece. James Fresh asked if we can get more traffic observation by Police in the

Borough. He notices that especially on Oakland Avenue and the side streets that people aren't stopping at the stop signs. There were also three break ins in the Borough recently. A notice for safety will be made in the next newsletter.

Sewer Report

Ken Mesko briefly discussed the form to the City for their report. It needs to be signed and sent. The dye testing is completed. A list of violations will be sent to the Borough secretary to be reviewed. A workshop meeting will be conducted on Friday, February 10, 2012 at 3:30 PM. Ken will review what has been going on with the Council members that can attend. The Porter Street payment is due. The new Council members feel that they are paying this fee under duress as they agree that the work approved should not have been done and another direction should have been taken for the repairs. The prior Council who approved the work will be responsible should any problems arise due to the work done. Jerry Held is looking to do a sewer lateral replacement on Penrod Street. He obtained an excavation permit and Ken will inspect. It will be a new connection, PVC, traps and tested. Ken has copies of the sewer plans available if Council needs them. Many of the repairs to the sewer lines that were inspected via the camera can be fixed without digging and replacing the lines.

Park Commissioner's Report

Gary Hoffman mentioned the stove at the park has been neglected. It will be repaired in time for the opening of the park to rentals. There is a snow blower stored in the long building. Council needs to find out who it belongs to and why it is there. John Raspotnik will follow up on that. Gary asked Council if Council members rent the park for \$50 or if they are required to pay the full amount like anyone. This is further discussed in New Business.

Streets, Lights, Safety

James Fresh mentioned there were eight runs in January; five of them were for plowing and salting the roads. The roads were worked on. Both trucks were repaired; hydraulic work in the big truck and the suspension in the small pickup. The Kubota buckets were painted over. A TracFone was purchased for Rob Stern. Tar and chip has been plowed onto properties on Penrod Street and is in the process of being cleaned up when raked to the side of the road. There are five manhole covers left out of the twenty the Borough had; fifteen having been stolen. The remaining are back on the Borough Building property. A police report was taken and scrap yards are being notified to look for any that meet the unique description those manhole covers have. This report also makes it possible to file an insurance claim for the value of the stolen manhole covers. The signs at the park were altered to convey that dogs are no longer permitted on the park property. More salt and anti-skid was purchased in January. There were 66 hours for the month of January for Rob Stern.

Borough Property

No Report.

Housing, Ordinance, and Printing

No Report.

Finance, Taxes, and Appeals

No Report.

Solicitor's Report

Alex Svirsko discussed the Fire Escrow Ordinance, passed in 1992. He sent it onto the DCED and is still at 10%. The contact at DCED is Dan Bradley. He is still working on the Flood Plain Ordinance with FEMA. It should be approved soon. Emergency Management's, Allen Kline, has the CD with the draft and is reviewing it for the Hazard Mitigation Plan. The Resolution will be passed this evening under Unfinished Business. Alex did contact Gene Miller regarding the 396 Ohio Street issue and Alex has the bid and is discussing with Ken Mesko. The letter regarding the unpaid amount of the stop sign on Green Valley Street was sent. He wrote Jim Jacobs about Woodland Avenue issue stating the issues have been resolved.

Unfinished Business

Michelle Misner called all the different energy providers and came up with a spreadsheet of all the different prices and terms. Council agreed that they would like to review the contracts and base their decision on that. Michelle will obtain copies of the contracts and bring to the next meeting.

A motion was made by Gary Hoffman second by Ken Gibson to adopt the Hazard Mitigation Resolution for 2012.

MOTION CARRIED 6-0

It was suggested that Michelle Misner send a letter to the owner of the burned out residence on Oakland Avenue that it be cleaned up and secured along with what permits may be required and the protocol to take in order to ensure it is done.

The unpaid sewer rental bills were discussed. A motion was made by John Raspotnik second by Ken Gibson to have Alex Svirsko look into lien costs associated with placing liens on delinquent properties.

MOTION CARRIED 6-0

A motion was made by Michael Hammers second by Ken Gibson to actually place liens on properties with delinquent sewer rental bills should the costs involved be acceptable.

MOTION CARRIED 6-0

A motion was made by James Fresh second by John Raspotnik to allow community service workers to provide manpower in the Borough when needed. This is a program by Judge Long and involve non-violent convicted criminals required to do community service. The Borough is required to feed and give drink to these workers. It was agreed that the Borough could use four or five of these workers over a period of time.

MOTION CARRIED 6-0

New Business

A motion was made by Gary Hoffman second by Michael Hammers to purchase a new photocopier for the Borough. The price agreed to spend is \$549.97. This includes the new unit, extended warranty and high yield toner replacement.

MOTION CARRIED 6-0

A motion was made, after review of resume, to hire Joshua Davies, on an as-needed basis for \$8.00 per hour by James Fresh second by John Raspotnik.

MOTION CARRIED 6-0

A motion was made by Gary Hoffman second by James Fresh to make an exception for the Johnstown Police Department K-9 unit in terms of the no dogs allowed rule for the park.

MOTION CARRIED 6-0

A motion was made by Michael Hammers second by Ken Gibson to make clear that all council members must pay the active rates to rent the park.

MOTION CARRIED 6-0

Michael Hammers offered to install any purchased park security devices and will investigate what is needed and provide costs.

In regards to the bridge project, PENNDOT has not yet called Harold Berkebile, Jr. back as of the meeting time.

Good of the Borough

No report.

Bill Approval

A motion was made to pay all the bills listed in the Unpaid Bills Report, including the presented bill from L&M Excavating for the Porter Street Project, by John Raspotnik second by Ken Gibson.

MOTION CARRIED 6-0

Adjournment

There being no further business, a motion was made by Ken Gibson second by Gary Hoffman to adjourn at 9:50 PM.

MOTION CARRIED 6-0

Submitted by:

Michelle Misner – Secretary / Treasurer