

PORT ROYAL BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING

December 11, 2023

The Port Royal Borough Council held their monthly meeting on Monday, December 11, 2023, at 7 pm at 111 East Eighth Street, Port Royal, PA 17082.

Members present were President, Adam Bryner, Vice-President, Glenda Leister, Council Members, Brooks Gamble, Nicholas Walters, Teresa Murphy, John Towsey, Steve Bargo, and Mayor, Dylan Cisney.

Others present were Kimbra Jo Gray, Borough Secretary/Treasurer, Brian Book, Engineer cb3 Solutions, Becky Lock, Juniata Sentinel, Paulette Forry, Editor the Times, and Borough Resident Grace Goss.

President of Council, Adam Bryner, brought the meeting to order and led all in the Pledge of Allegiance at approximately 7 pm.

FIRST ON THE AGENDA

MOTION was made by Brooks Gamble to approve Minutes of the November meeting, 2nd by Nick Walters, approved by all, motion carried.

MOTION was made by Steve Bargo Borough Bills for November, 2nd by Brooks Gamble, approved by all, motion carried.

There were no new Land Use Permits applied for.

Public Comments – Resident Grace Goss reported that the ‘Breakfast with Santa’ (coordinated with the Lutheran Church) was very successful, 55 children were in attendance. A house/door decorating contest was held as well.

Councilman Brooks Gamble commented that he was please with the Christmas Parade and that it was very done along with other council members who also added comments of appreciation for the Christmas Tree Lighting.

Brian Book, Engineer cb3 Solutions, LLC

SR 75 Bridge Project: Response from PennDOT (David Liptak) as follows:

- The Crosswalks can be painted, but PennDOT is recommending not to do so, citing a study which concludes that doing so increased the potential for a Ped-Car crash by 3.6 times.
- Regarding Warning signs, PennDOT would provide and seems to indicate that it would be desirable to inform “unfamiliar” motorists of the mid-block cross walk. They want to caution that more signage is not better, citing several studies that indicate overuse of signs breed disrespect. There are multiple cross walks in Port Royal, most are not striped (only Eighth Street), so we need to apply discretion. We should work with PennDOT to determine the best way to provide.
- The Curb can be painted, but the Borough will need to maintain.

- The tripping hazard can be painted but will need to be maintained by the Borough.
- Regarding the slope down to the Railroad tracks, PennDOT indicates that this is a Norfolk Southern issue and we can contact them.

Point Service Station – Underground Storage Tank Clean Up: There have been no further updates.

Juniata County CDBG: Borough addresses have been received and are in process of being verified. The the study will be conducted the beginning of 2024.

Milford & Eighth Street:

Council authorized Kim to advertise the project. The Bid Opening will occur on January 31, 2024 at 6pm.

MOTION was made by Brooks Gamble to forgo the painting of the crosswalks per PennDOT’s recommendations, 2nd by John Towsey, approved by all, motion carried.

MOTION was made by John Towsey to see signage for upcoming Pedestrian Warning at the opposite end of the bridge and then also closer to the descent at First Street per comments made by Glenda Leister, 2nd by Glenda Leister, approved by all, motion carried.

MOTION was made by Glenda Leister to approve the Curb to be initially by PennDOT with ongoing maintenance provided by the Borough, 2nd by Steve Bargo, approved by all, motion carried.

MOTION was made by Brooks Gamble to approve the tripping hazard be painted by PennDOT as well with ongoing maintenance provided by the Borough, 2nd by Teresa Murphy, approved by all, motion carried.

Council discussed the area where the sidewalk comes from the bridge and continues around to Second Street. Prior to the bridge project, this area was obstructed by vegetation that was overgrown. PennDOT has exceeded the minimum required buffer, but safety issues were still expressed, and Engineer Book was requested to reach out to Norfolk Southern. Randy Williamson suggested providing photos.

The advertisement for the Milford and Eighth Street Project will be submitted to the Port Royal Times and the Juniata Sentinel.

Cross & Eighth Street Curb: A 15’ radius is used for curbing. The plans would include 15’ down Eighth Street & 15’ down Cross Street with a 90 degree arc for the Stop Sign to be completed by the contractor. The property owner (Cleck) will be consulted to let him know what is happening. The owner has no choice for changing the project as it is in the Borough Right of Way.

MOTION was made by Brooks Gamble to accept the Engineers Report for November, 2nd by John Towsey, approved by all, motion carried.

Maintenance Report

Randy Williamson thanked councilman John Towsey and Mayor Dylan Cisney for the help with the projects at Moyer Park. Concrete pads were placed under the benches. He also noted that the park was open for an additional month.

Everything is ready to go for Winter and there is plenty of salt.

MOTION was made by Glenda Leister to accept the Maintenance Report for November, 2nd by Teresa Murphy, approved by all, motion carried.

Street Committee

Everything is pretty much caught up. There is a resident request for patching on Milford Street that was discussed, and it was agreed that it should be fixed as soon as time permitted.

Ordinance Committee

Glenda Leister commented that she received a complaint regarding a neighbor's dog not being cleaned up after, a copy of the ordinance will be shared. She also received a call concerning a pool and deck adjacent to the Little League Field. Neighbors feel that there are numerous safety concerns for younger children that may wonder off out of curiosity.

Discussion was held regarding prioritizing obtaining a code enforcement firm. The Constable that was consulted has not been used.

Old Business

MOTION was made by Brooks Gamble to adopt the Borough Budget for 2024, 2nd by Nick Walters, approved by all, motion carried.

MOTION was made by Brooks Gamble to approve and adopt the changes to the fee schedule for Rental Inspections to \$50.00 per unit (\$25.00 will be retained by the Borough to cover administrative costs and \$25.00 will be issued to the Friendship Fire Company for services rendered) all other Borough Fees will remain the same and in effect, 2nd by Nick Walters, approved by all, motion carried.

MOTION was made at 7:58pm by Brooks Gamble to move to an Executive Session to discuss personal issues, 2nd by John Towsey, approved by all, motion carried.

MOTION was made at 8:17pm by Brooks Gamble to exit Executive Session, 2nd by Steve Bargo, approved by all, motion carried.

New Business

MOTION was made by Glenda Leister to have President Adam Bryner sign the Resolution to adopt the Fee Schedule for 2024, 2nd by Steve Bargo, approved by all, motion carried.

MOTION was made by Steve Bargo to increase the salaries for the Borough Secretary and Maintenance Worker effective immediately, 2nd by John Towsey, approved by all, motion carried.

MOTION was made by Brooks Gamble to approve the purchase of gift cards in the amount of \$100.00 each to be given to the Borough Secretary and Maintenance Worker, 2nd by Teresa Murphy, approved by all, motion carried.

General Discussion

Outgoing council member Brooks Gamble expressed his thanks to everyone for their support over the last four years.

The Borough Council will meet for the re-organizational meeting and regular monthly meeting on Tuesday, January 2nd, at 7 pm.

MOTION was made at 8:21 pm by Brooks Gamble to adjourn the meeting, 2nd by Glenda Leister, approved by all, motion carried.

Respectively Submitted,

Kimbra Jo Gray
Borough Secretary/Treasurer

Next Meeting: Tuesday, January 2, 2024, at 7 pm