

PORT ROYAL BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING

March 13, 2023

The Port Royal Borough Council held their monthly meeting on Monday, March 13, 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, Steve Bargo, and Mayor, Dylan Cisney. John Towsey was not able to attend due to a medical issue.

Others present were Kimbra Gray, Borough Secretary/Treasurer, Randy Williamson, Borough Maintenance, Brian Book, Engineer cb³ Solutions, Rob Jaconski, Marc Maney and Dave Liptak, PennDOT representatives, John Breneman, representing Senator Judy Ward, Becky Lock, Juniata Sentinel, Paulette Forry, Editor The Times, Dave Cisney and Jan Coldren, Juniata County Agricultural Society and Borough Residents, Grace Goss, Dave and Deb Martin.

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

Rob Jaconski opened with refreshing the background on the Route 75 Bridge Project that began in March of 2015 and went on to discuss the implementation of the detour. The project has faced numerous setbacks., but was finally put out to bid. June 2022 HRI was awarded the bid for \$4 million. At the current time PennDOT is still waiting on Norfolk Southern's approval for the demo plan. It is hoped that the project can be complete by the end of August for reopening in time for Juniata County Fair provided they don't run into any major circumstances. The detour will close SR75/Market Street from First to Third Streets in the Borough.

Marc Maney, PennDOT Community Relations, presented the various ways PennDOT was willing to help mitigate traffic issues. PennDOT will be sending out numerous press releases, adding additional message boards and signage along with assistance in the form of flaggers during racing events.

Dave Cisney stressed that fair week effects more than just the Borough and generates a large portion of revenue for all involved. Dave Liptak shared that it is the main goal to get the bridge open in time, but they can't guarantee project completion. HRI will have an 8-hour window to bring down the structure that will most likely occur overnight.

Jan Coldren remarked that the 6-mile detour that can be completed in 8 minutes is not the normal for bumper-to-bumper traffic during an event. Sight distance is another concern for the area of intersection of Routes 333 and 35. Councilmembers questioned about having a red light installed instead of having flaggers for traffic control. Other questionable areas mentioned included Routes 75 and Route 333 (Taylor's Garage) that creates a very tight turn for tractor trailers and haulers. The roundabout is another concern with truck traffic. There are four huge events that will occur during the detour. Restricting traffic flow during racing events to one way in/one way out was discussed. A workshop will be held to further discuss traffic concerns.

Discussion was also held regarding the expediency of getting emergency personnel to persons in need during the detour. Port Royal has the only paramedics in the county. Central Juniata will cover until Port Royal EMS can get to the patient.

MOTION was made by Brooks Gamble to approve Minutes of the February Meeting, 2nd by Glenda Leister, approved by all, motion carried.

MOTION was made by Steve Bargo to approve the Borough Bills for February, 2nd by Brooks Gamble, approved by all, motion carried.

MOTION was made by Nick Walters to approve the Code Enforcement Officer's Report for December, 2nd by Brooks Gamble, approved by all, motion carried.

Letter was shared with the council from Commonwealth Code Inspection that they would not be renewing the contract for Zoning and Code Enforcement. Services will be ending effective January 15, 2023.

Adam Bryner and Glenda Leister met with Brandon Johnson to discuss terms of his service to the Borough. He does not want a contract and there is a need to have ordinances updated for consistency.

MOTION was made by Steve Bargo to approve \$35.00/hour to use services provided by Brandon Johnson on an as needed basis, 2nd by Nick Walters, approved by all, motion carried.

Public Comments – Grace Goss requested approval for the 2023 Christmas Parade to be held on Saturday, December 2 (time TBD). The Tree Lighting will be held after the parade.

MOTION was made by Glenda Leister to approve the 2023 Christmas Parade request, 2nd by Brooks Gamble.

Brian Book, Engineer cb³ Solutions, LLC

A grant for \$489,673 was submitted December 21st to DCED – Covid19 ARPA PA Small Water and Sewer Grant Program. This grant is still under review, and it will most likely be September until grants are awarded.

Stormwater – The Army Corp is on schedule for March/April completion of the Flood Study.

Point Service Station Underground Storage Clean Up – Nothing new to report.

Federal FY24 Appropriations Guidance – A conference call with staff members from Senator Casey's Office is scheduled with the Municipal Authority Wednesday, March 15th. The Borough will be concerned with Stormwater.

Meeting with Juniata County Fairgrounds and & Baseball Personnel – Plans for their facilities were discussed. The Baseball group is working toward a concession stand. The Agricultural Society reviewed their plans for restrooms, milking parlor and grandstand but are not requesting help at this time.

Juniata County CDBG – Low to Moderate Income Study is at a standstill. Some surveys were not returned and some were fill out incorrectly. Does the Borough want to step up and take over the lead on this project?

MOTION was made by Brooks Gamble to accept the Engineers Report for February, 2nd by Nick Walters, approved by all, motion carried.

Sodium Chloride (Road Salt) Contract has been approved for the August 2023 – July 2024 season.

Spring Clean Up will be April 17 to 22nd. Dumpster service will be provided by ALT Disposal. The event will be for Borough residents only, ID will be required for unknown persons.

Issues with the dump truck have put it in limp mode. Randy will continue to troubleshoot problems and repair as necessary.

PennDOT has release a public survey for feedback to the 2023 Transportation Performance Report. The Public Comment Period is open Wednesday, March 1, through Sunday, April 30, 2023.

PP&L Compliance – Email was received that PP&L will be auditing what is attached to the light poles. There will be fees charged for attachments. Randy will research the matter and report on what the Borough will need to be in compliance.

MOTION was made by Brooks Gamble to accept the Maintenance Report for February, 2nd by Steve Bargo, approved by all, motion carried.

For Information Only: The Street Committee will be starting on the smaller improvement projects around town until we hear back on the grant funding.

Ordinance Fees and Fines: A step up system consisting of a warning followed by fines for 1st, 2nd, 3rd, etc. offences was discussed. A committee was formed that included, Steve Bargo, Nick Walters and Brooks Gamble will meet on Wednesday, April 5th, at 6 pm.

MOTION was made by Brooks Gamble to revisit updating the Ordinances, 2nd by Steve Bargo, approved by all, motion carried.

Memorial Day Parade: Application is in progress.

Burn Ordinance: Advertising is completed, and Council can adopt at the April meeting.

MOTION was made by Brooks Gamble to adopt the Resolution to approve April as “Pennsylvania Safe Digging Month”, 2nd by Nick Walters, approved by all, motion carried.

GENERAL DISCUSSION

Brooks Gamble is concerned regarding the speed of vehicles exiting the bridge once it is complete. Signage needs to be considered for emergency vehicles entering Market Street.

Dylan Cisney would like to see more improvements to Moyer Park to upgrade play ground equipment and maintenance with the tennis and basketball courts.

MOTION was made to adjourn the meeting at 9:20 pm by Brooks Gamble, 2nd by Glenda Leister, approved by all, motion carried.

Respectively Submitted,

Kimbra Jo Gray
Borough Secretary/Treasurer

Next Meeting: Monday, February 13, 2023 at 7 p.m.