

SAXONBURG BOROUGH
Meeting Minutes
May 21, 2019

President Weinzierl called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m

Roll Call Carol Neubert, Scott Herbst, Joshua Novotny, Sherry Weinzierl, Patricia Rinebolt, David Felsing, Joseph Sepich, and Mayor Gillespie were present.

Also in attendance was Mary Papik/Manager, Sean Gallagher/Solicitor, Karen Kennedy, Fred Caesar, Rose Davis, Ralph Davis, Rich Foust, Connie McCormick, and Jack Demarco.

Correspondence

- Butler County Boroughs Association, April 29, 2019, sent notification of an event taking place on June 21, 2019.

Minutes Motion was made and seconded by David Felsing and Patricia Rinebolt to approve the minutes of April 16, 2019 and May 1, 2019. The motion carried.

Public Comments

Karen Kennedy High grass

- Karen discussed the grass at Dollar General and provided the Council with pictures of the property to see what she sees from Saxonburg Village.
- She stated she thinks Dollar General should be cited under the health and sanitation ordinance for not landscaping.

Fred Caesar Saxonburg Museum

- Fred informed Council museum donations have increased.
- He discussed the museum summer hours start May 30th and are Thursday through Saturday 1-4 p.m. He also stated the museum will be open for an hour after veteran's ceremonies in the park on Memorial Day.
- Fred stated he spoke with Mars Mayor Gregg Hartung about the Mars project for a Mars Discovery Center. Fred discussed possible ideas for repurposing Cooper Hall based on his discussions with Mayor Hartung, including turning Cooper Hall into an institute for German heritage or a facility for regional public safety training.
- Fred discussed educational grants and possible local partnerships for a possible repurposing.

Connie McCormick High grass and clean energy costs

- Connie discussed the high grass and moving at Dollar General.
- She stated she received information on clean energy costs and compared the rates to Penn Power rates.
- She complimented Fred Caesar on his work for Cooper Hall.

Jack Demarco Jake breaks

- Jack stated semi trucks using their jake breaks in the borough are causing too much noise, and that they should not be allowed to use them in town.
- Mayor Gillespie stated the borough roads are state roads.
- Solicitor Gallagher stated any restrictions need PennDOT approval.
- Jack asked the solicitor who needs to be contacted, and the solicitor informed him the district 10 representative is the contact. Jack offered to go to the representative if Council is behind him.

- Solicitor Gallagher recommended he put information together so Council can make educated decision about how to proceed. Council agreed to look at information during next meeting.

SABA Fred Caesar

- Fred discussed the first Mingle on Main event having 500-800 people and that it was successful.
- Fred stated the number of Mingle on Main vendors and attendees has increased, so road closures need to be addressed as a public safety issue because of patrons at businesses along Main Street ignoring the closures. Councilman Herbst stated once the roads are closed, this is a police issue, and suggested drafting a letter to SABA to send out to businesses explaining the road closures.
- Fred stated the road closures in front of the childcare center caused parents to have to park across town to pick up their children. Mayor Gillespie and Fred discussed possible alterations to how the streets are closed.
- Fred stated in previous years, verbal policies about the size of booths and business owners setting up on their property existed, but nothing in writing. This year, the vendor booths were larger than the 10X10 guideline and are sitting further out in the street. Fred stated written policies are needed to clarify what 'courtesy' means when business owners set up booths on their property because space is being limited to other vendors. Mary stated it was her understanding as long as it was on the business's property, they have the right to set up.
- Fred stated Kyle Knapp is the new interim president of SABA once his resignation goes into effect on May 23, 2019.

Mayor William Gillespie

- Mayor Gillespie talked about the visit from Saxonburg Sister City Muhlhausen, Germany. He stated both towns are working towards an exchange program with government, officials, students, businesses, and public safety officials. They hope to have the program started next year.

Manager Mary Papik

Bills

Motion was made and seconded by Carol Neubert and Patricia Rinebolt to approve the bills as presented. \$19,125.43 paid from the Borough's General Fund, of which \$14,204.40 is the Borough's portion of the expense and \$4,921.03 the Authority's portion of the expense. In addition, decrease adjustments in April from the Borough General Fund in the amount of \$29,899.86 of which \$13,048.71 was the Borough's portion of the expense and \$16,717.10 was the Authority's portion of the expense, and payroll for April 2019. The motion carried.

High Weeds

- Manager Papik discussed the 6 properties that were sent letters and explained to Council the recipient has 48 hours post receipt to respond to the notifications. Mary explained the process of notification and monitoring begins on May 15.
- Councilmember Herbst asked about repeat violations and if there any measures to take. Manager Papik stated fines and citations can be issued daily, and are handled through the district justice, but the process is the same for all properties.
- Council discusses the ordinance date of May 15. Councilmember Novotny stated the ordinance had a lot of thought put into it.
- Councilmember Herbst asked about the Planning Commission requirements for Dollar General and what the enforceability level is.

- Manager Papik stated she can meet with Thomas Knights to discuss the plan requirements and who is responsible for cutting grass around the drainage swell. Councilmen Sepich and Manager Papik discussed the corporate aspect of who is responsible for maintenance.

Deer

- Manger Papik discussed complaints about salt blocks in resident's yards encouraging deer to come into the borough. The deer are destructive to resident's lawns and tear up yards.
- Manager Papik stated the game commission prohibits baiting deer but no other restrictions.
- Council discussed the issue and what rules could be enforced. Solicitor Gallagher cautioned Council about legislating against neighbors. Council took no action.

SAA/Borough Lot Consolidation

- Manager Papik informed Council that Don Graham completed the deed for the lot consolidation between the Borough/Authority properties on Main Street. The Chairman of the Board and President of Council will need to sign and notarize the deed.

Motion was made and seconded by Dave Felsing and Patricia Rinebolt to authorize signing the paperwork to join property. The motion carried.

Solicitor

Sean Gallagher had no report.

Old Business

Parks and Recreation Department Budget and 2020 Rates

- Mayor Gillespie stated he and Council President Sherry Weinzierl will be meeting with Chief Lewis to discuss a possible partnership.
- Councilmember Herbst suggested leasing Cooper Hall and having the costs for Festival of Arts and clean up built into the agreement.
- Councilmember Rinebolt suggested Council wait to make any decisions until after the meeting between the Fire Department, Mayor Gillespie and President Weinzierl.
- Manager Papik presented Council with a report on 2018 rentals and revenue. She stated 2019 rentals are behind and Cooper Hall does not have many rental prospects for the remaining months of the year. She stated a large auction that took place in 2018 was not booked for 2019, and that 2019 has half of the rental income of 2018 for the same time frame.
- Manager Papik and Council discussed the need for marketing and advertising.
- Mayor Gillespie asked what role Hannah has in the rental process and that it seemed a leadership void exists. Manager Papik stated Council is the leadership, and Hannah handles showing the rental halls and taking payments. Councilmember Neubert oversees the volunteer corps taking care of operations.
- Councilmember Herbst suggested leaving the moratorium in place until June meeting.

New Business

None

Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned at 8:34 p.m.

The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, June 18, 2019 at 7:00 p.m.

Meredith Phillis
Secretary