

MOSCOW BOROUGH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE JANUARY 22, 2019 MEETING

A meeting of the Moscow Borough Council was held on January 22, 2019 at 7:00 p.m. at the Moscow Borough Building, 123 VanBrunt Street, Moscow, PA. The following Council members were either present or absent:

Rosemarie Warner – Mayor	Present	Marc Gaughan	Present
Arthur Pencek – President	Present	Daniel Hanna	Present
Joseph Castrogiovanni	Present	William Heim, Vice-President	Absent
Edward Gaughan	Present	Thomas Lynch	Present

Also present were Constance Sanko (Secretary), and Gerard Hetman (Lackawanna County Community Relations).

Citizen's Comments:

- Gerard Hetman, Lackawanna County Community Relations, spoke about several upcoming events sponsored by Lackawanna County.
- Art Pencek said that railroad cars have been parked on the underpass again and said that the Borough received an email from someone with concerns about safety. He asked Gerard if he would look into the matter as far as ownership and inspections of the underpass.

Minutes of the January 8, 2019 meeting: Joe Castrogiovanni made a motion to accept the minutes of the January 8, 2019 meeting as written. Tom Lynch seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Treasurer's Report: Connie Sanko submitted the Real Estate Tax Collector's Report for December 2018. Copies of the Left for Collection Report for Tax Year 2018 (Delinquents) were given to Bill Heim and Art Pencek.

Secretary's Report: Connie Sanko reported that Clean and Green has been advertised for 2019. Bids are due on February 1, 2019.

Correspondence: Council members were provided with a letter dated January 8, 2019 from the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection regarding non-compliance at Moscow Real Estate, LLC. There will be a public hearing on February 5, 2019 with the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection.

Police Report: The damaged police vehicle has been repaired and is back in service.

Zoning Hearing Board:

- Attorney Matthew Barrett filed a Praecipe Expedited Status Conference on behalf of Sams Land LLC appeal.
- Art Pencek reported that at a Council meeting held in December Jeff Kyle, DGK Insurance, said that the Borough should submit a claim to EMC for the appeal for Sams Land LLC. Bruce Zero and Jeff Kyle said that the Borough can use its own attorney, Joseph McDonald. A claim was filed with EMC, who contacted the Borough and said that if the Borough uses its own attorney that the claim will not be covered. If the Borough uses EMC's attorney only the hearing would be covered, not damages. Bruce will contact EMC to discuss this matter. Councilmembers all agreed that since Attorney McDonald is so well aware of the situation and would have the Borough's interests at heart that he should be retained. Art said that the Zoning Hearing Board's opinion was very detailed and to the point and all council members agreed.

Planning Commission: Marc Gaughan reported on the following:

- A letter dated January 14, 2019 regarding Dollar General and its comments on the review of the Subdivision and Land Development Plan was submitted by Steckbeck Engineering and Surveying. The Borough's Engineer and Planning Commission concur that conditional approval should not be

issued until the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation and the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection issue their approvals. Also the two lots, one owned by Denise Cebular and one by Thomas Pierre, need to be consolidated. Marc said that some concessions on exterior appearance of the building were received from Dollar General.

- The next Planning Commission meeting is scheduled for January 28, 2019.

Moscow Sewer Authority: Marc Gaughan and Art Pencek met with the Sewer Authority to discuss a revised map for the transfer of property for the trailhead. A new revised map will be presented at the February Sewer Authority meeting. Marc Gaughan said a copy will then be sent to the Engineer and the Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources.

Streets: Marc Gaughan reported on the following:

- Attorney Zero will be preparing an agreement for Ardito's parking lot.
- Leeward Construction was contacted about a street sweeper.
- The 1998 GMC truck has been advertised on Municibid.
- Emails dated January 17, 2019 were received from Chris Evans and Rich Barbolish regarding FEMA training for the storm damage in August 2018.
- Someone should be contacted to see about flood damage on private property that is non-Borough property, for example Scanlon Lane.

Personnel Committee: Connie Sanko is still waiting to hear from DGK about the requirements for the handbook for criminal background checks.

New Business:

- Marc Gaughan recommended that a new Enhancement Committee be established as part of the Borough's committees for the betterment of the community. Marc Gaughan made a motion to form an Enhancement Committee and ask Karen Clifford to chair it. Ed Gaughan seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.
- Joe Castrogiovanni said that there will be a meeting on Tuesday with himself, Art Pencek, Marc Gaughan, Mark Paradise and Karen Clifford, and a representative from the Wright Center to have a preliminary discussion on the next move prior to meeting with Dr. Thomas on February 6, 2019 at 2:00 p.m.
- Council members were provided with a newspaper article from The Scranton Times regarding business registries. Art Pencek said it is not clear what its purpose is. Connie will get a copy of Jermyn's proposed ordinance.

Adjournment: Ed Gaughan made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Ed Gaughan seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Minutes submitted by Constance Sanko