

**Port Carbon Borough Council
General Meeting
March 16, 2021**

COUNCIL MEMBERS

Scott Krater, Vice President, p
Ron Zimmerman, p
Denise Krater p

P

James McBreen p
Cathy Manning p
Tiffany Sullivan, p
Mary Jo Ferraro, p

ANCILLARY MEMBERS

Harold Herndon, Mayor, p
William Burke, Solicitor p
Peggy Lubinsky, Treasurer

Luanne Mengle, Secretary p

The meeting was called to order by President Scott Krater with the Pledge of Allegiance. Zimmerman/D. Krater motioned to approve the minutes from February meetings. Motion approved.

Citizen's - Mike Walsh - Inlet at Oak and Wood Street is blocked. Neighbor said the 2 pipes are not connected. Trying to open up the block you could smell the sewer. The Sewer Authority said that it is the Borough's problem. Walsh asked if the borough could purchase garbage cans for some of the corners. Walsh reported there are too many abandoned vehicles. Walsh stated the Police Dept. needs to be the eyes and ears and report this stuff back to Council.

Zimmerman stated 210 Valley Street property is next on the judicial sale. Zimmerman gave the County a list with a few homes. County will try to get them on as soon as possible. Properties goes to judicial sale then Repository sale.

Ben Schuettler - Reported information on volunteer labor to fix work at the gazebo where it was damaged.

Finance - Zimmerman wanted to give everyone updated numbers from last month but there is an issue with the printer. Zimmerman reported the 106 Market, 318 N. Coal and 203 Jackson St. were in the paper today for demolition and bids are due in to the County by April 5th and opened on April 7th with a tentative award date of April 14th, 2021.

Public Works - D. Krater reported Faust gave a list of everything on the Borough property that has issues. Property, Recreation and Highway committees should meet to discuss the issues. DCNR has a grant for equipment with an up to 70,000 and match of 20,000. Application due April. USDA also does grants.

Zimmerman reported with Miller's playground they won't always do grant items that are in the flood zone.

D. Krater reported The North Coal inlet with pipe broken is causing the roadway to sink. That will need to be checked out. S. Krater stated that would be liquid fuels.

Manning reported the inlet on Jackson St. looks like it could be causing a sinkhole. D. Krater reported the 2 inlets on First Street also needs to be fixed also. D. Krater will have Faust get quotes on these inlets.

Mengle asked if there is anything that can be done with sinkhole in front of Turkey Hill. S. Krater stated that is PennDot. Zimmerman understands that Sewer and Water authority says it's PennDot and PennDot says it's the Sewer or Water authority. Tohill reported the previous Council contacted PennDot and they said it was not their responsibility and asked the Borough to put together a highway occupancy permit to do a repair dig at the sink hole. There was a small utility occupancy permit approved. There was some material put back on and since they said it wasn't moving they said let's not worry about it. So one wants to take responsibility for the issue.

D. Krater reported all PPL accounts are now back with PPL.

Property - Manning reported gutter down above police station is down. Manning contacted Hahner to come look at it. Manning will look to get bids to repair the Senior Building roof. Manning reported the Library roof seems to be good.

Safety - S. Krater asked Lubinsky if we got escrow money in from Gerber and Valley Street Fires. Lubinsky reported we did receive escrow money.
S. Krater reported we received a lot of numbers for the Swift reach and will be putting the numbers on the system.

Recreation - Sullivan reported Dave Strausser from St. Clair Soft ball to use Lubinsky Park for the girls to practice base running and ball throwing and fielding. S. Krater stated the soccer goes in August and September. Sullivan told Strausser will need to show proof of insurance.

Zoning - McBreen reported 0 complaints for Quality of Life issues. Code issues at 21-23 Acre Street, 125 Pike Street, 3 E. Washington Street and 21 Pike Street. Notice of violations sent to these properties.

McBreen is giving copy of Property maintenance update to Solicitor Burke and the Secretary. McBreen/Sullivan motioned to accept the Borough of Port Carbon Property Maintenance Code. Motion approved.

McBreen/Manning motioned to approve the Fee Schedule for the Property Maintenance Code. Motion approved.

Mayor asked if Rental Inspections are being done and if that includes houses. Solicitor Burke will look into the ordinance.

Sanitation - Ferraro stated the two dates available for clean-up is May 22 or June 26. Council discussed the date and decided on June 26th.

Ferraro and McBreen meet and discussed what to do with delinquent sanitation. McBreen reported tier approach, 2nd missed bill you get a call or knock on the door, 3rd is certified letter, and 1 year trash will not be picked up. After that the next step is collection agency or have Burke take to Magistrate after 1 year. Ferraro stated the current ones needs to be taken care of. Burke suggested it is easier to take to Magistrate after 1 year to get a collection taken care of.

Treasurer's - General fund balance was 140,530.09, checks for \$52,534.43, deposits for \$62,688.19 for a balance of \$150,683.76. As of the end of the month the balance is \$89,277.74. Sanitation fees collected since bills went out is \$27,485.00.
2018 Audit is done and everyone has a copy.

Engineer - A copy of Engineer Report will be attached to the minutes for March.

Fire Chief - Walsh reported 5 Fire calls and 27 EMS. 32 total incidents. Hydrant at Jackson and Coal was roped off by Police. Shut off in middle of street by Bensinger the cap was broke off that will have to be repaired. Walsh worked with McBreen for 206 Market Street for the stove pipe issue. The person wants to get it corrected.

Walsh reported he was on a call burning complaint at 4th and Broad St. Someone put a couple cinder blocks around and had a fire and left it. Walsh put it out. Walsh suggest we do something about the burning issue. Walsh suggest having something where the fire chief goes out and inspects and charge a \$25 registration fee.

Mayor - Mayor reported we have resolution to destroy old Police records. Zimmerman/D. Krater motioned for the Resolution for Disposal of Municipal Police records for the Borough of Port Carbon. Motion approved.

Mayor wants to know if the bus stop change needs to be voted on to move from Coal & Spring. McBreen/Ferraro motioned to eliminate the bus stop at Coal & Spring. Motion approved.

Mayor reported the new computers are in and just need Verizon to finish connecting.

Mayor reported the Worker's Comp case has been settled and no more bills will come in for that.

Mayor reports Ferraro took 1 check up to Mechanicsville and Ferraro has talked to Brian Dries on their payment.

Solicitor- Burke reported the Floodplain Ordinance is almost ready to go. 1 item is storage of RV's and have people move the RV's when the flood warning comes out. Schuettler reported it states vehicles not be stored in the floodplain for 180 executive days, be fully licensed and ready for highway use and be moved with flood warning. Burke asked Council if we can advertise for April meeting for adoption.

Burke stated we need to record the Property Maintenance Ordinance at the court house.

Tohill and Burke will work on easement agreement for 224 Jackson Street where there are questions.

Unfinished business - S. Krater reported on April 16th Schuylkill Headwaters will be going in the creek to remove debris from the channel and the channel bank. Port Carbon will help by keeping the stuff at the garage until someone comes to collect it. Yuengling is also helping with the clean-up.

Executive Session - No executive session was held.

New Business - 2018 Audit is done. 2019/2020 can go over after April 15th to Lettich. 2019 needs to be done quickly. Zimmerman reported we are getting a good price on the audits.

Zimmerman reported he would like to work on getting Hometown Heroes Banners for the town. Zimmerman reported that the Schoentown Vets may be willing to help with this project.

Citizen's - Nancy Lescavage - 1) Lescavage doesn't feel open burning should be allowed. 2) Lescavage would like to have citizen's notified when new ordinances are passed. 3) Lescavage asked about the garbage bills and asked how many people are not paying. McBreen reported 41 consistently not paying. Lescavage asked what is being done. Ferraro gave what the steps are to try and get the payments for all the bills.

Zimmerman/Sullivan motioned to adjourn the meeting. Motion approved.

Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
Luanne Mengle, Borough Secretary