

Eagles Mere Borough Minutes

April 3, 2017

The Eagles Mere Borough Council meeting was called to order at 7 PM on the above date by President Feese with the following Council members in attendance: VP Christelle Loftus, John Huhn, Matt Andrews, Richard Liebert. Dave Werner, Bob Spahr & Mayor Werner attended by Conference Phone. Secretary/Treasurer Wilson. In the gallery: J. Moore, K. Smith, J. Ecker, L. Middleton & J. Wilkinson.

Public Comments:

Treesmith's Services representing Penelec (First Energy) has been in town contacting selected property owners in certain areas to let them know that Penelec will be limbing and removing damaged and dead trees in the Penelec Right of Way, for their 3 phase line from Laporte along Rt. 42 (Eagles Mere Ave) to Lake Avenue. They will be concentrating on ash trees. They will also be doing work on Allegheny and Mary Aves. If you find an orange hang tag on your door you can call Sam Irwin 570-575-9372 with questions. He has been in contact with the Shade Tree Commission regarding this work to be completed soon.

President of EMA (J. Wilkinson) is studying parking at the Beach. He would like some information on both the beach and pond parking areas in order to make improvements. The Borough has the right of way at the Beach Parking lot, but the property belongs to the EMA. Mayor Werner volunteered to assist with this as she was involved with it at that time. The design done by Larson Design (paid for by the Borough) will be found and given to Jay. The Borough wouldn't be opposed to the EMA fixing these two parking areas. Mr. Moore noted he has been trying to keep up maintenance at the pond lot.

Minutes- for the previous monthly meeting were approved on a motion from Ms. Loftus and seconded by Mr. Liebert.

Treasurer's Report – for the previous month was approved with the minutes.

Street Superintendent Report: written reports were sent with agendas.

Open Records Officer: No RTO forms received or filed.

Ordinance & Zoning Officer's Report- pending sidewalks.

Business Conducted –

Marge White requested permission from the STC to have all the ash trees removed from her property. Mr. Ecker said the STC had no objection and Council approved this on a motion from Mr. Huhn, seconded by Mr. Liebert.

James DeAngelo had one dead tree removed, but President Feese asked the contractor to hold up removal of the other tree that was located on the STC right of way line until the STC could be consulted. He contacted the Shade Tree

Commission and the Code Officer who concurred that it appeared the tree didn't need to be removed. The STC recommended that it was okay to trim the second tree, but not to remove it. The Council approved the removal of the dead tree, and stayed removal of the second tree on a motion from Mr. Liebert, seconded by Mr. Huhn.

Milligan Property- the bocce ball court built last summer was constructed partially on Amy Woodcock's property. She has asked for a letter from the Borough for her mortgage company to assure that a .856 of an acre subdivision she is endeavoring will not violate any borough ordinances. She also provided a map. This letter will also be needed for the Subdivision and Planning Commission. On a motion from Ms. Loftus, seconded by Mr. Huhn a letter will be composed stating that her subdivision will not pose any violations.

A court date has been set for May 4th at 2:30pm for the injunction that was filed by the borough's solicitor. Witnesses will be needed for this and a meeting will be scheduled to go over procedures.

Speed Limit Around the Lake- there are currently 11 speed limit signs from the Sweet Shop to the Pond and 5 curve indicator signs. PennDOT suggested reducing the current 30 mph to 25 mph. The curve sign speeds currently posted can be eliminated or need changing if there is a 5 mph difference between the posted speed and the suggested curve speed. Removal of the curve indicator signs will be determined after a survey is completed. Costs for new signs would be about \$600. The ordinance would have to be amended estimated costs of \$400-500 in advertising and solicitor fees. Mr. Werner noted the 30mph speed limit was developed previously by a master plan that was developed by the Borough after careful study and consideration. He also added there have been no accidents and the area is mostly wooded, not residential. He also pointed out that neither speed limit can be enforced. He felt that this was a waste of money. Mr. Huhn made a motion to lower the speed limit to 25mph around the lake, Ms. Loftus added that she wished there would be fewer signs, then she seconded the motion. Mr. Liebert, Ms. Loftus, Mr. Huhn, Mr. Spahr voted to reduce the speed limit. Mr. Werner and Mr. Andrews voted no.

Hemlock Tree at Crestmont Entrance- this tree has not been removed to date. The Crestmont, the Condo Asso., and the Conservancy were all notified that the tree is dead and needs to be removed. Mr. Swinick from the Conservancy stated at the February meeting he would confer with the Crestmont to see to it that it gets removed and he was given 90 days to accomplish this. If at the end of 90 days (which ends at the May meeting) the tree has not been removed by the owner(s) the borough will cause to have it removed and a survey done to determine who owns the tree and will be billed for the costs of both tree removal and surveyor.

Cell Tower Ordinance- Solicitors have been asked to proceed with the advertisement and amendments that were provided by them. Ms. Wilson will check to see what is being done.

The Council is still looking for a Zoning Hearing Board alternate.

Doris Caracio has resigned her post as Election Majority Inspector. It was accepted unanimously, with regret, on a motion from Ms. Loftus and seconded by Mr. Liebert.

Cathy Coniff has been approved by the County Court Judge to replace her for the remainder of her term ending January 1, 2018.

Paving Project for Mary and Lake Avenues was determined to be advertised at 1 inch on a motion from Mr. Huhn, seconded by Mr. Andrews.

PA One Call asks that a resolution be passed proclaiming April as Safe Digging Month. It was approved on a motion from Ms. Loftus, seconded by Mr. Huhn.

NTSWA will no longer be taking any electronic devices. They recommend that the community contact their state representatives to get legislation passed to deal with this problem for recycling electronics.

Keystone Mobile Shredding is now Shred It and the budget committee will consider having them come next year around spring clean-up time.

Mayor's Report:

Mayor Werner also commented on the speed limit around lake. In her experience, she did not see a need to reduce the speed limit all the way around the lake and that the situation was, after all, seasonal. She also pointed out that it is not enforceable. She feels this will set a precedent after being contacted by several people that want a reduced speed at their homes. She feels that addressing the pedestrian problem would prove more effective. She is continuing her efforts to get a grant for a walking lane on the back side of the lake.

Committees:

Finance: everything looks good and on budget. The new truck chassis payment has been made.

Borough Branch: increased use of the branch is creating a parking problem. The fire company assigned 3 parking spots in front of the unused garages and one spot on the end of the building. After a brief discussion, it was determined that someone would contact the fire company to see what can be done to resolve the situation.

Museum: Ms. Werner will give a brief history of Eagles Mere at the Tabor Museum during their coffee hour on June 8th. A grant for maintaining the plaques around town will be requested from EMF.

Infrastructure: see paving & speed limit issues.

Ordinance: STC ordinance will be reviewed.

Website: PSAB has given our website an honorable mention and a plaque will be awarded at the spring convention. Congratulations Kase.

Shade Tree Commission: see above.

Secretary's Notes:

- ✓ Penelec has installed new smart meters at the Borough Building.
- ✓ Refund of \$66 was received to adjust after the Worker's Comp Insurance Audit.
- ✓ PURTA report was submitted on 3/21/17. This report calculates the taxation of public utilities (Frontier) in the Borough which is paid to the Borough.
- ✓ Dept. of the Auditor General Pension Report was completed the same day. This report facilitates Firemen's Relief funding.
- ✓ Census contact information was filed for the new LUCA (Local Update of Census Addresses) that they want the Borough to participate in. See secretary for brochure.
- ✓ Cathy Coniff Kelly has been appointed by the Judge to serve as Majority Inspector for the remainder of Doris Caracio's term.

The bills were ordered paid for the Borough and Museum by motion from Mr. Huhn, seconded by Mr. Andrews.

The meeting was adjourned by of the President.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kay L. Wilson
Secretary/Treasurer