

Mount Gretna Borough

Minutes

April 10, 2023

William Kleinfelter, President, called the meeting of the Mount Gretna Borough Council to order at 6:00 PM. The meeting was held in the Mount Gretna Fire Hall.

**Council Members and Staff present:**

William Kleinfelter, President	Lois Herr, Vice-President
Michael Bell	Robert Eynon
Allan Feldman	
Keith Kilgore, Solicitor	Joseph Shay, Mayor
William Care, Public Works Director/Code Enforcement Officer	
Linda Bell, Secretary/Treasurer	

**Council Members Absent:** None

**Also, Present:**

Julia Bucher, 415 Yale Avenue  
Danny & Joel Velez, 402 Lancaster Avenue  
Joan Kimsey, South Londonderry Township  
William Osburn, 110 Temple Avenue

**POLICE REPORT:** Officer Itzen, Cornwall Borough Police Department, read the March police report. A copy of the report is attached and heretofore made part of the minutes. Officer Itzen departed the meeting.

**Public Comment:** Julia Bucher related having family members using the playground on Easter Sunday and found that the restrooms were not available. This is due to April being preseason for Chautauqua facilities; the water has not yet been turned on to the buildings nor have they been cleaned for the 2023 season.

**Agenda:**

Michael Bell made a motion to accept the agenda as printed. Allan Feldman seconded the motion. All were in favor.

**Minutes, Financial Report and Invoices List:**

Robert Eynon made a motion to accept the March meeting minutes with minor correction. Allan Feldman seconded the motion. All were in favor.

Lois Herr made a motion to accept the financial report and invoice listing as presented. Michael Bell seconded the motion. All were in favor.

**COMMUNICATIONS:**

Greater Lebanon Refuse Authority	Meeting minutes available on website - <a href="http://www.goglra.org">www.goglra.org</a>
George Kinney, 220 Brown Avenue	Request to park a RV on his property for relative to live in for a month during the summer season

**Parking of RV on Property:** Lois Herr stated that it is in violation of Borough ordinances. Michael Bell stated what you do for one, you must do for all. He is opposed to permitting parking the RV in the Borough. Allan Feldman stated that you cannot waive the ordinance.

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Solicitor Kilgore will prepare a sympathetic letter informing Mr. Kinney that RVs are not permitted within the Borough.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**MAYOR:** No Report

**MOUNT GRETNA FIRE COMPANY:**

Mayor Shay read the March Fire Company Report. A copy of the report was emailed to Council members prior to the meeting. A copy is attached and heretofore made part of the minutes.

**SOLICITOR:**

Solicitor Kilgore presented a resolution for temporary Art Show Street Closing.

Council members approved the temporary Art Show Street Closing resolution for August 18<sup>th</sup> through August 20<sup>th</sup> to be signed Mayor Shay. Michael Bell requested that a copy be emailed to all residents prior to the art show.

**ROADS AND STREETS:**

Mr. Care gave the following report.

**Snow and Ice:** Mr. Care stated that the Borough is required to purchase 50 tons of road salt which will be stored at the cost of \$3.00/ton per year.

**Leaf and Brush Collection:** Leaves will be collected only once in the spring scheduled to start on May 1<sup>st</sup>. Brush will be collected twice scheduled on April 17<sup>th</sup> and June 5<sup>th</sup>.

**Large Item Collection:** Scheduled for the week of June 12<sup>th</sup>.

**Food Truck for Historic Society Event:** The Historic Society is planning an event on May 6, 2023 using Soldiers' Field and the Hall of Philosophy. They have requested permission to have a food truck located on the parking pad adjacent to the Hall from 11:00 AM to 1:00 PM on that day. The Chautauqua has agreed. Borough requires the owners to the food truck to secure a solicitor's permit from Cornwall Borough police department.

**CODE ENFORCEMENT:**

The construction/building materials located on the street in front of 203 Brown Avenue will be relocated onto the owners' property on Wednesday, April 12<sup>th</sup>. No word has been received from ABI concerning 4 Muhlenberg Avenue.

Lois Herr reported that the construction on Lebanon Avenue behind 206 Lancaster Avenue is encroaching into the easement.

**VARIANCE REQUESTS:** NONE

**LIAISONS:**

**Pennsylvania Chautauqua:** Allan Feldman stated that the PA Chautauqua board is completing work on Rules and Regulations and board will vote on them at their April meeting. Meeting will be held to inform Borough

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Council members. These items will be on the agenda for the Chautauqua's Stockholder meeting in July.

Mr. Feldman said that a representative from all organizations should be available to assist in cleaning out the boardroom closet. Mrs. Bell stated that Don Kensinger is willing to help with the chore and that they will be able perform the task. Nothing will be destroyed without a second option from Chautauqua and/or Foundation board. John Weaver has also volunteer to be available for the task.

Mount Gretna Authority: Mr. Care provided the following information:

Water: The locating all existing water and sewer mains and laterals for the Princeton Avenue/Chautauqua Drive project has begun. The project will start in September.

Source Water Protection Plan: The Department of Environmental Protection is offering a technical assistance program for this project at no cost. Mr. Care attended course on this plan in 2011 and has the documentation indicating the recharge areas for the community's wells.

Lead and Copper Service Lines: Mr. Care will be attending an inventory training class with DEP on April 11<sup>th</sup>. Verification that there are no lead service lines within our system will begin on first quarter of 2024. There are no lead lines within our system however, we must verify this fact.

Mount Gretna Campmeeting Water Project: Mr. Care will be attending a meeting to review the project's schedule on Wednesday. The Borough and the Campmeeting's engineers will be in attendance.

Sewer:

Equipment Demonstration: Preparations are being made for the demonstration of the screw press for the dewatering sludge process. It is scheduled for May. Linda Bell has been working on the grant application for this project.

Water and Sewer mapping has been completed. The information will be reviewed before finalizing.

**OLD BUSINESSES**

**Stipend to Fire Company:** President Kleinfelter requested that the Borough give the Fire Company a stipend for the use of the Fire Hall for Borough meeting this past fall and so far this Spring. Michael Bell made a motion to give the Fire Company \$3,000.00. The motion was seconded by Lois Herr. All were in favor.

**Dauphin-Lebanon County Borough Association Meeting:** Lois Herr urge Council members to attend the meeting scheduled for April 25<sup>th</sup>, "Quality of Life Municipal Programs".

**NEW BUSINESS**

**Short Term Rental License Applications:**

402 Lancaster Avenue: Joey and Danny Velez report that ABI has inspected their property and few minor concerns were addressed and the Certificate of Use & Occupancy should be delivered to the Borough very soon. Council discussed the issue. The certificate must be in hand and a meeting with the Velez's be held prior to issuing a rental license. Approval will be made at the May Council meeting.

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8 Muhlenberg Avenue: All documents are in order. Certificate of Use & Occupancy is ready for Marianne Spsychalski.

**Executive Session:** An executive session was called at 7:00 PM to discuss a Warning Not to Trespass letter to a Borough resident. The letter was prepared by Solicitor Kilgore. Session concluded at 7:15 PM.

Motion: Allan Feldman made a motion to approve the letter of warning to be given to the resident. The motion was seconded by Michael Bell. All were in favor.

**Art Show Resolution:** In 2024, Mount Gretna will celebrate the 50<sup>th</sup> Art Show. In honor of the impact that the show has had on our town, a committee of community members is planning some celebratory events. We will start with a kick-off event in January 2024 to ignite interest and raise funds as a means to mark the history, commemorate the milestone, and host special events at the August 17-18, 2024 show.

The Art Show, an anchor event of the Mount Gretna summer, is a culmination of all of the other cultural, artistic, musical, educational, and performance events of the summer. Our community thrives because of the efforts of all arts organizations affiliated with our mission. As such, I am writing to request that you and the Mount Gretna Borough Council proclaim 2024 “The Year of the Arts” in Mount Gretna.

Throughout the year, all Mount Gretna arts organizations can share and celebrate this theme, therefore bolstering cooperation and collaboration. This designation can lift the profile of the arts and its important role of creating our unique sense of place.

Borough Council members voted unanimously to support the Art Show’s efforts.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Michael Bell made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Allan Feldman seconded the motion. All were in favor.

7:18 PM

Respectfully Submitted,

Linda A. Bell  
Secretary/Treasurer  
Mount Gretna Borough Council