

Mount Gretna Borough

Minutes

August 14, 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

William Care, Public Works Director/Code Enforcement Officer

Linda Bell, Secretary/Treasurer

Council Members Absent: Joseph Shay, Mayor – fire company event

Also, Present:

Julia Bucher, 415 Yale Avenue

William Osburn, 110 Temple Avenue

Deborah Simpson, 108 Lebanon Avenue

Chris & Mary Ellen Kiehne, 104 Chicago Avenue

Lynne Davies, 3 Muhlenberg Avenue

Scott & Jane Zellers, 424 Yale Avenue

Robert Moritz, 112 Temple Avenue

Robert Harding, 214 Lancaster Avenue

Nancy Bowman, 112 Lebanon Avenue

Donald Kensinger, 215 Brown Avenue

POLICE REPORT: Officer Fields, Cornwall Borough Police Department, read the July police report. A copy of the report is attached and heretofore made part of the minutes.

Public Comment:

Nancy Bowman, 112 Lebanon Avenue, requested that Borough Council restrict parking on Lebanon Avenue during the Art Show sighting that cars are parked in front of her property, litter is left on her property and it is difficult for her to access her home during the show. Council discussed the issue and were advised by Solicitor Kilgore that to do so requires that Lebanon Avenue be included in the restricted parking ordinance. Changes would require advertising, etc. It could not be accomplished at this meeting.

Donald Kensinger, 215 Brown Avenue, stated that the PA Chautauqua board worked long and hard to prepared their rules and regulations. There were several information meetings for stockholders. Stockholders approved the rules and regulations and he encouraged Borough Council to implement the new rules and regulations.

Lynne Davies, 3 Muhlenberg Avenue, commented that a joint meeting of the Borough Council members and the Chautauqua board was held to inform the Council of the rules and regulations which the Chautauqua has adopted.

Julie Bucher, 415 Yale Avenue, questioned the enforcement of the rules and regulations.

Mary Ellen Kiehne, 104 Chicago Avenue, stated that the rules and regulation passed by a large majority at the Pennsylvania Chautauqua stockholders meeting in July.

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Chris Kiehne, 104 Chicago Avenue, requested that the Borough proceed in an open translational process.

Robert Moritz, 112 Temple Avenue, cautioned that the Borough take into consideration the ability to enforce the rules and regulations.

Agenda:

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

Minutes, Financial Report and Invoices List:

Michael Bell made a motion to accept the July meeting minutes as presented. Lois Herr seconded the motion. All were in favor.

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

COMMUNICATIONS:

Greater Lebanon Refuse Authority

Meeting minutes available on website - www.gogIra.org

COMMITTEE REPORTS

MAYOR: No Report

MOUNT GRETNA FIRE COMPANY:

President Kleinfelter read the July 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:

Resolution #08-14-2023: Lois Herr made a motion to adopt Resolution 08-14-2023 proclaiming 2024 the Year of the Arts in Mount Gretna. Allan Feldman seconded the motion. All were in favor.

Lois Herr made a motion that the adjacency amendment and the limit on the number of short-term rentals be amended now. Michael Bell opposed Lois Herr's motion.

Robert Eynon made note of the number of existing short-term rental applications which are pending due to insufficient information. He poised the question, "When does an application become null and void?" The discussion included mention of the multiple hours that are spent on each one with repeated requests for missing information, making the \$100 seem insufficient in some cases.

A lengthy discussion on adjacency and limited number of short-term rentals followed.

Solicitor Kilgore recommended a Borough work session to discuss potential amendments to Borough ordinances per the Pennsylvania Chautauqua's Rules and Regulations. A work session was scheduled for September 11, 2023 at 8:30 AM.

Lois Her made a motion to remove "adjacency" from the Borough's ordinance on short-term rental. Robert Eynon seconded the motion. Allan Feldman approved; Michael Bell disapproved the motion. Motion passed.

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Allan Feldman asked how the Borough Council should go about discussing and getting the Chautauqua rules and regulations passed by the Borough Council? Mr. Feldman suggested that Chautauqua board members be present for a work session

Solicitor Kilgore stated that a Borough work session cannot be open to the public.

Robert Eynon suggested that the discussion could separate new issues from items that are already in Borough ordinances.

There was a heated discussion which was terminated by President Kleinfelter stating that a work session has been scheduled!

ROADS AND STREETS: Mr. Care had no report.

CODE ENFORCEMENT: No discussion

VARIANCE REQUESTS: NONE

LIAISONS: No Reports

OLD BUSINEES

NONE

NEW BUSINESS

Short-Term Rental License:

417 Yale Avenue, Denise Bollard - application remains incomplete

310 Pennsylvania Avenue, Penn Realty for WBS Properties - application remains incomplete

7 Muhlenberg Avenue - Deed has been transfer to the children

Council Seat to be Vacated: Lois Herr resigned here office as council member effective on September 13, 2023. She will be moving to Elizabethtown.

ADJOURNMENT

Per motion made by Michael Bell and seconded by Robert Eynon the meeting was unanimously adjourned at 7:05 PM

Respectfully Submitted,

Linda A. Bell
Secretary/Treasurer

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