

Mount Gretna Borough
Minutes
November 13, 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 Member Appointment: Allan Feldman made a motion to appoint Deborah Simpson to fill the vacancy of Lois Herr whose term as Borough Council member effective immediately and running until December 31, 2023. All were in favor.

Mayor Joseph Shay administer the Oath of Office.

Council Members and Staff present:

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

Council Members Absent:

Robert Eynon

Also, Present:

Officer James Conklin, for police report only
Deborah Simpson, 108 Lebanon Avenue
Regina Koontz, 216 Lancaster Avenue
Julie Bucher, 415 Yale Avenue
Elizabeth Hummer, 14 Muhlenberg Avenue (present for public comment only)
Scott & Jane Zellers, 424 Yale Avenue
Marilyn Mamone & Thomas Cook, 401 Lancaster Avenue
Stephen Herrick, 309 Lancaster Avenue

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

Public Comment: Elizabeth Hummer expressed concern that the property at 102 Muhlenberg Avenue adjacent to her property was advertised to include a parking space which it does not. The advertisement has been updated and corrected. However, the workman and potential buyers of the property continue to park in this area. Solicitor Kilgore sighted an easement agreement by the previous owners of both properties for a water and/or sewer lines between to the two properties but no public path or parking area were established. Discussion followed.

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:

Michael Bell made a motion to accept the October meeting minutes with two minor corrections. Allan Feldman seconded the motion. All were in favor.

Financial Report and Invoice List: Michael Bell made a motion, seconded by Allan Feldman, to accept the financial Report and invoice listing as presented.

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COMMUNICATIONS:

Greater Lebanon Refuse Authority
Lebanon Valley Conservancy

Meeting minutes available on website - www.goglra.org
Year in Review

COMMITTEE REPORTS

MAYOR: No Report

MOUNT GRETNA FIRE COMPANY: The October Fire Company report was read by Mayor Shay. A copy was emailed to Council members prior to the meeting and is attached and heretofore made part of the minutes.

SOLICITOR: Solicitor Kilgore stated that he is continuing to work on the proposed ordinance #231.

Solicitor Kilgore reported that the Borough received a partial copy of an architectural blueprint for 102 Muhlenberg Avenue sighting numerous structural deficiencies. Solicitor Kilgore recommended that Borough Council authorize that an inspection of the property be made as soon as possible. Michael Bell made the motion to have the property inspected for structure issues. Allan Feldman seconded the motion. All were in favor. Mr. Care will contact ABI.

ROADS AND STREETS: Mr. Care gave the following report:

Leaf and Brush Collection: The second round of collection is underway. A problem with the clutch linkage on the truck has caused a delay. When repaired the leaf collection will be completed and “touch-up” as necessary.

CODE ENFORCEMENT:

102 Muhlenberg Avenue structural inspection per earlier discussion.

VARIANCE REQUESTS: NONE

LIAISONS:

Pennsylvania Chautauqua: Allan Feldman stated that the Chautauqua committee continues working on the 50th Year of the Arts celebration schedule for January 20th at the Timbers.

Mount Gretna Authority: Mr. Care reported that the new 6-inch main installation has been completed on Princeton Avenue, Chautauqua Drive and Carnegie Avenue including a new fire hydrant. Testing is underway and must be completed before placing the line in service. Service lines to new line will be installed to which residents from the old line to the new main as soon as possible; possibly yet this fall or in the spring.

The Authority continues testing and review by the Authority’s engineer to meet or exceed DEP requirements. The Authority is also reviewing possible upgrades in advance equipment to meet requirements.

OLD BUSINEES

Short-Term Rental Licenses: Allan Feldman made a motion to approve eight 2024 short term rental licenses for 1 Muhlenberg, 114 Lancaster, 118 Princeton, 312 Lafayette, 304 Lafayette, 428 Pennsylvania and 316 Pennsylvania Avenues.417 Yale Avenue and for 310 Pennsylvania Avenue. Deborah Simpson seconded the motion. All were in favor.

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NEW BUSINESS

Proposed 2024 Budget: President Kleinfelter requested that all Council members review the proposed budget which does not include a real estate tax increase. Any questions may be directed to him or the office.

A tentative approval motion was made by Michael Bell and seconded by Allan Feldman. All were in favor.

Feral Cats: Allan Feldman express concern that the population of feral cats in Mount Gretna is growing, especially in the Campmeeting area. Julia Bucher (visitor) stated that she has instituted a very successful catch, neuter and release program in Mount Gretna.

ADJOURNMENT

Per motion made by Michael Bell and seconded by Deborah Simpson the meeting was unanimously adjourned at 6:39 PM

Respectfully Submitted,

Linda A. Bell
Secretary/Treasurer
Mount Gretna Borough Council