

Mount Gretna Borough  
Minutes  
February 12, 2024

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	Michael Bell
Robert Eynon	Allan Feldman
Deborah Simpson	
Joseph Shay, Mayor	Keith Kilgore, Solicitor
William Care, Public Works Director/Code Enforcement Officer	
Linda Bell, Secretary/Treasurer	

**Council Members Absent:** NONE

**Also, Present:**

Chief Brett Hopkins, for police report only  
Cheryl Burke, representing Mount Gretna Arts Council, for presentation only  
Kerry Royer, director of Mount Gretna Art Show, for presentation only  
Regina Koontz, 216 Lancaster Avenue  
Julie Bucher, 415 Yale Avenue  
Susan & Eugene Brenneman, 316 Pennsylvania Avenue  
Michael Sherman, 411 Lancaster Avenue  
Emily Good, 114 Lancaster Avenue & 1 Muhlenberg Avenues  
Jason

**POLICE REPORT:** Chief Hopkins, Cornwall Borough Police Department, read the January police report. A copy of the report is attached and heretofore made part of the minutes.

**Public Comment:**

**Lebanon County Conservation:** Carol Hickey, Ron Birch and Chuck Wertz made a presentation on behalf of the Lebanon County Conservation and the many services that are provide to the County. Questions were answered and printed material distributed.

**Mount Gretna Art Show - 50<sup>th</sup> Year of the Arts – Bicycle Recycle:** Kerry Royer, Director of the Mount Gretna Art Show reviewed plans to hold a Lebanon Valley Bike Recycle on May 15<sup>th</sup> in the Hall of Philosophy including food vendors on Gettysburg Avenue. The Art Show requested that Gettysburg Avenue be closed from on that date for this event.

**Mount Gretna Arts Council – Path Party:** Cheryl Burke reviewed plans to hold a Path Party on May 25<sup>th</sup> from 3:00 PM to 6:00 PM. The event will use the Hall of Philosophy and the grounds between the Hall and Pennsylvania Avenue. The event coordinators requested that Pennsylvania Avenue be closed from the Playhouse to Vassar Avenue so that food vendors may be placed on the street.

Chief Hopkins stated the vendor licenses must be secured for the food vendors. It was confirmed that the vendors will contact the police office.

After addressing questions to both Kerry Royer and Cheryl Burke, President Kleinfelter requested that the Borough receive a written request for the closing of streets for the Art Show and the Arts Council events.

**Short-Term Rentals:** Susan Brenneman requested that the Borough change the Short-Term Rental licenses

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ordinance to allow 2-day rentals rather than the current stipulation of no less than a 3 day rental which decreases the rental owner's business. Emily Good stated that this stipulation has reduced the number of renters for her properties as well.

No action was taken by Borough Council.

Julia Bucher stated there was a post on FaceBook concerning water issues in the Borough.

**Agenda:**

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

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

Minutes: Michael Bell made a motion to accept the January meeting minutes as presented. Allan Feldman seconded the motion. All were in favor.

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

**COMMUNICATIONS:**

Greater Lebanon Refuse Authority

Lebanon County Dept. of Emergency Services

Meeting minutes available on website - [www.goglra.org](http://www.goglra.org)

Hazard Mitigation Plan

**Resolution 02-12-2024:** Robert Eynon made a motion to adopt the Lebanon County 2023 Hazard Mitigation Plan per Resolution 02-12-2024. Michael Bell seconded the motion. All were in favor.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**MAYOR:** No Report

**MOUNT GRETNA FIRE COMPANY:** Mayor Shay reported that the new fire engine will be delivered later this week or early next week. The fire company expects to pay for the new engine without securing a bank loan. The fund drive has been very successful and he urged people to make contributions.

**SOLICITOR:**

**Met Ed Reimbursement for Tree Removal:** Solicitor Kilgore presented the Borough with a check from Met Ed to cover the cost of removing a tree large dead tree overhanging wires of Met-Ed (First Energy) at the corner of Lancaster Avenue and Pinch Road in the Borough. The initial expense was covered by the Pennsylvania Chautauqua and therefore the monies will be forwarded to the Chautauqua.

**Work Session:** Solicitor Kilgore requested that a work session be scheduled for February 26, 2024 for Council to review proposed ordinance #232. Council members were in favor.

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

**Snow Removal:** The Borough has had no issues with snow removal equipment.

**Street Paving:** No Report

**Speed Bump:** The estimated cost for a speed table is approximately \$3,000.00. The estimate does not include

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the required road markings and signage and lighting.

**CODE ENFORCEMENT:**

102 Muhlenberg Avenue: The permit application with structural design was received and approved by ABI for the property located at 102 Muhlenberg Avenue

203 Brown Avenue: All materials have been removed from the street.

**VARIANCE REQUESTS:** NONE

**LIAISONS:**

Pennsylvania Chautauqua: Allan Feldman had no report.

Mount Gretna Authority:

Mr. Care reported a new deck will be installed at the Borough office. Concrete is scheduled for Wednesday. The office will be closed due to this.

Water Project: Residences along the newly installed water main will be connected.

Sewer Line Repairs: Sewer line repairs are underway at the corner of Harvard and Pennsylvania Avenues. A tree growing on top of the sewer main had roots extending into the line.

Source Water Protection: Jenn Besse, Mount Gretna Heights president planned to make a presentation this evening on source water protection concerning Governor Dick preservation's planned use of chemicals for weed control. She is unable to be here tonight and will make the presentation at the March Council meeting.

**OLD BUSINESSES**

**Short-Term Rental Licenses:** Robert Eynon made a motion to approve the 2024 short term rental license for 216 Harvard Avenue. Deborah Simpson seconded the motion. All were in favor.

**Short-Term Rental Licenses Update:** An email updating all Borough property owners by supplying a list of the short-term rental licenses approved by the Borough for 2024 was sent. The Borough has received inquiries as to "why isn't my property on the list" and, also emails sighting properties being rented who have not applied for a license. Action will be taken.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**Executive Sessions:** an executive session was called at 7:25 PM. The session ended at 7:52 PM.

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**ADJOURNMENT**

Per motion made by Michael Bell the meeting was unanimously adjourned at 7:53 PM

Respectfully Submitted,

Linda A. Bell  
Secretary/Treasurer  
Mount Gretna Borough Council