

Mount Gretna Borough
Minutes
March 11, 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:

Office Shane Boerst, for police report only
Kerry Royer, director of Mount Gretna Art Show, for response to street closing request
Julie Bucher, 415 Yale Avenue
Susan & Eugene Brenneman, 316 Pennsylvania Avenue, for public comment only

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

Public Comment:

Mount Gretna Art Show - 50th Year of the Arts – Bicycle Recycle: Kerry Royer, Director of the Mount Gretna Art Show thanked Borough Council for support of the show and 50th anniversary events.

Mount Gretna Arts Council – Path Party: (no one present from Arts Council)

Deborah Simpson made a motion to allow the organizations to close Gettysburg Avenue on May 15th and Pennsylvania Avenue on May 25th per request letters from the organizations. Allan Feldman seconded the motion. All were in favor.

Short-Term Rentals: Susan Brenneman and Gene Brenneman again requested that the Borough change the Short-Term Rental licenses 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.

No action was taken by Borough Council.

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:

Minutes: Robert Eynon made a motion to accept the February meeting minutes with minor correction. Michael Bell 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.

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COMMUNICATIONS:

Greater Lebanon Refuse Authority
Mount Gretna Art Show
Mount Gretna Arts Council

Meeting minutes available on website - www.goglra.org
Bike Event request to close Gettysburg Ave on May 15
Path Party request to close PA Avenue on May 25

COMMITTEE REPORTS

MAYOR: No Report

MOUNT GREтна FIRE COMPANY: Mayor Shay reported that the new fire engine was delivered. The fund drive has been very successful and he urged people to make contributions.

SOLICITOR:

Ordinance # 232: Robert Eynon made a motion to approve the publication that ordinance #232 will be considered at the April Borough Council meeting. Michael Bell seconded the motion. All were in favor.

Short-Term Rental Licenses:

Solicitor Kilgore reviewed information concerning short-term rentals know to be operating without a license. The owners of 402 Lancaster Avenue have responded. The owners of 122 Columbia Avenue have not responded. Council suggested promoting residents to report to the Borough any if they see a cottage is being operated as a rental.

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

Snow Removal: No report; no snow.

Street Paving: The Authority will be patching the utility cuts prior to the summer season.

Speed Bump: No Report

CODE ENFORCEMENT: NONE

VARIANCE REQUESTS: NONE

LIAISONS:

Pennsylvania Chautauqua: Allan Feldman report on projects the Chautauqua Board of Managers is currently addressing:

- 1) Handicap access to the Lodge
- 2) Mission statement updating

Mount Gretna Authority:

Mr. Care reported that a virtual meeting has been scheduled with DEP representatives on March 19, 2024 at 10:00AM. All water companies will be participating i.e. Mount Gretna Heights, Timber Service, Campmeeting.

Office Entrance: The entrance repair work to the Borough office has been completed. The cost of the replacement was shared by all entities, i.e. Borough, PA Chautauqua, Authority – water & sewer.

Water Project: The staff is in the process of connecting the water services to the new main on Princeton Avenue, Chautauqua Drive and Carnegie Avenue including both Chautauqua buildings and residents.

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OLD BUSINEES

Short-Term Rental Licenses: No applications to be approved.

Short-Term Rental Licenses Update: Robert Eynon reported that there are currently 12 cottages licensed as short-term rentals. 402 Lancaster Avenue remains to be inspected.

A special meeting is scheduled for March 15th with representatives from American Building Inspection (ABI) to discuss short-term rental license application inspections, etc.

NEW BUSINESS

Borough Real Estate Taxes: Lebanon County Tax office has offered to provide the services of mailing real estate tax invoices and collecting the tax monies. The tax payment would then be paid to the Borough minus a very nominal fee per invoice (less than the cost of the postage to mail this invoice).

Michael Bell made a motion to accept this offer. Allan Feldman seconded the motion. All were in favor.

ADJOURNMENT

Per motion made by Michael Bell, seconded by Allan Feldman, the meeting was unanimously adjourned at 6:49PM

Respectfully Submitted,

Linda A. Bell
Secretary/Treasurer
Mount Gretna Borough Council