

Summerhill Borough Council
Minutes of the Regular Monthly Meeting
August 10, 2021

The regular monthly meeting for Summerhill Borough Council was opened by President Daryl Bodenschatz with the pledge of allegiance to the flag.

Council members present; Brad Bodenschatz, Daryl Bodenschatz, Russell Jones, Becky Templeton, and Joni Trovato.

Others present; Secretary/Treasurer Laura L. Penatzer, Electric Secretary/Tax Collector Karmen Baumgardner, Ron Portash (Mainline), Lance McGough, Deana McGough, Payton McGough, Dennis Cobaugh, Randy Stager (Allegheny Ridge Corporation), Ed Dierling 8:00pm, and Luke Dierling 8:00pm.

Randy Stager with Allegheny Ridge Corporation gives Council an update on the way of the walking/bike trail. He also questions Council if they would possibly support the project for financial support. Portage Borough and Forest Hills Regional Alliance will be helping financially, and he will be attending other municipalities for support. This trail will be part of the 911 rail, which is a top priority. Grants will be applied for, and donations received the County can leverage the donations that are submitted. The trail will come from Ehrenfeld, down Jackson Street, over the bridge, across Bridge Street, down Main Street, cross bridge on Railroad Street and then onto Old Route 53. There will be a section of roadway for biking also, marked off with paint. The route can be looked at on 911.org.

Payton McGough updated Council on her Girl Scout Gold Award Project. She will be restoring the basketball court at the park uptown. It will have an asphalt overlay, painted lines, repainted basketball poles, repairing benches and installing a bin to hold basketballs. Her estimated total cost is \$9,050.00, which she has already secured \$2,350.00 through donations from the community, leaving \$6,700.00 left to raise. Lowe's and The Home Depot are donating wood and painting supplies, with grants from Ronald McDonald and Dick's Sporting Goods being applied for. She has contacted an asphalt company, but they are backed-up until spring of next year. She is seeking donations from residents and businesses and will keep Council updated on her progress of the project. After some discussion, a motion was made from Councilwoman Becky Templeton to match dollar for dollar the donations that Miss McGough collects, up to the amount of \$3,500.00, second by Councilman Russell Jones, unanimous approval.

Resident Dennis Cobaugh is concerned and questions Council as to why he is responsible for his sidewalk when Jackson Street is a state road and the state plows throw the snow and salt on them, which it degrades the sidewalks. He also remarks that the sidewalk in front on his residence, along with others on Jackson Street, are in bad shape and would like to know if Council is going to replace them, due to the cracks, the dropping of it and the possibility of a liability. Council responds that they are indeed aware of the sidewalks on Jackson Street, they will walk them to see what parts need repaired. Once they are restored by the municipality, it will be each of the resident's responsibility to keep them in proper order, maintained free of

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grass, gravel, and snow. Council would like to also look into possibly only having one side of sidewalk on Jackson Street.

The minutes from the previous meeting were approved by a motion from Joni Trovato, second by Russell Jones, unanimous approval.

By a motion from Brad Bodenschatz, the financial statements from the previous meeting were approved, second by Joni Trovato, unanimous approval.

The bills were approved, with a motion from Becky Templeton, second by Brad Bodenschatz, unanimous approval.

There is no need for a transfer of funds for the paying of the bills.

The budgets for the end of July were reviewed, being at 59%.

Correspondence:

The minutes from the Forest Hills Municipal Authority were discussed.

The minutes from Laurel Municipal Inspection Agency were reviewed, with one building permit being issued.

The agenda was received for the Forest Hills Regional Alliance for their August 2021 meeting which will be held in Wilmore Borough, for Summerhill Township on August 18th.

The monthly activities report for Croyle Township Police for the month of July had six incidents, ranging from Domestic, Unattended Deaths, Suspicious Person, 911 Hang-ups, and Non-Traffic Citations.

A letter was received from Forest Hills Area Ambulance Association, Inc. regarding COVID-19 Local Fiscal Recovery Funding. Manager Eric J. Miller reminds Council that the service personnel have been on the front lines battling the pandemic, alongside Fire, Police, Highway Workers, Healthcare Workers, to name a few. Forest Hills is looking to replace their 2021 van ambulance which has well over 100,000 miles on and to replace will take over \$170,000.00 depending on the make and type of vehicle. He would like to see Council forward any funding from the Local Fiscal Recovery Funding put to use towards their much-needed vehicle purchase, which would be greatly appreciated. Council will discuss his request, along with where else they can use the funding.

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Act 65 of 2021 will take effect August 30, 2021. It will impact how political subdivisions conduct their business and manage their public meetings. The law amends the Sunshine Act to require that a political subdivision post an agenda to its website that details each matter of business that will be or may be the subject of deliberation or official action at its public meeting. This must occur no later than 24 hours prior to the meeting. The agenda must also be posted at the meeting locations and municipal office. If a matter of business is left off the posted agenda, the municipality may not take official action on that matter at the meeting, with certain limited exceptions. Those exceptions allow a municipality to take official action on matters relating to emergencies endangering life or property or may also take official action on a matter that arose within twenty-four hours of the meeting if the matter is not significant and does not involve the expenditure of funds or entering a contract. Additionally, if a resident or taxpayer raises new business at a meeting, the municipality can act on it if it is de minimis in nature and does not involve expenditure of funds or entering a contract. Finally, a municipality may change its agenda at a meeting through a majority vote of those present to add a matter for official action but must follow strict-post-meeting notice procedures with respect to the change.

Boy Scout Luke Dierling updates Council on his Eagle Scout Project; restoring the bleachers at the ball field. He has raised over \$3,500.00 to date for the \$4,200.00 project. The project is complete, with the exception of the sign that will display the list of donators. What a great job done by all who helped, many thanks to all who donated for a project that was well overdue and needed. Job well done Luke!

Secretary/Treasurer Laura L. Penatzer reported that a Johnathan Mock, Director of Girl Scouts, would like to use the Hemlock Street entrance more than they do, for girl scout events and especially in the winter; due to the structure of the roadway down through the camp from the Oaks Road entrance to Camp Conshatawba. After some discussion, the issue will be turned over to Croyle Township Supervisors, being the entire street and camp is within Croyle Township.

Old Business:

There were five delinquent light accounts on the August report, certified letters will be sent out accordingly.

Codification continues to be handled by American Publishers, with an updated draft pending.

The recreational park grant continues to be pending.

Examples of "Large Vehicle Parking" ordinances were reviewed, with the wording from South Fork's not being worded as needed, nor the example from PSAB. Councilman Russell Jones submitted a draft that he and Council felt was appropriate, with it to be sent to Attorney Dennis Stofko for review. A committee of Russell Jones, Brad Bodenschatz and Eric Miller will get

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Attorney Stofko's opinion and draw up a draft ordinance for Council's approval.

The issue of residents being in violation of electric meter obstructions was again discussed. There continues to be a few that are not properly cleared and will need to be notified.

New Business:

By a motion from Russell Jones, the title of Street Commissioner is to be given to street laborer Luke Fresch immediately, second by Brad Bodenschatz, unanimous approval. Mr. Jones expresses that Mr. Fresch is doing an exceptional job on showing leadership, workmanship and getting things done in a timely fashion.

Councilman Russell Jones reports that the hole in the fence has been repaired and the parts have been donated by resident Karmen Baumgardner, with it to be painted once paint can be purchased. The storage shed that was donated to the municipality by George's Trailers has been painted, the concession stand will be painted, gravel will be spread in the parking lot at the park, a no parking sign has been erected on Madison Street, two benches will be repaired at the dug outs, the uprights of the bleachers will be painted, a 4' x 4' pole will be erected by the bleachers for the new sign from the Eagle Scout project, No Parking signs posts will be replaced on Croyle Street, Bridge Street, Main Street and New Germany Road, along with the sign, if it's not legible. Extra Christmas bulbs will be ordered, new double sided street signs and posts are needed all throughout town; they will be counted, and cost estimated for budget time and the bathroom at the park will be winterized soon.

Electric Secretary/Tax Collector Karmen Baumgardner reports that there is concern about the crick behind the Upper Deck that trees need to be trimmed out before flooding occurs, with the street laborers to do per Council.

A family movie night will be held in the park on Saturday, August 28th, funded through the GBU Community Involvement, reported by Councilwoman Becky Templeton.

The recreational committee is again asking for a place to keep their tractor, wanting a shed at the park, with Council's consensus to not have a shed at the park.

The flower committee has lost their receipt for the flowers that they purchased for the pots around town. It was the consensus of Council to have them write up a receipt and submit to Council for payment.

Councilman Brad Bodenschatz reports that five new streetlights have been erected, Beauty Lawn will apply another spray this year yet, the tree trimming from electric lines and sidewalks has been done, with still more to do and the electric pole at “The Crick” (old Redwood building) is in need of being replaced, with some issues to be worked out with the owner.

By a motion from Russell Jones, the meeting was adjourned at 9:42pm, second by Brad Bodenschatz, unanimous approval.

President

Mayor

Secretary/Treasurer