

**GLEN ROCK BOROUGH
COUNCIL MEETING
September 19, 2018**

Present: R. Apgar, James Merrick, Victoria Ribeiro, Andrew Stewart, Nick Wagner and Doug Young

Others Present: Evan Gabel, Esq., John Trout, Mayor, Ann Merrick, Sec/Treas., five visitors

The meeting was Called to Order at 7:00PM by Council President D. Young beginning with the pledge to the flag.

Announcements/Vacancies

1. GR Planning Commission has two vacancies.
2. GR Zoning Hearing Board has one vacancy.
3. President D. Young announced an executive session for later in the meeting, to discuss pending litigation.

Public Comment

1. Ken Dry, owner and resident of 133 Manchester Street, described an incident with one of his neighbors from September 15 and 16, 2018; he is requesting a verbal follow up report from SRPD. GRB's Commission representatives will request the follow up for K. Dry.
2. David Wooden, new resident of 23 Mudd Lane, introduced himself and expressed interest to volunteer in the community.

Agenda

1. Jennifer Webb, resident and Treasurer of Arthur Hufnagel Public Library Board, thanked Council for generosity and support of the library. She discussed programs, current funding and requested Council consider increasing their donation beginning this year. After discussion, J. Merrick moved to donate \$3000 to the Arthur Hufnagel Public Library for 2018 and 2019, seconded by V. Ribeiro. Motion carried.
2. Lori Spencer, owner of rental property located at 53 Cottage Avenue, requested an Appeal for Notices of Violations including revocation of current rental license. L. Spencer was not present for the meeting. President D. Young reviewed a timeline of events beginning with L. Spencer notifying the Borough in October, 2017, removing 53 Cottage Avenue as a rental property and ending with L. Spencer's Appeal of Notices of Violations on August 23, 2018. Attorney E. Gabel commented the Borough followed the procedures outlined in the Rental Ordinance. Council discussed L. Spencer's request to vacate the violations and associated fees. J. Merrick moved to deny L. Spencer's request to vacate the violations and associated fees, seconded by V. Ribeiro. Motion unanimously passed.

Approval of Minutes

1. R. Apgar moved to approve the August 15/29, 2018 Minutes, seconded by N. Wagner. Motion carried.

Old Business

1. GR Recreation Board approved plans submitted for installation of square, aluminum pole and speakers for playing of Taps at the GR Park with caveat that any changes need to be approved prior to work being completed. Once the speakers are installed, the American Legion will provide maintenance for equipment.
2. No traffic calming updates discussed.
3. No update available for ARLE Grant project.
4. All paperwork has been signed and notarized for 129 Manchester Street, stormwater inlet and pipe project. Borough Office will notify B. Riehl and Council when 1st Impressions schedules the work.

Solicitor's Report

1. E. Gabel informed Council the property tax appeal has been submitted for the Rockville Road properties; however, if approved, the request will not go into effect until 2020. Council has received some verbal interest and discussed the possibility of a seller financed, installment sales agreement, if sale of properties takes place prior to approved property tax appeals. Sale of the properties will require advertising, agreements of sale, and for the larger lot, state legislature approval is necessary.
2. E. Gabel presented the newest draft ordinance for the fire/emergency services volunteer tax credits including the addition of GR Emergency Medical Services, Inc. to Section 2.C., changing responsibility from Fire Chief to President of Fire Company/Supervisor of EMS, in Section 2. E., and filing claims with Borough Secretary in Section 3 and 4. E. Gabel will email newest draft of Resolution to Council. Final draft of Resolution and Ordinance may be ready for motion to advertise during October meeting and adoption in December.

Ordinance Violation Report

1. Council discussed the current status and follow up as needed for these properties:
 - 40 Hanover Street – unsafe porches; final NOV requesting repairs or Borough will repair/demo and file lien.
 - 140 Hanover Street – garage without roof on Winter Avenue; final NOV requesting repairs or Borough will repair/demo and file lien.
 - 81 Manchester Street – collapsing porch; owner applied for permit; SPCC to encourage progress on project.
 - 75 Manchester Street – collapsed deck; owner verbally requested appeal, but did not request appeal in writing; final NOV requesting repairs or Borough will repair/demo and file lien.
 - 31-33 Main Street – numerous rentals/building violations; SPCC to follow up with owner, and re-inspect as needed.
 - 41 Cottage Avenue – collapsing porch roof; owner obtained demo permit, but never called for final inspection; Borough to send letter requesting completion of project including final inspection.
 - 7 Baltimore Street – property is unsecure and has flooded twice. Borough will send letter to secure and clean up flood damages.
 - 9 New Street – on-going porch project with limited progress; contact SPCC to investigate/inspect.

Executive Session

**Council recessed to Executive Session at 8:29 PM to discuss current litigation.

**The Council meeting resumed at 8:44 PM.

Solicitor's Report continued

3. Brown's Orchards & Farm Market, Inc has requested help from the Fire Police of Glen Rock Hose & Ladder Company, to assist with parking and traffic control during each weekend, September 1 through October 28, 2018. According to the insurance company, the Borough would have protection as long as the Borough officially authorized this as an approved event, with authorization being granted at a Borough Council meeting and documented in writing. After discussion, R. Apgar moved to deny Brown's Orchards & Farm Market, Inc's request, seconded by V. Ribeiro. Motion carried.

*E. Gabel left the meeting at 8:55 PM.

Police Commission Report

1. Commission is working on budget organization for 2019. GR's average number of incidents in the last two and one-half years is 635 per year. GR's share of out of jurisdiction calls is 17%. Including the shared costs of administration, the first draft for 2019 is 7.97 PPU's for GR. The total projected budget is 15% increase.
2. Police officers are still negotiating terms for a new contract.

Recreation Board Report

1. 2018 5K9 Bark for the Park event is this Saturday, September 22, 8am – 1pm.
2. Recreation Board continues to research the purchase of new security system for the GR Park.
3. Recreation Board is interested in proceeds from the sale of Rockville Road properties and discussed using the funds to try to obtain a parcel of land next to the GR Park.

Work Supervisor's Report

1. Bucket Truck is in the shop for repairs.
2. 2003 Truck is still in the shop for repair to transmission.
3. Borough held a meeting with Mr. Joines on Hayward Heights on September 5, discussing stormwater runoff. Columbia Gas has plans to replace their gas main on Hayward Heights, so the Borough will not be paving Hayward Heights this year.
4. Shrewsbury Township plans to begin working on West Street/Walnut Street repairs on September 24; residents on these streets have been notified.

Secretary's Report

1. South Penn Code Consultants issued two zoning permits, two building permits and completed thirteen rental inspections in August, 2018.
2. No report provided by Erdman Animal Control Services.

No Mayor's Report

Building/Property Report

1. J. Merrick received one quote of \$1275 from Lee Cook for repair of steps/painting the ramps/rails in the front of the Neuhaus Building. J. Merrick plans to obtain another quote. J. Merrick moved to authorize payment not to exceed \$1275 for repair/painting project at the Neuhaus Building, seconded by R. Apgar. Motion carried.
2. R. Apgar reported visits to two currently vacant commercial properties, BB&T Bank building, sale price of \$375,000 and 35 Junior Street, sale price of \$115,000. Although these buildings are not

useful to the Borough, maybe the parking lots could help provide additional parking for residents. R. Apgar will research the possibility of purchasing the old BB&T parking lot, which is a separate parcel from the old bank building.

Public Safety Report

1. R. Apgar asked the finance committee to consider budgeting funds to purchase a radar speed sign in 2019. R. Apgar will send information for further discussion at the October Council meeting.

Special Projects Report

1. Dedication date for the naming of the Valley Street bridge will be announced when the bridge work is complete.
2. Residents have shared ideas for possible flood mitigation. The Borough is considering stream rehab and will pursue mitigation grant funding.

No Personnel Report

No Ordinance/Refuse Report

Finance Report

1. D. Young presented the invoices over \$500.00 for payment through the General Fund. R. Apgar moved to pay the following invoices over \$500.00, using the General Fund, seconded by N. Wagner:

a. CGA Law Firm	\$ 2976.00
b. CGA Law Firm	3500.00
c. James R. Holley & Associates, Inc.	3058.75
d. South Penn Code Consultants LLC	2134.18

Motion carried.

No New Business

President's Report

1. D. Young provided a reminder for YCPC meeting scheduled on September 25, 6-8pm, to discuss creating a County Stormwater Authority.
2. Finance Committee has begun working on the 2019 Budget. Anyone with suggestions should submit ideas/quotes to D. Young.

No Public Comment

R. Apgar moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:40PM, seconded by J. Merrick. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Ann E. Merrick
Secretary/Treasurer