Meeting called to order at 6:35 p.m. by President Gregory Strubinger with the pledge of allegiance and moment of silence for the armed forces, first responders and their families.

**Roll Call of Members & Officials**

Gregory Strubinger Thomas Highland - absent Joanne Klitsch

Jay Miller - absent Kyle Sheckler Michael Yeastedt

Robert Schaninger Mayor Michael Sofranko - absent Solicitor Nanovic - absent

Police Chief Schatz Public Service Manager Yaich Manager Sterner

Borough Engineer - absent Secretary McClafferty

President Strubinger said the meeting is falling on Veteran’s Day, and there was some discussion about moving the Council meeting and Council decided to keep the meeting date. Like the schools do they make it a point to make it special for the Veteran’s and honor them. We decided to keep the meeting date and we have Angelia Nardini coming to sign a few songs to honor the Veteran’s.

**Mayor’s Report**

Police Chief Schatz said Mayor Sofranko would like to let everyone know if they have any questions regards to the police report let him know.

Police Chief Schatz thanked everyone that was involved with fall foliage weekends, it came together as planned. They met today to do a briefing on the event and have some great ideas coming up for the future.

**Announcements**

2020 Recycling Grant approved amount of $4,285.10

President Strubinger spoke about the Fall electronic & tire recycling event. Tamaqua Transfer picked the tires up on Flagstaff Road, thank you for helping us by doing that and thank you to Connor Rodgers for helping on that.

Vacant position on the International Property Maintenance board.

2022 Appointments

Borough Manager Sterner said she has one other announcement. She received a phone call today from Senator Casey. He thanked us for submitting our projects for the appropriation money and for doing all of the work to get that in to them. They do hope to be making decisions before the end of the year.

**SALDO**

Lucas request, this property is divided by Center Avenue.

Borough Manager Sterner said they are requesting that it be considered a natural subdivision. She does not know what the Borough’s position has been on this.

Mr. Yeastedt said this effectively cuts through all the chase right do we just approve this or not, and they don’t have to do any formal kind of application.

Borough Manager Sterner said yes. If you do that then they don’t go through anything, they aren’t doing sewage testing to know if both parcels will be buildable parcels, or separating it and creating unbuildable parcels. You have sewer out there.

Mrs. Klitsch asked what side of the street is this on?

Borough Manager Sterner said both sides of the street.

Mr. Yeastedt said we should have the Planning Commission review this and make their recommendations to Council.

James Dougher said the Mauch Chunk Parking Waiver Request he would like a correction:

1. Zoning Section 390-13-I.2, driveways & curbing grading, & turning radius
2. Zoning Section 390.20.B6 & 7, waiver request on screening & buffer strip

Kanick SALDO Waiver Requests SALDO Sections 390-11 & 390.5 – Minor Subdivision & Preliminary/Final Plan

SALDO Section 390-13-F3 – lot depth ratio

Kanick Subdivision

Borough Manager Sterner said what was submitted was 4 lot subdivision and they made future comments on future development.

Mr. Yeastedt said the project is what to do about the sewer? It says we aren’t supposed to have sewerage in the Mauch Chunk Water Shed. The other hand say our current sewer lines probably can’t accept additional waste and one of the suggestions was for them to install new sewage line and where would that connect if that was possible?

Borough Manager Sterner said it’s about a mile down the road. They do have that option. The zoning ordinance is what they do not meet with the sewage planning modal or on-lot sewage system. They could go to the zoning hearing board for a variance on that, they would have to meet the criteria. The Planning Commission did recommend rejection of the waivers. One was to consider it preliminary/final plan instead of preliminary plan and the additional future development is also why they approved the denial of that waiver. The lot depth ratio also, which they are not sure why they cannot meet that. There is nothing in writing explaining why they want these waivers. The Planning Commission felt there are too many items that need to be addressed or re-addressed.

**Public Comment** – limited to 1 minute per person – public is encouraged to submit public comments via regular mail, email or place in drop box at municipal office

Andrew Roberts, 57 Race Street Sidewalks. He would like to do something about the stormwater racing down High Street and running up against 57 Race Street. He wants to raise the curb enough to control some of the water and get rid of the 2 stair steps. He is proposing putting in a retention curb down to the corner and remove sidewalks to get rid of the hump, it would help the Street department with plowing, and keep the water off of the house and the sidewalks. He said if the Borough is happy with this, he would draw up some new plans. He will retain the handicapped curb cut; he will put the rumble pad in because he is touching that, he will pay the borough’s engineer and his engineer.

PSM Yaich said this will help the borough out. The only thing they couldn’t agree upon was putting bollards in to protect the house, he is going to look for something to protect the property.

Tom Romanchik, 600 Flagstaff request to amend the zoning ordinance allowing the installation of Ferris wheel at the property.

Borough Manager Sterner said this is not permitted use in that zoning district, we would have to amend the zoning ordinance to allow that to be a permitted use or he can ask for a variance. She will ask the solicitor.

Michael Rivkin, 5 W Broadway a briefing on the fall foliage festival, two issues traffic and parking.

Old Time Christmas is not happening this year, Council will be posted on this. Tree lighting and Krampus festival will be held this year.

Police Chief Schatz spoke about alternate parking spots in town and are working on this. They are looking at other municipalities as stake holders to bring people in to town, they are working on this for events.

Betty Lou McBride, 802 Center St., thanked the Police & Fire Police for their work during fall foliage with traffic control. The ordinance for parking at Market Square, when you put this in the parking angle has changed. She showed Council pictures of how the parking was back in 1992 and how it is now.

Jake Arner thanked PSM Yaich for having the street department fix the pothole on Flagstaff Road. For the record; As an adjoining property owner, he has no objections to the Ferris wheel at the Flagstaff.

**Action**

Discussed Council Meeting Minutes from October 7, 2021

Discussed Council Meeting Minutes from October 14, 2021

Mr. Yeastedt said there are some spelling issues, he will relay them to Louise.

Discussed Council Meeting Minutes from October 20, 2021

Discussed Expenditures from all Funds as presented

Discussed Treasurer’s Report

Discussed Advertise the 2022 Proposed Budget

Discussed Ordinance 2021-08 Zoning Ordinance Amendment

Discussed Resolution 2021-19 Police Officers Contributions to Police Pension 2022

Discussed UCC Appeals Board

Borough Manager Sterner said we have a letter of interest from Brian Evans. She will contact him to see if he is available to attend next week’s meeting.

Discussed Blight Remediation Grant Projects

* Jim Thorpe Borough – N/A
* Lehighton Borough –
  + 1. KCE Invoices - #179863 - $4,776.00
    2. Approve advertising Demo Bid Specs
* Palmerton Borough – N/A

Discussed Entech 4159 WO-11545 School St Paving & Improvement Project - $14,800.00

Discussed Church Alley – N/A

Discussed High Street – ARP Project

* DEP – GP-5 Permit application - No fee
* E&S Plan - $500.00 fee
* Project Specs/Bidding

Borough Manager Sterner said this is American Recovery Plan money. We are requesting Council to approve the specs and advertise the project to bid. They have to review it.

**Utility Action**

Utility Accounts Lien Reports

* Active Utility Accounts Garbage & Others Lien Report (0)
* Active Utility Account Garbage Only Lien Report (1)
* Active Utility Accounts Sewer/Garbage Lien Report (0)
* Active Utility Accounts Water/Garbage Lien Report (1)
* Active Utility Accounts Water/Sewer/Garbage Lien Report (0)
* Temporary Off Lien Report (0)
* Inactive (0)

Uncollectible Accounts Report (0)

Utility Accounts Proposed Updates (0)

7335 Request

Mr. Yeastedt asked where do they come up with $35.00 per month?

Borough Manager Sterner said she cannot answer that. He insists he has an agreement with the borough but he can’t produce it. Do any past utility committee members remember having a verbal agreement with him that he would never have to pay more than $35.00 a month for sewage? He has been billed properly, he just hasn’t paid more than $35.00 a month, this is why he has gone to collections.

**Exoneration Request**

1. Monthly Report

**Committees**

Administration

Buckno, Lisicky & Co. audit services fees for 2021 audit

Borough Manager Sterner said the Administration Committee made the recommendation to Council. This will be the last year with the Waste Water Treatment Plant project on the audit financial, this is the same company that has done this since it started.

Resolution 2021-21 Procedures for Public Meeting

Borough Manager Sterner said we are requesting this be updated because of the increase in volume of the meetings, and in order to properly prepare for the meeting we request that the deadline for the meeting be moved up to the Tuesday prior to the workshop session.

Zoning Ordinance Amendment - Medical Marijuana Facilities

President Strubinger said he, Mr. Yeastedt and Mr. Sheckler met with the solicitor with some recommendations to council. Trying to make sense where in the borough, it would make sense to have them. They came up with the zoning districts I and C-3.

2022 Fee Schedule Proposed

Borough Manager Sterner said the proposed changes are in red. Meter bag - kiosk spaces rental because we don’t do meter bag rental any more, deposit for parking code or barricade use, miscellaneous – permit parking $15.00, permit parking guest $5.00, park facility rental there is a breakdown of what the surrounding municipalities charge. Council needs to tell her what you wish is on this. SEO hourly rate is $60.00 this just to cover his costs. Other thing is do you want to have fees for applications and permits obtained subsequent to construction. Sidewalks and curb, fee with design and fee without design. Storm Water plan determination fee $350.00, Storm Water permit plan fee is $550.00, the $350.00 would go towards that? Post increases in SALDO based on reviews we have seen this year increase sketch plan to $750.00, 3 lots or less no improvements $1,000.00 and 4 lots or more to $1,500.00 others remain the same. No changes for utilities or Uniform Construction code.

Public Service (Sewer/Sanitation/Water/Streets)

Klitsch – Request for Action

Mrs. Klitsch said she wants to talk to PSM Vince about a couple of things. The reason she sent the letter after 20 years, she got a letter from the HOA out by her and she was never included in the HOA, now they are sending her an invoice. Back in 1972 the borough took over the road in front of her house. This is why she wants the Borough to specifically tell the Leisure Land Road Association where their boundaries are. She wants to make sure they are doing things correctly on their roads.

Borough Manager Sterner said all of that information has been sent to them.

Mrs. Klitsch said she needs the borough to inform them of their boundaries.

Borough Manager Sterner said unfortunately this is an issue between you and the Home Owners Association. We have sent them the information. We have not received anything from them.

We can ask solicitor Nanovic what to do?

Mrs. Klitsch said the borough takes care of the road by her house.

PSM Yaich said actually without getting it surveyed, we have the Liquid Fuels map that show what we are getting paid for which puts it a little bit past your place. Get a professional survey to go in there.

President Strubinger said we go by the Liquid fuels map.

PSM Yaich said what we are going to find is their mailboxes are right in the middle of the road. The sign is in the middle of the road. He has not contacted those people about the road. They should not be dumping their snow in front of your place they are violating the borough ordinance; they should push back to their cul-de-sac. In 1968 his dad came to council meeting about the road. What happened at the council meeting was the borough was going to take over the road. Tommy & Joanne Klitsch owned it they had to maintain the road for 4 years and twice a year, in the summer time they put calcium down on the road to keep the dust down. At the end of the 4 years before the borough would take over the road they had to tar & chip the road and then the borough took it over. In 1972 the borough finally took it over.

Borough Manager Sterner asked Mrs. Klitsch to find out who their attorney is and she will forward the information to them.

Police

Parking Violation fees

Police Chief Schatz said they are looking at raising the parking kiosk violations fees from $10.00 to $20.00 and prohibited from $15.00 to $25.00.

Borough Manager Sterner said this needs to be done by ordinance. If you are interested in this, we can put that on the action agenda.

Marin - request for Parking

Police Chief Schatz said he gave him a few solutions and he said he has tried them; he would like a 15-minute parking space in front of Antonio’s.

Borough Manager Sterner said the request said it the 15-minute spot would be used for customers pick up use and the delivery driver’s use. This will be moved to the action for council to decide.

Buildings/Parks

Barry Isett & Associates grant assistance report

Borough Manager Sterner said this is pro-bono grant work they assisted us with $5,896.25 and helping to secure the $25,000.00 grant for the park master site plan. They assisted with the 2020 & 2021 DCNR and 2021 DCNR grant and 2021 DCED grant & LSA grant and they assisted us with the blight grant.

Mr. Yeastedt asked if we heard anything on the Dam removal grant?

Borough Manager Sterner said we are waiting to hear on the grant application, which they haven’t made any decision on that yet.

Emergency Services

Mr. Yeastedt said there is no update on the new truck.

**Old Business**

1. Brummell Request – to take unopened portion of Quarry St.
2. Readdressing Phase II
3. Blight Landbank
4. Facilities Projects
5. Chipmunk Trail Addressing
6. Stormwater Ordinance Update
7. Parking Authority
8. 2021 Street Project – Front Street

**Executive Session**

Personnel

**Adjourn**

**MOTION**: Michael Yeastedt second Kyle Sheckler to adjourn and go into executive session for personnel.

YES 5 NO 0 ABSENT 2 Tom Highland & Jay Miller

Respectfully submitted

Louise McClafferty

Borough Secretary