

The monthly meeting of the White Haven Borough Council was called to order by President John Klem at 7:00 pm. Roll call was taken, and the following members were present: Charlie Best, Julie Fallon, John Klem, Bob Lamson, Zane Writer, and John Zugarek. Absent: Harvey Morrison. Also present: Fred Meier Mayor, OIC Rich Mocofan, Sean Reynolds Street Department, Sean Logsdon Borough Attorney, and Linda Szoke Borough Manager.

Minutes from the April meeting were presented. A motion was made by Best and seconded by Fallon to approve the minutes. All in favor, the motion carried.

Public comment on agenda items – none tonight

Engineers Report – Report on file

- Borough Engineer Dominic Yanuzzi reported that the road way condition report on Main Street was completed last month. He explained a drone was used to document the condition of the roadway from 940 to the back entrance of the supermarket. He showed a few of the photos taken and explained that the computer model also has artificial intelligence that maps all the cracks in the roadway. It also measures their length. He showed how that appears in the images. Also included in the report were the storm water pipe evaluations that were done. Dominic stated they have no recommendations; this is just a condition report. This report will be able to be utilized during the upcoming construction to document any potential damage that may occur to this roadway. It can also be useful when applying for grants.

Attorney's Report –

- Attorney Sean Logsdon reviewed the three garbage bid options. The first option was five-year refuse only, the second option was five-year refuse and recycling, and option three was an add on for bulk pick up four times a year. Sean stated they went through all of the bids and all of the required documents were supplied by the bidders. He also stated they are all qualified and well-known companies. He announced the low bidder was for option one. That bid was from Anthracite Waste at \$758,100. He stated Anthracite Waste was also the lowest bid if we wanted to go with the add on option. That bid was \$66,000 for the add on of bulk pick up four times a year. Sean then stated the other low bid came in from Casella. Casella merged with County Waste. Casella was the low bidder for option two at \$956,346.00. The add on bid from Casella was higher than Anthracite Waste, at \$165,645.04. Council asked for a comparison of Anthracite Waste and Casella if option two and three were combined for each. Attorney Logsdon said the price for option two and three from Anthracite Waste would come to \$1,149,000.00 and from Casella would come to \$1,121,991.04. Councilman Lamson asked for the comparison of the two companies for just option two. Attorney Logsdon stated for just option two, Anthracite Waste came in at \$1,083,000 and Casella was \$956,346.00. After hearing this information Councilman Lamson says that regardless if we keep the bulk pick up or not, Casella is still the low bid for both garbage and recycling. Councilman Lamson stated Casella is our current hauler and asked the Borough Manager what tax implications look like for the next five years. Linda stated she had

worked with it looking at option two and taking away what we already put in taxes for the current contract. She also noted the fact this is a five year and 6 months contract to bring it to the end of the year instead of ending the contract in July. She stated, depending on assessed value of homes using averages she came to around \$60 per year increase per property. That increase was just for trash, not other budget items. Councilman Writer stated the cost has tripled and our hands are tied. Linda stated that we do a five-year contract so we have been fortunate to not have an increase. Councilman Writer asked if they guarantee two separate trucks, and that recycling is not going to a landfill. Jonas Kreitzer from Casella stated they do have their own recycling facility. Councilman Lamson asked how much recycling is taken from the borough and the Borough Manager replied she could get him the report. Attorney Logsdon asked about contamination regarding proper cleaning and disposal of recycling. Councilman Lamson also asked if we could get information to get to the residents regarding the recycling guidelines. The Borough Manager also mentioned there is a county grant that can be used to make materials to educate our residents, such as mailings, posters, and newspaper ads. Linda mentioned that she had spoken to Brian from Casella about bulk items. The company does have the provision to allow for bulk items to be picked up curbside at the cost of the resident. This would alleviate the cost being added to the contract but still allow residents to use the service if needed. A motion was made by Writer and seconded by Lamson to approve Casella, option two at the cost of \$956,346.00 as the contract for garbage and recycling. Roll call vote – Best – yes, Fallon – yes, Klem – yes, Lamson – yes, Morrison – absent, Writer – yes, Zugarek – yes. All in favor, the motion carried.

#### Manager's Report

- The Borough Manager gave a reminder that the June 24<sup>th</sup> meeting will include a public hearing on the towing ordinance and a work session at 6 pm for the discussion of a façade ordinance in the business district.
- Request for a motion to approve the Borough Manager to sign a letter of intent for DCED to do a study of EMS services. A motion was made by Zugarek and seconded by Fallon, all in favor, the motion carried.
- Request from the Fire Company Social Club to have an evening of entertainment with North of 40 band in their parking lot June 29<sup>th</sup> from 6-10pm. All proceeds from the event are a fundraiser for the White Haven Fire Company. They are not requesting any road closures for the event. It was decided no action was needed as they are not impacting the borough.
- The residents on Northumberland St asked for help with garbage. They are impacted by taking garbage to the rear of their homes due to the way the garbage trucks need to go down the street. A suggestion made was to put up no parking signs on one side of the street for Mondays from 6 am to noon and that would be the side the garbage truck comes down so that is where all the cans go. This would require an ordinance change so we would need help from the attorney with that. There would also be a cost to advertise it as well as a cost to post the signs. A motion was made by Zugarek and seconded by Lamson to allow the attorney to draft an ordinance for no parking on Northumberland St. All in favor, the motion carried.

#### Tax Collector

- Current taxes collected for April \$215,335.47

- Local Realty Transfer Tax for April \$1,154.93
- Delinquent taxes for March \$1,813.55

Building, zoning, Code enforcement – Report on file

Fire Department – report on file

Ambulance – report on file

Mayor / Police Chief / Police Committee Report

- The mayor announced they had interviewed for part time police officer. Councilman Lamson stated the Police Committee and Sargeant Mocofoan had interviewed Randy Schlatter. A motion was made by Lamson and seconded by Zugarek to hire Randy Schlatter as a part time patrolman at a rate of \$22 per hour. All in favor, the motion carried.
- Borough Manager Linda announced that Officer Diaz is the proud father of a new baby boy today.

Public Works / Public Works Committee - Report on file

- Councilman Writer stated there had been interviews done for the laborer position. A motion was made by Writer and seconded by Lamson to hire Logan Scheetz as a full-time laborer for the street department at a rate of \$19 an hour. All in favor, the motion carried.

Committee Reports

- Building and Grounds – The brass eagle has been placed back at the honor roll.
- Strategic planning group – There is a meeting tomorrow morning.
- Finance – The remaining \$40,000 has been moved back into the investment account.
- Planning –
- Parade Committee – The Memorial Day Parade is this coming Sunday.
- Water – report on file
- 200<sup>th</sup> Birthday – Councilman Lamson stated Senator Argall will be at the ball park after the parade to meet with Borough Council to present a proclamation.

Correspondence / Unfinished Business – We have a new officer to swear in.

Seminars & Workshops – none

Payment of bills –

- A motion was made by Best and seconded by Zugarek to pay the bills. All in favor and the motion carried.

Public Comment on non-agenda items –

- Officer Randy Schlatter was issued the oath of office by Mayor Meier.

A motion was made to adjourn at 7:49 pm by Best and seconded by Zugarek. All in favor, the motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

*Holly Potance*

Holly Potance  
Assistant Borough Secretary