

**MANOR BOROUGH COUNCIL**  
**MONTHLY BUSINESS MEETING – July 15, 2020**

The Manor Borough Council held its monthly business meeting on Wednesday, July 15, 2020 at 7:00 P.M., via a Zoom online meeting due to pandemic concerns.

Roll Call of Attendance:

(Present)	Bruce Hartman, President Christine Marchand Brian Woy Ed Antonacci, Engineer	Dawn Lynn, Vice President Jim Vacha Mike Matrisch, Mayor John Campfield, Solicitor Mike Radakovich, Tax Collector (Joined meeting at 7:11 PM)
(Absent)	Dave Gongaware Jason Krainbucher, Zoning Office	Ralph Hensell George Valmassoni, Chief of Police

**Minutes** – A motion “to accept the minutes of the meeting held on June 17, 2020, as read” was made by Mr. Woy, and seconded by Ms. Marchand. The motion carried unanimously.

**Public Comment on Agenda Items** – None.

**Mayor’s Report** (Mr. Matrisch) – There is a parade and rally scheduled in Jeannette on July 16, 2020. Chief Valmassoni has volunteered to give up his planned vacation day and be present to provide back up to the Jeannette police as an act of Goodwill. Mr. Woy questioned why Manor PD has to back up Jeannette police as they have 14 officers. The Mayor responded that Penn Township, as well as other surrounding communities will also be sending officers, from the email sent out by the Jeannette PD to other police departments. After much discussion, Ms. Lynn motioned to approve the Manor Police Chief’s attendance at the parade rally provided he submit written documentation that he is willing to do this at regular pay. Seconded by Mr. Vacha, the motion passed unanimously.

**Solicitor’s Report** (Mr. Campfield) – None.

**Engineer’s Report** (Mr. Antonacci) – The paving at Manor View Drive is complete.

**Planning & Zoning Officer’s Report** (Mr. Krainbucher) – None.

**Borough Manager’s Report** (Mr. Lapia) – Mr. Lapia reported the John Deere tractor sold on Municibid for \$5,000. The proceeds defrays the expense for the Ventrac Mower and trailer. The Borough received the annual Act-13 disbursement at \$4,864, which was less than the \$6,000 anticipated. Mr. Lapia also reminded Council there are several vacancies: Civil Service Alternate, PTARC Delegate, Recreation Board and the Zoning Hearing Board. Mr. Hartman offered to post these vacancies on Facebook to see if there is any interest.

**Treasurer’s Report** – A motion “to approve the Treasurer’s Report for the month of June 2020, as prepared” was made by Ms. Lynn and seconded by Mr. Woy. The motion carried unanimously.

**Tax Collector’s Report** – A motion “to approve the Tax Collector’s Report for the month of June 2020, as prepared” was made by Ms. Lynn and seconded by Ms. Marchand. The motion carried unanimously.

**Committee Reports**

- **Building & Properties** – None.
- **Community Betterment** – None.
- **Finance** – None.

- **Personnel** – Mr Hartman and Mr. Woy commented there is an arbitrator available to help negotiate the Public Works contract.
- **Planning & Zoning** – None.
- **Public Safety** – Mr. Woy reported he filed 6 complaints with PennDOT, online, regarding the weeds, debris along the roads and sidewalks along Route 993, as well as clogged storm drains. He also contacted State Senator Ward’s office and State Representative Dunbar’s office. PennDOT did trim some weeds and filed some potholes, but only satisfied one half of his complaints. Mr. Woy has subsequently filed 2 more complaints with PennDOT. Additionally, there is an issue with the railroad as water run off is flooding the underpass and the area around the COGO’s gas station during heavy rain events. He is looking to make contact with the railroad.

#### **Unfinished Business**

- None.

#### **New Business**

- Consideration “to approve payment request from Mele & Mele.” Ms. Lynn motioned to approve payment to Mele & Mele, for the Manor View Drive paving project, in the amount of \$93,745.55. 10% retainage will be held until all paperwork is submitted. Seconded by Mr. Woy, the motion carried unanimously.
- Discussion on purchase of a Public Works dump truck. The Chevrolet 2012 1-ton truck is slated to be replaced by a Ford F550, as it is incurring a lot of repairs. Pricing for the 2021 Ford models will be out in late August. The truck will need to be outfitted with a dump bed, and plow. The current tailgate spreader is still usable. There is \$103,580 saved for a new truck and the Borough could possibly sell the 2012 for \$20,000. At Mr. Woy’s suggestion, a Dodge 5500 will also be considered.
- Discussion on VFD proposed training at 209 Sagerville Lane. Mr. Hartman, Mr. Woy, Ms. Marchand and Ms. Lynn all visited and reviewed the homes in the area in relation to the property. Mr. Hartman was concerned about the environmental issues. Mr. Woy expressed the resident concerns were warranted and the wetlands could be affected, and it’s not beneficial to alienate the neighborhood. He also noted the closest house is 68 feet to the left. Ms. Marchand stated the burn was not feasible. Ms. Lynn estimated the houses were 150 – 200 feet apart from the Sagerville Lane house. Mr. Vacha was not able to visit the site but is going along with Mr. Woy’s opinion. Demolition permits were issued for the out buildings and they are slowly coming down. Mr. Woy motioned to deny a burn permit for the Sagerville Lane house. Seconded by Ms. Lynn, the motion carried unanimously.
- Consideration “approve Resolution 2020-08 waiving the Employee Contribution to the Police Pension Plan.” Mr. Woy motion to approve Resolution 2020-08 waiving the employee contribution to the police pension plan this year. Seconded by Ms. Marchand, the motion carried unanimously.
- Consideration “to authorize Solicitor to sign on behalf of the Brough the Petition for an Order of Court to Settle, Discontinue and end Litigation between WWMA and NHTMA for the Cavittsville-Ardara Service Area. Ms. Lynn motioned to authorize the Solicitor to sign on the Borough’s behalf. Seconded by Mr. Woy, the motion carried unanimously.

**Correspondence** - Correspondence from Westmoreland County Court Administrator acknowledging receipt of Resolution in support of not closing District Court 10-2-03.

**Payment of Bills** – A motion “to approve payment of the bills as of July 15, 2020, as presented” was made by Ms. Lynn and seconded by Mr. Vacha. The motion carried unanimously.

There was no need for an Executive Session.

**Citizen Comments** – Mr. Tony Vannelli was online and thanked Manor Council for supporting him and his neighbors in their disapproval and prevention of a controlled burn at the 209 Sagerville Lane property.

Mr. David Lauffer was online to call attention to some issues on and around lower Oak Street. Specifically rainwater issues emanating from a neighboring property at 22 Oak discharging onto this mother in law's property at 20 Oak. It appears the structure's downspouts at 22 Oak are clogged and the rainwater is spilling down onto 20 Oak, instead of the street or storm drain, creating a small stream down the yard and along newly installed sidewalks. Mr. Lauffer feels the house at 22 Oak is not properly maintained due to the amount of garbage piled around and has noticed the basement door is left open to ventilate the structure. The Borough still does not have anyone doing Code Enforcement.

Mr. Lauffer went on to complain about the fireworks, and was then joined by Mr. Scott Harding via online chat as Mr. Harding was having audio issues. They both had issues with a neighbor's fireworks for the Fourth of July weekend stating they were too close to houses, some were landing on rooftops, and it was disturbing the peace going off late into the night. They called the police and were told nothing could be done and no one was cited. The Mayor will talk to the Police Chief regarding fireworks.

Mr. Woy asked about the meeting that was supposed to happen regarding Code Enforcement and the adoption of the International Property Maintenance Code. No meeting transpired however the chairperson did pick up the code book for review.

There being no other business to discuss, a motion "to adjourn the meeting" was made by Ms. Lynn and was seconded by Mr. Woy. The motion carried unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 8:24 P.M.

Joseph N. Lapia  
Borough Manager