

## June 9, 2008

Derry Borough Council met in regular session Monday, June 9, 2008 at 7:00 P.M. in the Derry Station Community Room, 200 West Second Avenue, Derry, PA with the following members present: Allen Skopp presiding, Eric Tepper, Barry Smith, Curt Robbins, Kristine Snyder, Chris Holnaider, and Todd Krehlik. Solicitor Rachel Riedel was present. Marie McCandless reporter of the Latrobe Bulletin, and Jeff Himler reporter of the Tribune Review Dispatch was present.

**MOTION** by Curt Robbins to approve the minutes for regular meeting of May 12, 2008. Motion **SECONDED** by Barry Smith. All council members present voiced “aye” in favor of the motion. Motion passed.

**MOTION** by Barry Smith to approve the treasurer’s report for May 31, 2008. Motion **SECONDED** by Eric Tepper. All council members present voiced “aye” in favor of the motion. Motion passed.

1. James & Joyce Donnelly- 323 East Second St and 618 First Avenue, Derry, PA. Came to the council meeting regarding properties that have been left go on Second Street, and others throughout the Borough. He presented pictures to the borough of the properties he is referring to. He would like to see more enforcement for code and zoning violations. It’s not fair to taxpayers who take care of their homes to have to view or live next to properties that are left go. Demolition is taking place on two of the properties mentioned by Mr. Donnelly in the near future. Council President assured Mr. Donnelly that these properties will be addressed by the Borough’s newly hired code enforcement officer. Curt Robbins reinforced that most of the properties referred to have been pursued for demolition and or clean up by the Borough. The Derry Borough Solicitor has forwarded written communication to some of the abandoned properties as well.

2. Ed Schmitt – Gibson Thomas Engineering, Latrobe – Reviewed a letter Gibson Thomas sent to Borbonus Construction Company regarding his work schedule and explained that the project is not at the level of completion that was anticipated. GTE is requesting a time line for the remaining part of the project from Borbonus. There will be a meeting at the job trailer at 1pm on June 10, 2008, anyone is welcome to attend. Mr. Schmitt anticipates moving forward with water line placement beginning tomorrow as well.

He presented the requisitions for both projects to be voted on later in the meeting with brief discussion.

The manhole project is in progress with some unexpected line placements which has created some changes. They have been working on 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue manholes.

Council went into executive session at 7:28pm. Executive session ended at 7:47pm.

### COMMITTEE REPORTS

COG Committee - Eric Tepper reports attendance at the Indiana/Blairsville COG meeting. There was conversation regarding the increase of fuel and how that may impact the local municipalities budgets for winter maintenance. The next meeting will be in September.

There will be a meeting for the Wage Tax Board in August.

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Public Safety Committee - Kristine Snyder reports that the new code enforcement officer had concerns regarding the insurance to utilize her personal vehicle. Kristine followed up with Blairsville to review their procedure and they do utilize their own personal vehicle and is covered under Blairsville policy for liability. A discussion took place regarding Lisa using her personal vehicle vs. utilizing a police car. Kristine stated Lisa told her she was willing to use her personal vehicle.

Public Works Committee - Barry Smith reports the backhoe still needs repaired. Groff has given an estimate for \$790.00 for parts. We need a labor estimate.

There was a meeting with GTE regarding our MS4 permits for Stormwater Management. In this meeting discussion, the Borough will need to educate the public, mark the storm drains for safety purposes, and perform routine screens of storm water ways. Posters and flyers have been distributed at First Commonwealth, DAHS Administration Building, Post Office, Derry Municipal Authority, and Mastroccos. An idea that would be cost effective to send them out with fall tax bills, or girl scouts could pass them out with cookie sales.

Salt run off can be an issue with Stormwater. Barry Smith is reviewing the cost of a salt shed for covering of our salt pile by the Borough garage. This will also promote cost savings.

Skateboarders and bikers are present again on the town sidewalks and streets, which may impact some of our elderly residents who walk. Barry suggested that our police occasionally walk through the business district to help with this issue and show their presence in town. It is posted no bikes or skateboards in the business district on sidewalks are permitted. Council agreed.

## **MAYORS REPORT**

Mayor's Report for May 2008 with receipts of \$2,409.08 which included traffic receipts of \$1,896.80 and non-traffic receipts of \$265.83. There were 93 complaint calls, 47 traffic citations, no parking tickets, and 14 non-traffic citations.

## **ZONING OFFICER'S REPORT**

Presented report for May 2008 including \$223.30 in receipts for two sheds, two pools, two fences and a deck. Council was copied on some violation letters. Dwire hearing was continued to confirm items that needed removed were removed. Discussion took place regarding residents performing construction without permits.

## **COMMUNICATIONS**

We received a letter commending the Public Works Department of Derry Borough for the excellent maintenance of our Flood Protection Project from the Army Corp of Engineers, and we may be awarded a grant award.

Local Tax Forum will be held on June 25, 2008, information will be provided in the mail.

A resignation letter was received by Kathleen Bowman our Zoning Hearing Board Secretary.

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The Borough received two letters from Sen. Bob Regola and Penn Dot regarding our inquiry of State Rt. 217 bridge. They will be reviewing a project to renovate such bridge sometime between 2009 and 2011.

### UNFINISHED BUSINESS

1. Porcelain Park – Sol. Riedel reports a summary appeal and zoning appeal hearing will be taking place later this month on the 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup>. It has been communicated from Dennis Rafferty that the owners are inquiring for clean-up estimates. Mr. Rafferty is to be meeting with Mr. Kay in the future and steel is not to be removed from the property and no one has been authorized to remove any material from the site. Sol Riedel has asked for permission to cite anyone who is caught removing material from site. There is still much confusion on Rick Wadjic's involvement with this property, which was discussed by council and the Mayor. Mr. Douglas Richardson has renewed his lease on the property.
2. Abandoned Properties – Discussed earlier.
3. Truck Signs – Tabled. Council needs to review ordinance to advertise for next month.
4. Occupancy Permits – Tabled.
5. Approve to add Code Enforcement Officer Line Item in the Budget for the amount of \$2,840.00. – Tabled
6. Derry Station Pilot Program - Tabled
7. Safe Routes to School Grant - Tabled

### NEW BUSINESS

1. **MOTION** by Curt Robbins to approve Fireman's use for the Community Park and property by the Borough garage for the Fireman's Convention being held June 12, 13, and 14<sup>th</sup> and the parade route detours Rt. 217 from Valley Street to Pittsburgh Street. North Chestnut St. from 982 to Owens Avenue. Motion **SECONDED** by Eric Tepper. All members present voiced "aye" in favor of the motion. Motion passed.
2. **MOTION** by Curt Robbins to approve sending George Love, Frank Martin, and Betty Handy to the PSATS Planning Seminar for \$25 per person. Motion **SECONDED** by Eric Tepper. All members present voiced "aye" in favor of the motion. Motion passed.
3. **MOTION** by Curt Robbins to approve donation of \$50 to the DABPA for the Derry Area Community School Picnic. June 11, 2008 and \$30 to the DAHS

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Football Boosters. Motion SECONDED by Barry Smith. All members present voiced "aye" in favor of the motion. Motion passed.

4. **MOTION** by Curt Robbins to approve Kathleen Bowman's resignation for the Zoning Hearing Board Secretary and advertise for the position. Motion SECONDED by Barry Smith. All members present voiced "aye" in favor of the motion. Motion passed.
5. **MOTION** by Eric Tepper to approve and accept salt bid for 2008-2009 from American Rock Salt at \$57.34 per ton through the Indiana/Westmoreland COG. Motion SECONDED by Curt Robbins. All members present voiced "aye" in favor of the motion. Motion passed.
6. **MOTION** by Barry Smith to approve the Secretary to attend the Shippensburg Secretary Conference September 17<sup>th</sup>-19<sup>th</sup>. Westmoreland County Borough's Association will reimburse the Borough to pay for her attendance (\$250.00). The Borough will pay for room and travel expense. Motion SECONDED by Curt Robbins. All members present voiced "aye" in favor of the motion. Motion passed.
7. **MOTION** by Curt Robbins to approve Requisition No. 15 for Third Street Project in the amount of \$42,760.56. Motion SECONDED by Eric Tepper. All members present voiced "aye" in favor of the motion. Motion passed.
8. **MOTION** by Curt Robbins to approve Requisition No. 10 for the Fourth Ward Project in the amount of \$85,130.07. Motion SECONDED by Eric Tepper. All members present voiced "aye" in favor of the motion. Motion passed.

**PAYMENT OF BILLS**

**MOTION** by Barry Smith to pay the bills. Motion SECONDED by Curt Robbins. All members present voiced "aye" in favor of the motion. Motion passed.

**ADJOURNMENT**

**MOTION** by Eric Tepper to adjourn at 8:40p.m. Motion SECONDED by Barry Smith. All members present voiced "aye" in favor of the motion. Motion passed.

Respectfully submitted,

Lori L. Latta  
Secretary