

December 20, 2021

A special meeting of Lehighton Borough Council was held in the municipal building on Monday, December 20, 2021. The meeting was called to order at 6:30 PM by President Grant Hunsicker.

Members in attendance were: Councilors Ryan Saunders, Autumn Abelovsky and Joe Flickinger. Absent: Councilors Lisa Perry, Darryl Arner, and Donnie Rehrig.

Officials in attendance were: Borough Manager Nicole Beckett, Borough Secretary Brenda Kreitz, Mayor Clark Ritter.

Pledge of Allegiance

Guest Speaker – Bryan Smith, BIA – Presentation of Conceptual Plans for the Waterfront Traffic Improvement Project

Mr. Smith presented council with two revised plan options based on comments made at a previous meeting. Option #1 had rumble strips instead of bump outs and Option #2 had pavers instead of rumble strips. Councilor Abelovsky asked if she was correct in the fact that the entire project could not be done if council went with Option #2 because of it being more costly and Bryan said yes because pavers are more expensive. She then asked what the lifespan of the pavers. Bryan said the pavers are about 15-20 years and the rumble strips would be about the same and more difficult to snow plow. Councilor Saunders asked about the aggression of the rumble strip vs. the pavers. Bryan said the rumble strip will be heard and felt where the paver is more visual. Nicole asked if we should look at reducing the speed limit with this project. Bryan said yes this would be a great time to do that. Nicole asked if the white line going down the middle of the roadway would need to be changed and Bryan said yes it would be updated and painted yellow as part of the project. Nicole then asked if as an alternate the directional signage could be part of the project due to the signs deteriorating.

Councilor Flickinger said he did not feel the members present should make a decision on this item until more members were present because this was such a large project. Councilor Saunders then asked if the budget should not be adopted tonight because of the missing council members and Joe said he was in favor of holding another meeting when all were present to adopt the budget. Nicole reminded council the budget must be adopted by December 31, 2021.

Councilor Abelovsky made a motion to proceed with Option #2. The motion died for lack of a second. This item will be brought back at the January or February meeting.

Approval of Minutes

Special meeting of November 29, 2021

Councilors Saunders/Abelovsky made the motions to approve the minutes and all were in favor with no questions or objections.

NEW BUSINESS

Motion to adopt the 2022 Budget

Councilors Abelovsky/Flickinger made the motions to adopt the 2022 budget and all were in favor with no questions or objections.

Motion to adopt Ordinance 661-2021 setting the tax levy rate for FY 2022

Councilors Saunders/Abelovsky made the motions to adopt the ordinance and all were in favor with no questions or objections.

Motion to adopt R20-2021 setting the 2022 Fee Schedule

Councilors Saunders/Abelovsky made the motions to adopt the fee schedule and all were in favor with no questions or objections.

Motion to approve invoices to be paid prior to December 31st with list to be provided to council

Councilors Flickinger/Saunders made the motions to approve the invoices being paid and all were in favor with no questions or objections.

Motion to approve year end transfers

Councilors Saunders/Abelovsky made the motions to approve the year end transfers and all were in favor with no questions or objections.

Motion to approve the list of bills

Councilors Flickinger/Saunders made the motions to approve the list of bills and all were in favor with no questions or objections.

Motion to go into Executive Session for Personnel (Police Heart & Lung)

Councilors Abelovsky/Saunders made the motions to go into Executive Session at 6:55pm and all were in favor with no questions or objections.

Motion to go back into Regular Session

Councilors Saunders/Flickinger made the motions to go back into regular session at 7:02pm and all were in favor with no questions or objections.

Motion to adjourn the meeting

Councilors Rehrig/Saunders made the motions to adjourn at 7:03pm and all were in favor with no questions or objections.

Brenda L. Kreitz
Borough Secretary