

**EAST PETERSBURG BOROUGH
COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES**

DATE AND TIME:	April 25, 2024	6:00 p.m.
LOCATION:	Community Center	6051 Pine Street
ATTENDANCE:	Council Members:	Debra Miller, President John Schick, Vice-President (Absent) Adam Gochnauer, Pro Tem John Herr Randy Rannels William Sharp Sandra Valdez (Absent)
	Mayor:	James Malone
	Borough Manager:	Karen St. Clair

CALL TO ORDER: Meeting was called to order by Debra Miller, President of Borough Council at 6:00 p.m. with a moment of silence and pledge of allegiance.

Visitors: Karyl Carmignani, James Swarr, Josh Roberts, Evan Hunter

I. PUBLIC COMMENTS: None.

II. AGENDA ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION ONLY:

1. Tennis & Pickleball Court Lights:

Brennaman's Paving will be here next Monday to start work on the courts.

The lights have not been decided on yet. Currently there are 12-1500 watt light fixtures that illuminate the three courts, with each court having 4 lights to shine on each individual court. The lights/timers work except for one and this is where the pickleball court is going to be. 1st option is to replace the 12 existing light fixtures with 12-20,000 lumen LED fixtures for a cost of \$3,679.25. 2nd option to install new vending timers with installation for an additional \$3,585.00.

We have received calls requesting separation between the pickle ball courts and this can cost between \$250.00 and \$400.00. There will not be a net separating the pickle ball and tennis courts. The vending option will remain coin operated. The cost to use the lights is currently .25 per hour, with the new updated coin vending it will be 1.00 per hour. It was pointed out that now that we are putting a lot of money into the courts it should be decided on asap to help recoup some of the cost. The money captured from the vending will go into the parks and rec fund. This amount is under the threshold that requires us to receive three bids or put out to bid. This will be on the next agenda for a vote.

2. Review the NLCRPD Joinder & Charter Agreements:

Draft copies of both agreements were made available to residents.

On April 11, 2024, the NLCRPD commissioners adopted the Joinder and Charter Agreements by resolution. Next step is to adopt the agreements and then the charter municipalities will need to adopt their resolutions to complete this process. After the joinder agreement is approved, it will dissolve the police service contract that we have with them effective Jan. 1, 2020. We will then become a full charter member of the commission effective Jan. 1, 2025. According to the agreement, when we become a charter member, we are required to pay a buy-in cost to the commission in the amount of \$131,503.82 by 12/31/2034. This cost was determined by their current net position using their 2022-2023 audit. All parties agree for fiscal year 2025, our cost for police protection will be calculated by using a unit calculation formula referenced in Article 7 under appointment formula of the charter agreement. A police protection unit for 2024 is equal to 10 hours of police service per week. They will look at the incidents we had the prior year to determine how many units we need. This does not include any traffic stops. Currently we have 4 officers which is 16 units.

If council and current charter members do not pass their own resolutions dissolving their current agreements for police services then the joinder agreement becomes null and void and the agreement for police services will not be dissolved.

The charter agreement will have no start up cost because we are a contracting municipality.

With the charter, NLCRPD commission will consist of two representatives from each charter member. Currently Adam Gochnauer is our representative and Mayor James Malone is the alternate. This is a one year term. This is a 10-year commitment. If we choose to withdraw within the ten year term, we must give a 15 month notice and we will still have to complete the financial obligation spelled out in article 15 section b. Both agreements will be on the May 7 agenda to adopt. Chief Kilgore or LT. Burdis will be in attendance at that meeting to answer questions. Amy Leonard said she reviewed the agreement and has noted a few things that she thought were unclear. Josh Roberts said he read in the joinder agreement that the start-up and buy-in amount is to ensure sufficient staff, equipment, and resources, and asked shouldn't they already have this since they are already servicing us. Manager St. Clair said the start-up cost was already paid by us back in January-2020. Now all the municipalities joining the charter must buy in. The fees are totally separate. Mr. Roberts asked what is the benefit of us buying in contractually and where does this equate to \$131,000.00. Manager St. Clair said as a charter we will be an equal voting member now and generate a percentage of ownership. Our percentage right now is 14%. We will maintain any cost for a special investigation and receive a discount on work comp insurance. Mr. Roberts asked will the current cost per unit go down by being a charter member. Manger St. Clair said yes, this should go down. She is not sure what the formula is that they use. John Herr said when we had Manheim Township they did a good job, but they were going to double our fee and later found out East Hempfield would be four times as much as we were paying. This agreement represents stability, and we know we will have them for 20 years and we won't be priced out of protection. Manger St. Clair said we are going to have police services for 10 years with a stellar group. Our opinion will now be a vote, not just an opinion. Also if something terrible does happen, we will have those resources right at our fingertips and we won't have to pay extra. We have 10 years to pay the \$131,000.00 and this would be discussed more at budget time. Adam Gochnauer said looking at the long term of what we will pay in police protection vs. contract, we will make up the difference.

3. Old Tennis Courts – Graystone Road:

Manager St. Clair said now that we aren't putting the pickleball court at this location we need to decide what to do with these courts. There is no parking at this area. Her recommendation is to tear them down and maybe put a park bench, or something. She has been contacted by numerous residents about this. John Herr said maybe we could turn them into additional pickleball courts because 4 might not be enough. A resident pointed out that if the pickleball courts become in high demand, there is a paddle system that can be used to organize who plays next. Manager St. Clair said to add parking and repair the courts would be very costly and the grant was denied for this. Debra Miller suggested a Pocket Park be put in this area. This can consist of benches and native plants and be utilized for programming. Other suggestions were: dog park, fitness area. It was discussed that the cost for a pocket park is usually generally not that much and could be used for various things. Adam Gochnauer said there is a new trend growing called PADEL and this could be something we could ask HARC to partner up with us for this since they do not have the space to do it. The existing tennis court could be used and would not have to use any green space. John Herr asked where they would park and said parking lots are expensive and go against MS4. Randy Rannels said people could park in Constitution Square and pointed out the quote for the parking and tennis was mostly for parking costs.

4. EP Elementary PTO - movie in the park:

EP Elementary PTO would like to use the park for a movie and some games on Friday, August 9 from 7:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. They will need to use the CC for electricity, and the park bathrooms. All 450 students and their families will be invited, but they do not expect them all to come. Manager St. Clair will check with Violet DeStefano-EMC to determine if an emergency plan is needed.

5. Discuss HARC's Parks & Recreation Plan:

Manger St. Clair attended a Park & Rec meeting held by HARC along with Mountville, E. Hempfield and W. Hempfield. HARC's main goal in the next 10 years is to be involved with the communities off site. HARC would like to create park atmosphere for each municipality and put us all under one umbrella. They would like to hire one FT and possibly one PT person to handle this. This position is paying between \$45,000.00 and \$55,000.00 for FT and the cost would be shared. This person would determine what each municipality has and what recreation uses, so it does not get repeated. They also want to share cost of mowers, movie screen, and management of rentals. E. Hempfield and W. Hempfield suggested in-kind contributions. There will be another meeting in a month to see where everybody stands.

John Herr said we have not had good luck with E. Hempfield on a few issues in the past, but things have been going really well with HARC. Manager St. Clair said if we don't do this, it will not change what we have with HARC now. Will Sharp said it sounds like a lot of obligations without any benefit for us. Randy Rannels said after his experience with E. Hempfield with fire commission, it's a no for him. Debra Miller said it's a no for her.

6. **Review Account Payables 04/25/2024**

Reviewed by Council.

7. **Review 1Q24 Financials**

Manager St. Clair reviewed the 1st quarter financials for water, trash, and general funds with councilmembers.

8. **Fire Company Financials – for review only**

Reviewed by Council.

9. **Misc. Items**

James Malone: Recommended Violet DeStefano work on Mitigation Plan for us. Lancaster County is going through a cycle now and they have resources she can use through them. Grant funding is available for this.

Will Sharp: Asked for an update from Violet DeStefano regarding the status of the request for aircraft from the airport. He is concerned with the fact that we have low flying aircraft that are military grade over a residential area and whether or not they have an emergency plan.

John Herr: Encouraged Manager St. Clair and Jeff Moseman to reach out to Emily West.

Debra Miller: Full Service Concessions has signed on for another year at the pool.

Manager St. Clair: Wee Care Day School Graduation Ceremony for Pre-K class will be held at the Amphitheater on June 5 from 5-7 p.m. (Rain date June 6). We received a \$5,326.12 from the DEP 904 grant for trash/recycling.

III. **ACTION ITEMS:**

1. *It was moved and seconded (R. Rannels / J. Herr) with unanimous approval by the board, to approve March 2024 Committee Meeting Minutes.*

IV. **EXTRA ITEMS: Issues arising in the last 24 hours: None.**

V. **ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

- The next Borough Council meeting will be held on Tuesday, May 7, 2024 at 7:00 p.m.
- The Vagabonds Car Show will be held May 4, from 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
- Rain Garden Event is scheduled May 11, from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. at the Nitrate Plant.

Executive Session for legal matters: None

Committee Meeting Adjournment: 7:12 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
Kim Strayer, Recording Secretary