

The Borough of Speers Council met on April 3, 2024 at 7:30 p.m.

In attendance were Mr. Daylong, Ms. DeCooman, Mrs. Barcelona, Mr. Hepple, Mrs. Spina and Mayor Herd. Absent were Mr. Rice and Mr. McCorkle; both gave prior notice.

Mrs. Barcelona ran the meeting.

A motion to accept the previous meeting minutes as read was made by Ms. DeCooman and seconded by Mr. Daylong.

Correspondence: Mrs. Barcelona reported that Speers was approved for an additional LSA grant for the Lower Speers Park; that money should be released in July.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

March Calls: Police – 144; EMS – 18; Fire Dept – 5.

Finance: March budget: Income = \$25,319.76; Expenses = \$51,101.41. YTD (-) \$25,781.65.

Borough Improvement: Mr. Daylong – Nothing to report.

Parks: Mrs. Barcelona will report under the Engineer's Report.

Grants: Mayor Herd apologized for not getting Council's authorization for moving forward on having a resident apply for a grant. Mrs. Spina was not contacted prior to this as this is her committee chair. Council previously voted to not apply for any more grants for a reason and Mayor Herd did not follow protocol and proper procedure. In doing this, more expenses will be accrued that are not necessary. This situation is not funny and procedures must be followed for all situations. There has to be Council discussions and decisions. This cannot continue to be an issue.

Streetlights: Dennis met with WPP to report all the outages. WPP started replacing the lights and are still working on. Secretary will keep track of the progress.

Transit Authority: Mayor Herd reported the MVTA is working with MVA to have a turn around area in the IDC Park. He will update when information is available.

Mayor Herd: met with Chief Zelinsky – a police vehicle was totaled and another will be needed. The vehicle cannot be leased. They are looking into options.

Dennis Report: Cold-patch potholes, cleaned streets and catch basins after storm, transferred street signs from broken poles, handled rabid raccoon, salted icy spots hills, washed trucks, removed plow and salt spreader, met with WPP regarding all the streetlights that are out and broken poles, pulled weeds at the playground, fixed picnic table, flushed sewer line on Lewis Ave, contacted Verizon about broken poles and trees on lines at Jane and Oak, 7 One Calls and 2 downspout inspections.

Engineer report was read by Mrs. Barcelona: KLH submitted a railroad agreement for review.

Solicitor: Mr. Lint – provided DCNR C2P2 grant guidelines; reviewed the railroad agreement (only covers reviewing and approval of engineering requirements); the Borough would reimburse the railroad for all costs they have involved (approx. \$12,000); the railroad can consult and subcontract to another company at our expense. The agreement was sent to all Council members for review. A motion to table the approval of the agreement until Council can further discuss was made by Mr. Hepple and seconded by Ms. DeCooman. This additional fee cannot be included in the bid specs. Mr. Lint also reported that he notified the courthouse that a lien on 35 Carson St. was satisfied.

Citizens: Mr. Burkett questioned that status on moving the basketball hoop on Oak Street; it will not be removed at this time. Mr. Lint confirmed there are no state or local violations as it is on private property, not on the street or sidewalk. The Police stated there was no fault in it as well. A judge would have to determine if it causes a disturbance of peace, danger, discomfort or annoyance.

Mr. John McDonough reported on a yellow line painted along Grandview Way (left side) that is causing parking issues. Is it needed, what is the purpose of yellow line? Fire trucks, delivery vehicles and school buses can make the bend with no issues. It is not a Penn Dot issue therefore can it be removed to possibly open more parking spots? Mr. Daylong and other residents stated it was a safety issue since the road cannot be made into a one-way street. Previous Council members voted to paint the yellow line. Unfortunately, parking is a big issue along Grandview Way. Mr. McDonough also stated the speeding is getting worse in Mapleview. Council agrees. It was suggested to attend a Police Board meeting as well to voice the complaints. Police are not always able to attend our meetings. Lower speed limit signs cannot be enforced.

Sen. Barlotta attended the meeting to touch base and offer resources if needed. Stephanie Waggett introduced herself as a running candidate for State Rep. for the 50th District at the next election.

Tax Collector's Report: Deposit of \$5,424.52.

Old/Unfinished Business: KLH retainer was discussed (\$200/month); a written agreement to be signed with specifics is needed, also to include a termination clause. Secretary will contact Mr. Creagh regarding this and also a due date for the railroad agreement.

A motion to appoint UCC for code enforcement was made by Mr. Daylong and seconded by Mrs. DeCooman. They handle our zoning and building permits as well.

New Business: Nothing at this time.

A motion to approve the payment of the bills was made by Mr. Daylong and seconded by Ms. DeCooman.

A motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:27 p.m. was made by Ms. DeCooman and seconded by Mr. Hepple.