

The Borough of Speers Council met on August 3, 2022 at 7:30 p.m. In attendance were Mr. Rice, Mr. McCorkle, Mr. Todora, Mr. Sauer, Mrs. Barcelona, Mr. Daylong and Mayor Herd. Absent was Mrs. Spina. Mrs. Spina did give prior notice that she would be absent.

The minutes from the previous meeting were approved as read; a motion to accept was made by Mr. Daylong and seconded by Mr. McCorkle.

Secretary read the correspondence: 2nd quarter LSA payment; Little Great Race donation request.

A motion to donate \$350 for the Little Great Race was made by Mrs. Barcelona and seconded by Mr. Sauer; roll call – all in favor.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Fire: 56 calls for the Department for July.

Police: 111 calls for Speers for the month of July; report available.

Streets & Sewers: Mr. Todora – Presented quotes from HMT regarding Davidson Dr/Valley Circle (4) new catch basins and paving = \$80,575; Drawings and breakdown of costs are available upon request. Mr. Todora would like to proceed forward with this. He is requesting to vote on this project and to see what funds are available. This quote did not include a catch basin for Hosner Street. We will look into grants that could cover the cost of this project. Dennis and Mr. Todora discussed the plans. Mr. McCorkle questioned if adding these catch basins would reduce the amount of run off water onto State St? Mayor Herd – where is the next catch basin after Davidson Dr - it is at Charles Street. Council needs to research where it is safe and legal for this water to drain to. Mr. Todora will further discuss with Mr. Krider. Mr. Todora also presented a quote from HMT for (4) inlet replacements/catch basins/pipes at the corner of Grandview Way and Arlington Ave; the estimate was for \$17,140. Breakdown and pictures are available. It was never stated previously that we need 4 new catch basins. Mr. Todora will speak with Mr. Krider and look further into.

Finance: Mr. McCorkle – July -income: \$103,391.67; expenses: \$82,413.54; (+) \$20,978.79.

YTD: (+) \$32,442.90.

Borough Improvement: Mr. Daylong – received calls stating residents are happy with the Speers Park paving project.

Streetlights: Nothing to report at this time.

Parks: Mr. Sauer & Mrs. Barcelona – Nothing to report. Mr. McCorkle would like to see the road through the park paved in the future. The final inspection for the paving project will take place on Friday, August 5th at 8:00 a.m. The parking lot and existing sidewalks were paved. Mrs. Barcelona commented that the pavilion floors, tables and electricity still need replaced/fixed.

Dennis and Mrs. Barcelona did previously meet with HMT (January 18, 2021) regarding these upgrades to the park. They were under the impression that was what the grant was for, not the paving project. Dennis and Tim did some repairs to the floor at pavilion #3 last year but it still needs replaced because it is lifting and cracking. Dennis did contact West Penn Power regarding installing a new pole. The underground power lines to the pavilions and garage were damaged due to a nearby resident digging in their yard without calling it into PA One Call first which resulted in our power lines being cut.

Mayor Herd commented that grants take time to finalize but the longer we wait the worse it gets. Council will have Mrs. Spina research what grants are available.

Transit Authority: Mayor Herd – No report at this time.

Grants: Mrs. Spina – Absent.

Mayor Herd – Commented on the Speers Park paving project; completed and looks great. This grant was applied for many years ago. A grant application was submitted for the Lower Speers Park; we are still waiting to hear if approved. A Police Board meeting was held at the Borough Building on 8/3 and was very informative with the immigration attorney. Mayor Herd would like to see more meetings held at the Borough Building in the future. He would also like everyone to spread the word about the website. There is a lot of information posted on there. Please let him know if you would like to see something posted on the website. He is the only one with access to posting and checking messages on the website. Mayor Herd spoke on starting to discuss plans for Halloween. He suggested having the parade at the park; make it a community day calling it a festival and hand out treats and have a bounce house. We would have to have insurance coverage for that. Mr. Todora suggested doing a trunk or treat. Mr. McCorkle recommended asking Civic Club what their plans are. We can discuss all options. Mayor Herd stated he heard some concerns regarding stray cats. Is it a problem?

Dennis Carson's Report – cut grass, weed whack, spray weeds, installed a speed limit and "Deaf Child" sign on Davidson Dr, trim trees, cleaned up fallen tree on Oak St, clean park pavilions and restrooms for rentals, moved poles and dumpster for paving project, inspection on dump truck, trim shrubs at Borough Building, met with JED for maintenance service, worked on cracks at pavilion #3, sewer problem on Maple Terrace, 16 One Calls and 3 downspout inspections.

Engineer/Code Enforcement: Not present; sent report. Park Project – complete, Bridge project-LSA – putting out for bid next week, Valley Circle and Arlington Ave catch basin bids, Cares Act money – ask Mr. Lint.

Solicitor: Mr. Lint – needs to discuss liens with Dennis.

Citizens: Dave, Cigar Shop, is requesting a designated parking space for a 15-minute loading zone in front of the shop. A motion to post a sign was made by Mr. Todora and seconded by Mr. Sauer.

Tax Collector's Report – Deposit of \$24,473.65.

Old Business: Mr. McCorkle spoke on speed humps; they can't be used to control speed and they also damage plows. Mayor Herd suggested that Mr. Sauer and Mrs. Barcelona start looking at park equipment in case the grant is approved.

New Business: Mr. McCorkle did some research on digital speed limit signs and the messages that can be programmed in. He would ask Council to strongly consider getting 2 or 3 signs for around the Borough to help with the speeding issues. The signs can be portable. The signs cost \$3,000-\$6,000 each. The signs would be placed on a pole or on the street, not sidewalk. A motion to get bids for 2-3 signs was made by Mr. McCorkle and seconded by Mr. Todora. We can look for a grant to cover the fees. Mr. McCorkle will look at websites and US Municipal. Mrs. Barcelona questioned if we need HMT involved in the electrical for the park? Dennis is currently working on with WPP. WPP suggested going underground with wires so trees do not damage wires. But underground wires are expensive and get damaged when people dig.

Mr. Lint stated that he is selling his buildings, **NOT** his practice. He will continue to be the Borough Solicitor. His email and phone number will stay the same.

Mr. Todora commented that the police are patrolling more.

A motion to pay the bills was made by Mr. McCorkle and seconded by Mr. Sauer; all in favor.

A motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:29 was made by Mr. McCorkle and seconded by Mr. Sauer.