

The Borough of Speers Council met on June 2, 2021 at 7:30 p.m. In attendance were Mr. Rice, Mayor Herd, Mr. McCorkle, Mrs. Spina, Mrs. Barcelona, Mr. Hepple, Ms. DeCooman, and Mr. Daylong.

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

Secretary read correspondence: eCode 360 renewal.

POLICE: 24 calls for the month of May; report available. Fire – 4 calls.

### **COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**Streets:** Dennis reported a major sewer line break at IDC Park. Insight Pipe submitted an estimate to re-line 2 sections: one section is \$15,561.; the second section is \$14,508. Can we use sewer fund, borough improvement fund, LSA fund to pay for line? Mr. Hepple questioned if we pay out of pocket, can we still apply for a grant to cover the costs? Mrs. Spina – do we need to take bids? Per Mr. Lint – yes because it is over bidding threshold. We are planning to have Insight Pipe complete the work through Costars. We will check to see if that still applies to advertise for bids. Per Mr. Lint – you cannot split the project into 2 smaller, separate jobs to avoid bidding requirements even though it was submitted separately. Dennis will contact HMT for bid specs and advertisement. The Borough will have to pay another company to come in and do the same work that Insight Pipe already completed. Mr. Lint will look into exceptions since using Costars. A motion to move forward and contact HMT for bid specs and advertisement was made by Ms. DeCooman and seconded by Mrs. Barcelona. Mr. Lint suggested looking for a company to provide a temporary fix for less money now then bid out the project.

**Finance:** Mr. McCorkle – budget complete for May; income - \$84,328.72; expenses - \$43,629.46. YTD - +938.80.

**Borough Improvement:** Mr. Daylong – grass violations in Mapleview have been corrected. A letter was sent to 131 Arlington Ave. Follow up with Troy regarding Oppenheim property.

**Streetlights:** Mr. Hepple – waiting for contract from WPP to install new poles at the IDC Park. A pole that was knocked over needs removed from a fence at Technip. Dennis will work on once the power is shut off.

**Parks:** Mrs. Barcelona – Nothing to report at this time.

**Grants:** Mrs. Spina – The digital signs still need installed; will check compliance requirements. The agreement with Bassi's needs signed. Mrs. Spina is submitting an application to the American Rescue Plan (DCED) for grant money.

**Transit Authority:** Mr. Hepple – No report at this time.

Mayor Herd: Congratulations to all on the elections. Mayor Herd would like to see improvements to the park in Lower Speers; possibly purchase new equipment. He would also like to discuss memorial suggestions for Mr. Lee. Mayor Herd received comments/concerns on the speeding on Charles Street;

can we add a stop sign or lower the speed limit? He is still working on the website; the first mock-up should be completed within the next 7-10 days. Do we want individual emails or just the office email listed? What information to post? Mayor Herd thanked Jody for her hard work. Mr. McCorkle and Mr. Rice appreciate the work that Dennis and Jody take care of. Mrs. Barcelona commented on the memorial service for Mr. Lee in July; can we have a bench/plaque/tree planted before then? Can we build or buy a bench? Some options for benches online cost approximately \$600. Who will build the bench? A motion to build/buy a bench not to exceed \$1,000 was made by Mrs. Barcelona and seconded by Mr. McCorkle; all in favor. Mr. McCorkle suggests installing additional stop signs at the corner of Charles St and Rebecca St. We are not allowed to install speed bumps. Dennis will install 2 stop signs. Mr. McCorkle suggests making a list for ideas for the park in Lower Speers. There are kids that do use the park. Can we get another load of mulch? Mr. Rice would like to see new equipment at the park on Charles St as well. A motion to purchase mulch was made by Mr. McCorkle and seconded by Ms. DeCooman; all in favor.

Dennis Carson's report for May: cut grass; weed whack; spray weeds; clean park for rentals; worked with Morgan Excavating and Insight Pipe on the sewer line breaks on Arentzen Blvd; met with the Police regarding an accident where a truck ran over a fire hydrant and sidewalks at Jane Ave and Rebecca St, Speers Ave and Rebecca St and Speers Ave and State St; trim shrubs; camera sewer line on State St; wash trucks; 6 downspout inspections and 29 One Calls. What can we do to keep tractor trailers out?

**ENGINEER/CODE ENFORCEMENT:** report emailed in; available for review.

**SOLICITOR:** Mr. Lint submitted a draft for the agreement between the Borough and Bassi's for the digital sign placement; Council will review and sign.

**CITIZENS:** Karen Simala – would like minutes from previous meetings; still working on property violations. She was instructed to keep making progress to become compliant. Mr. Rost suggested having the Vo-tech build a bench. He also spoke on the American Rescue Plan grant. Mr. Rost provided an article on fracking wastewater on barges along Pittsburgh rivers. Mr. Rost questioned the parking along Grandview Way; parking on one side only – the Borough has an ordinance regarding handicap parking stating one handicap space per block. Mr. Rost stated you cannot install a stop sign to control speed.

**TAX COLLECTOR'S REPORT:** Deposit of \$55,305.81.

**OLD/UNFINISHED BUSINESS:** Ms. DeCooman met with Chief Zelensky. He agreed to let Ms. Decooman construct non-mandatory educational materials. She will follow up with Chief Zelensky. Mrs. Barcelona is still waiting to hear from HMT regarding park improvements from grants and Re-development Authority monies.

**NEW BUSINESS:** Nothing at this time.

A motion to pay the bills was made by Mr. McCorkle and seconded by Mr. Daylong.

A motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:34 p.m. was made by Mr. McCorkle and seconded by Mr. Hepple.