

**BOARD OF WARDEN & BURGESSES  
REGULAR MEETING  
MARCH 5, 2018**

The Regular Meeting of the Board of Warden and Burgesses held in the Main Meeting Room, 28 Main Street, Griswold, CT on March 5, 2018 was called to order by Warden Geer at 6:15pm.

**ROLL CALL:**

Clerk Valerie Pudvah read the roll call. Present: Warden Alan Geer, Burgesses Timothy Sharkey, Laurie Sorder, and Jim Krueger. Absent: Burgess Laura Laidley. A quorum was determined.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**ALSO PRESENT:**

Linda Cote, Ken Sullivan, Tina Falck, Patty Stone, Mike Minarsky and Resident Trooper Russell Cote. Louis Demicco III arrived at 6:20pm & Leona Sharkey at 6:25pm.

**APPROVE MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF FEBRUARY 5, 2018**

Burgess Sharkey made motion to approve the minutes of February 5, 2018 as presented, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Burgess Krueger. All in favor, aye. Motion carries.

**PUBLIC FORUM:**

Patricia Stone, 5 Lenox Avenue was present to speak about the activity at 135-137 North Main Street. There seems to be a repair business going on at night in the parking lot. Mrs. Stone also stated that cars are being driven in on flatbeds. She is also concerned about the blight and unregistered cars on the property. She presented pictures to the board. Resident Trooper Cote will check into this.

**CORRESPONDENCE:**

Thank-You card from the Drobiak family in memory of their mother, Patricia Drobiak, for the donation to the Slater Library.

**COMMISSIONER REPORTS:**

**Blight-**Burgess Sorder noted that the house on Mechanic Street is still open and is not secured. She also noted that on the corner of Mathewson Street and Mechanic Street there is furniture and garbage everywhere. It was also noted that 46 Mechanic Street has squatters. It was suggested to have Jack Cipriano temporary Building Official, Mario Tristany temporary ZEO and Resident Trooper Cote check this out. Burgess Sorder will follow-up on these properties. Burgess Sharkey suggested getting a part-time person to help with the blight in Jewett City.

**Fire-** Louis Demicco III brought forward a bill of \$105.29 for the propane rental for the generator. He is asking for help to pay this bill. There also was discussion on the gas line that is coming thru the Borough. If it goes down Hill Street the firehouse would like to hook up with it mainly for the generator and the ovens.

**Police-** Burgess Krueger noted just the regular service calls.

**Nuisance-** Burgess Laidley was absent, no report at this time.

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#### **RESIDENT TROOPER REPORT:**

Resident Trooper Cote was present to speak about the damage that has been done around the borough with BB guns. Two juveniles and three adults have been arrested in this matter.

Trooper Cote expressed having an Open House one weekend in April, so people can come and ask questions. He would put out flyers to get the word out. He gets a lot of complaints Griswold of residents thinking he is the Resident Trooper of Griswold.

Burgess Krueger asked if the Youth Center damage was related to the shooting of the BB guns in the area. There was damage to the building and the window in the front.

#### **DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC UTILITIES:**

Ken Sullivan noted that with the past storm on Friday (March 2, 2018), that there were no power outages. Burgess Krueger gave the department kudos for the reputation that they have throughout the state.

#### **NEW BUSINESS:**

**1. Discussion and possible action on refund in the amount of \$362.82, as presented by Tax Collector, Leona Sharkey.** Burgess Sorder made motion to accept the refund in the amount of \$362.82 as presented 2<sup>nd</sup> by Burgess Sharkey. All in favor, aye. Motion carries.

**2. Tina Falck, Senior Center Director, Pete Dameron, Public Works Department and Ed Burdick, Resident to speak regarding Earth Day cleanup.**

Tina Falck was present to speak on the Earth Day for this year. Last year the seniors and Troop 20 got together to clean the Veteran's Memorial Park. This year P. Dameron –Troop 20 came to Tina and asked if they could do it again for this year. In the mean-time Ed. Berdick asked Tina about a yard/lawn clean-up day in conjunction with what the scouts and seniors are doing. He would like everyone to clean their yards/parking areas etc. Todd Babbitt said that he would supply the necessary bags etc. The transfer station will be open that day as well. Also, they would be looking for volunteers to pick up debris from homes where the people have no way of getting this to the station. This is scheduled for April 21, 2018 7AM to 1PM. No household trash would be included in this clean-up. Flyers will be made up for this event. There would be pizza or something for everyone who helped out with this at the highway dept. after it is completed.

#### **OLD BUSINESS:**

**1. Update on Wolverine Media business loan request.**

Warden Alan Geer recused himself at 6:58pm for this discussion since he works at the station. There was discussion on whether this issue should be in executive session or out in the public. It was decided to leave it up to Mr. Minarsky. Burgess Sorder asked Mr. Minarsky if he could get someone to be a guarantor for him for the loan. Mike explained he owes nothing to anybody, he would like to see the station grow but he does not have the collateral that the borough is requesting from him. Burgess Sorder noted that the possibilities are wonderful of what he would do but just doesn't think that we could loan out that kind of money without any collateral. Burgess Sorder noted that the board is looking out for the borough money and for the best interest of the residents. The board is relying on the advice of the attorney. No action was taken.

**2. Updated on Housing Code. (Sample included with October 2017 meeting packets).**

Burgess Krueger noted that neither the town nor the borough have a housing code. The housing code applies to multifamily homes (3 three or more). Burgess Krueger noted that it would mean a lot if there were a housing code in the borough especially with the blight situation. It would mean that the landlord/homeowner would be held accountable for any violation. He had codes from the towns of Stamford, Rocky Hill and

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Mansfield. Jim read from one of the town explaining what the housing code deals with. He hopes that by next month he will have something to present to the board. There was discussion on who would implement this code. If it would be a paid position or part-time ,if it would be an enforcement officer. It was suggested to bounce some of this off the borough attorney.

#### **ANY OTHER BUSINESS BEFORE THE BOARD:**

Burgess Sharkey made motion to pay the bill to All-Gas Equipment Co. for the annual fuel tank rental in the amount of \$105.29, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Burgess Krueger. All in favor, aye. Motion carries.

#### **PUBLIC FORUM:**

- Tina Falck also wanted to tell the board about a Community Action Team, modeled after Norwich that has been formed. This is essentially like the 211 line. Information is shared with the fire departments, would like to get with law enforcement , and youth services involved. Deals with any issues that come in town, seniors, youths it doesn't matter. The meeting will be held twice a month. It was noted that the borough would allow Resident Trooper Cote to stop in during a meeting during his scheduled work day.
- Burgess Sorder wondered when the budget meetings would begin. Linda Cote is still waiting on the trooper budget.
- Burgess Sorder also spoke about the Ethics Committee and being on the agenda for the March 29<sup>th</sup> meeting at 7pm.
- Lou. Demicco noted road closures \*4/22/208 Baseball parade, \*5/5/2018 Nite-Light parade.
- Lou. Demicco noted that the parking on Main Street and Ashland Street at night and during the day people are parking on the yellow line. L. Demicco stated a fire truck would never be able to get around the corner. Leona Sharkey noted that this is a public safety issue.
- Burgess Sorder would like the Resident Trooper be made aware of the upcoming events and that there is no drinking on the streets.
- It was noted to attach the drinking ordinance to the permit that is issued for any road functions.
- Burgess Sharkey would like the Resident Trooper be given over- time during some of the parades.
- Burgess Sharkey made motion for our Resident Trooper cover the Memorial Day Parade and the Nite-Lite Parade, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Burgess Sorder. All in favor. Aye. Motin carries.
- Leona Sharkey just noted that a loan from the borough, for anybody, needs to be secured for the protection of the Borough and taxpayers.

Motion to adjourn made by Burgess Sharkey 2<sup>nd</sup> by Burgess Krueger. All in favor, aye. Motion carries,

Meeting duly adjourned at 7:42pm.

Respectfully submitted by,

Valerie Pudvah, Borough Clerk