

**NEW BERLIN BOROUGH COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING**

A council meeting of the New Berlin Borough Council was held on October 14, 2020, at 7:00 pm at the New Berlin Borough Community Center located at 318 Vine Street, New Berlin, PA. Present were President Julianne Finkbiner, Councilwoman Barbara Stamm, Councilwoman Meghan Shambach, Councilwoman Betty Kratzer, Vice-President Lisa Decker, and Councilman Barry Kuhns. Wendy Cole, Solicitor; Curt Keister, Street Department Supervisor; Rebecca Witmer, Secretary/Treasurer; and Bonnie Hamilton, Mayor were also present. Councilwoman Lynda Frederick was absent from the meeting. Visitors present were borough residents Alicia Hertzler, David Farmer, Sally Farmer, Liz Devet, and Cheryl Hoover.

The meeting was brought to order by President Julianne Finkbiner with the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES – September 9, 2020 - Discussion was brought regarding the September 9, 2020 minutes. President Finkbiner asked if there was a motion to approve the minutes. Visitor David Farmer stated he may have a question about the minutes. President Finkbiner stated approval of the minutes is an administrative action and that Mr. Farmer will need to wait for visitor business.

Motion – Councilman Barry Kuhns made a motion to approve the minutes. Vice-President Lisa Decker made a 2nd to the motion. Vote was taken with the corrections. All in favor and none opposed. Motion carried.

VISITOR BUSINESS – David Farmer – Sunshine Law – David Farmer, borough resident, inquired when the solicitor would be present because he has a few questions for the solicitor. President Finkbiner stated the solicitor will be arriving a little late. Mr. Farmer inquired if he could wait until the solicitor arrives to ask his questions, since otherwise there will be nobody in the room who can speak definitively. President Finkbiner stated Mr. Farmer should ask his questions and council will see if they can answer.

Mr. Farmer stated that his statement is a follow-up to his comments from last month, and to the letter that he sent to every Council member after the last meeting. Mr. Farmer continued by stating that, at the August Borough Council meeting, council passed a resolution without allowing any public comment. He inquired why passing that resolution was not a violation of the Sunshine Act? President Finkbiner asked Mr. Farmer specifically which part violated the Sunshine Act. Mr. Farmer stated that the Sunshine Act says that public comment is allowed before any action. Therefore, passing that resolution was an action, and public comment was not allowed before passing that resolution.

President Finkbiner inquired if Mr. Farmer had anything else. Mr. Farmer stated he may have a follow-up question, depending on the answer to that question. He further stated that this is another incident in which the Sunshine Act was violated. Mr. Farmer asked council to recognize that this was a violation, to set aside the decision that was tainted by the violation, and to properly revisit that decision over the next Council meetings.

Mr. Farmer stated that there were three laws broken when Julianne Finkbiner was appointed to the vacant Borough Council position. First, in December, council met in executive session to decide who to appoint to the vacancy. Mr. Farmer then read from the final sentence in Sunshine Act Section 708 (a)(1) stating an executive session may not be used for the "appointment or selection of any person to fill a vacancy in any elected office." Second, the appointment was made by a simple motion. However, according to the code which governs Pennsylvania Boroughs and Incorporated Towns, Chapter 9, 901(a), vacancies shall be filled "by resolution". It specifically says "by resolution". Third, the appointment to fill a vacancy is an action, therefore public comment has to be allowed before taking that action. It is impossible to decide who fills the vacancy and appoint them during the same meeting, because that violates the Sunshine Act. Further, actions have to be announced in advance so that the public knows about it, and then they have to be allowed the opportunity to comment. Mr. Farmer stated that is the same type of violation he was referring to when council adopted Resolution 2020-7 in August.

Mr. Farmer stated these violations are serious. A reasonable remedy is to set aside the appointment of Julianne Finkbiner and reconsider at future meetings. He further stated that the

fastest that could occur is to propose a resolution at the November meeting, then have public comment and vote on that resolution at the December meeting. Mr. Farmer ended by stating it would be good to correct the past errors.

Letter to Council from Other Concerned Citizens Group - President Finkbiner stated council received a letter dated September 22, 2020. President Finkbiner stated the envelope was addressed to Borough Council and the Concerned Citizen and read it aloud as follows:

"To the Concerned Citizens group of New Berlin:

For the past year or so, I have been following your antics and stunts that you pull at Borough Council meetings, and while I find them most entertaining, I do believe it is time to speak up for the rest of us "old regular citizens of New Berlin."

It's rather funny that you want change. Your idea of change is for the "sheeple" to follow your wisdom, guidance, and direction because you know best what is "good" for everyone in New Berlin. Have you looked around and actually counted your numbers? You are in the 1% (probably not even that high, but I will round up), while the rest of us regular folks are quite content to live in New Berlin, as flawed as you think it to be. We prefer our quiet little community where everyone (I should say, almost everyone) seems to mind their own business and subscribes to the theory of "live and let live." I believe that the easiest and most convenient solution for everyone (Concerned Citizens and the regular old citizens of New Berlin) is for you to sell your homes and move to an area where the local government seems to like to regulate the crap out of your life. My suggestions, off the top of my head, would be Lewisburg or State College-those people there like to live in their ivory towers and think that they are sanctimonious and so much smarter, more educated, and better than their fellow man. Many of you people live along a main highway, a state route, controlled by the Commonwealth. Do you honestly think that you are not going to have the level of traffic and noise that a person who lives on a dead end street would? Seems like an elementary student could have figured that one out.

All of the ideas that you people are embracing are very, very expensive and would double if not triple our tax rates here. Did you miss the fact that we are in the middle of a pandemic situation here and many people were either laid off for a period of time or lost their jobs due to the government shut down and subsequent restrictions placed on many businesses? Of course you did, your lives weren't affected by it in any way at all-just the rest of the regular old residents of New Berlin.

For the sake of the rest of regular citizens in this town, I am begging you to get off of your high horses and realize that we do not want the ideology that you are trying to shove down our throats. Please stop going to the council meetings and accusing the council members of treason, espionage, and whatever else you might dream up that they are plotting to do to you with nefarious intent. They are public servants, unpaid I might add, who are volunteering

their time and energy to try to make this town a great place to live for all people, not just a select few. You don't need to trespass on people's properties, you don't need to hold your little secret meetings where you plot to overthrow the current government, you don't need to act like a spoiled child who whines and cries every time he doesn't get his own way. Honestly, it isn't welcome nor is it wanted from the rest of us old regular residents. As I stated before, the majority of us 99%+ just want to mind our own business and live and let live with our neighbors, not force them in to subscribing to our way of thinking.

Yours truly,

The 99%

(The other Concerned Citizens Group of New Berlin)

Aka The Regular Old Residents of New Berlin”

Mr. Farmer stated that President Finkbiner just read something that has not been signed and stated “Shame on you, shame on you for reading something that has not been signed”. President Finkbiner stated Mr. Farmer was out of order and that the letter was addressed to borough council. Mr. Farmer asked that his objections be recorded in the minutes.

COMMITTEE REPORTS – CARES Grant – Councilwoman Meghan Shambach reported the fire company has received a \$15,000 CARES grant from the County.

Grant – Councilwoman Meghan Shambach stated the fire department received a grant in the amount of \$20,000 but was not sure about the source of that grant.

Halloween Parade – Councilwoman Shambach stated that, as of the last time she looked, over 40 kids were registered for the Halloween Parade. Donations for the event have been plentiful. Councilwoman Shambach gave the details about the candy distribution.

Animal Ordinance Committee – President Finkbiner stated the ordinance committee sent a draft of a revised animal ordinance but the solicitor is not yet present to give her comments. The secretary/treasurer gave the committee a correction to the language in one of the sentences regarding household pets.

Discussed was chickens are permitted in the borough with certain restrictions, that the area required for keeping large farm animals, and that swine are not permitted. Also discussed was that

New Berlin does not have an animal control officer so it is not in the position to take possession of animals. There are also state laws regarding the keeping of animals that the borough cannot meet, such as having a licensed kennel. Therefore sections pertaining to the borough taking control of animals were removed and replaced with contacting the dog warden.

President Finkbiner inquired if the ordinance was a combination of two of the borough's current animal ordinances or if it was only revising one of the ordinances. The secretary/treasurer stated she believes there is a separate ordinance regarding feeding stray cats but needs to check into that. Mayor Hamilton stated the committee made sure to address stray cats in the ordinance they are revising. The secretary/treasurer stated she would check into it and email the committee.

Solicitor Cole arrived and stated she looked at the ordinance but forgot to bring her notes to the meeting.

Councilwoman Stamm inquired about the ordinance definition of wild animals and stated the definition isn't used anywhere in the ordinance. Mayor Hamilton stated it was in the old ordinance and copied over to define wild animals. Councilwoman Shambach stated it doesn't address animals such as cheetahs or bobcats. The secretary/treasurer stated there's another law addressing those animals. Councilwoman Stamm inquired about snakes. Mayor Hamilton stated some snakes are domesticated and people keep them as pets so it falls under household pets.

The ordinance will be discussed again at next month's meeting.

Solicitor Cole – Mr. Farmer's Questions – Solicitor Cole stated she understood Mr. Farmer had some questions for her. Mr. Farmer repeated questions he mentioned during visitor business. Mr. Farmer also stated he was denied the opportunity to inquire if the minutes from last month's meeting included his statement that it was a violation of the Sunshine Act that he was not permitted to comment on the August council meeting minutes before they were approved. Mr. Farmer explained that the minutes were approved by motion, which is an action of council.

Solicitor Cole stated that administrative actions do not require public comment and can be passed without Mr. Farmer's comments. Mr. Farmer stated he would appreciate it if Solicitor Cole could show him where in the Sunshine Act it exempts administrative actions that require a motion of council. President Finkbiner stated the minutes do not require a motion and a vote, council only does it that way because of past practice. Council could just agree by consensus that the minutes are correct. Mr. Farmer stated that a consensus is a vote. President Finkbiner stated it is an administrative action and not covered by the Sunshine Act. Mr. Farmer stated he would like that statement pointed out to him in the Sunshine Act. More specifically, he would like to know where in the Sunshine Act it states that there are things that council passes by vote that do not require public comment.

President Finkbiner also stated that things are not taken out of the minutes; they may be summarized, they do not need to be word for word. Mr. Farmer stated that is not correct. President Finkbiner inquired what Mr. Farmer was getting at regarding the minutes. Mr. Farmer stated that, at the August meeting after the proposed resolution was read aloud, President Finkbiner stated she would like a motion to accept this but the minutes reflect that President Finkbiner asked for a motion to accept the resolution. Mr. Farmer stated he wanted the August minutes to reflect that the President crammed Resolution 2020-7 down everyone's throat in the process of violating the Sunshine Act. President Finkbiner stated she did not do that and that everyone was aware of the resolution. Mr. Farmer inquired how council knew about it if it was not talked about in the meeting. President Finkbiner stated that just because Mr. Farmer didn't know about the resolution doesn't mean she crammed it down people's throats. Solicitor Cole stated that Mr. Farmer is splitting hairs regarding the minutes in that a lot of people use that language and if council does not want to pass something, no motion will be given. Mr. Farmer stated he acknowledges it's a fine point.

Mr. Farmer stated he pointed out four violations and if it turns out that he is correct, he asks that council set aside those actions and then revisit them at a later date. Solicitor Cole stated she would look into those matters and get back to Mr. Farmer.

Police Committee – Speed Radar Sign & PennDOT Radar Sign – Councilman Kuhns reported he spoke with several different individuals from PennDOT regarding the speed radar sign discussed at a past meeting. Councilman Kuhns was told that the radar sign is required to be moved every two weeks, PennDOT needs to be notified every time it is moved and to which location it is being moved, and that the signs are only effective for a small amount of time until people get used to them. Therefore, the return is negligible. Given that information, Councilman Kuhns stated he does not recommend purchasing the speed radar sign.

PennDOT informed Councilman Kuhns about a speed radar trailer that is available for use by municipalities. There would be no cost, no contract, and no liability incurred by the borough for using PennDOT's speed radar trailer. The borough just needs to call to get on the schedule. The trailer will sit at a certain location for two weeks from Monday through Friday. During one of those weeks, the trailer will face one way then the next week it will face the opposite direction. PennDOT drops off the trailer at a designated location then picks it up after the two weeks have elapsed. Councilwoman Shambach inquired if the borough would be able to obtain any data from PennDOT's speed radar trailer. Councilman Kuhns stated no data could be obtained.

Councilman Kuhns stated the speed radar trailer was recently placed by PennDOT for a period of time and inquired whether David and Sally Farmer knew if John and Nancy Showers noticed any decrease in speeding. Mr. and Mrs. Farmer stated that John and Nancy did see some improvement and they themselves noticed people slowing down as well.

Councilman Kuhns reported that he inquired about traffic noise when he was speaking with the individuals from PennDOT. PennDOT informed him that there was nothing that could be done regarding the traffic noise.

New Hire – The police committee reported they interviewed a Gregory Drollinger for a police patrol officer position in New Berlin. Mr. Drollinger currently holds the position of Sergeant at a police department fairly close in proximity to New Berlin. Mayor Hamilton and others on the police committee explained his qualifications and character which the committee felt made him a good fit for New Berlin. After interviewing the individual, the police committee asked him if he was

interested in being Officer in Charge for the New Berlin Police Department upon approval of council. Mr. Drollinger stated he would be willing to accept that position. The committee feels he may make a good candidate for Chief of Police upon successful completion of a probationary period. A probationary period and pay rate was discussed.

Motion – Councilwoman Meghan Shambach made a motion to hire Gregory Drollinger as Officer in Charge of the New Berlin Police Department, probationary status, with a pay rate of \$22.00 per hour. Councilman Barry Kuhns made a 2nd to the motion. Vote was taken with all in favor and none opposed. Motion carried.

POLICE REPORT – There was no police report.

Finance Committee – Budget – President Finkbiner reported the finance committee met and finished the budget without a tax increase. The budget will be gone over in more detail next month. The finance committee discussed police coverage options, the cost of those options, and the impact it would have on the community. President Finkbiner explained that people have been coming to the council meetings for over a year and complaining that New Berlin does not have the correct type of police force, or the correct type of police coverage as a resolution to our ordinance and vehicle code violations. The finance committee drafted a letter and spreadsheet regarding different police coverage options. The recommendation of the finance committee is to send the letter to all residents of the borough explaining police coverage options and the reasons those options are being considered by council. Council discussed the ways in which to solicit input from New Berlin constituents regarding which type of police coverage they preferred.

The secretary/treasurer explained the advertising requirements and timeline for passing the borough budget. Should the police coverage change, the budget will need to incorporate the tax increase and new police department budget numbers. Then, that budget would need to be opened for public inspection before adoption. Any budget adopted by council must first be advertised as open for inspection. Council discussed the timeline between the current meeting and the advertising of the budget and if that would be enough time for constituents to respond with their preference for police coverage.

Council discussed revising the first few paragraphs of the draft letter regarding police coverage. The letter will be sent to all taxpaying borough residents when the final draft is complete.

Council discussed ways to solicit thoughts and opinions from the New Berlin taxpayers regarding police coverage in the borough. Two special meetings will be held regarding police coverage options and how they pertain to the budget. Both meetings will be held on November 9th, one will be at 1pm and the other at 7pm. Council discussed alternative ways taxpayers should be given to respond due to COVID-19 restrictions and the limited time remaining to advertise the budget as open for inspection. After discussion, council will solicit responses via the special meetings, an online survey, letters, and emails.

Councilman Barry Kuhns stated he just spoke with Sally Farmer who told him that a tax raise for more police coverage was not what her and David wanted.

President Finkbiner stated that the finance committee wants people to know that council does look at these things every year. They need to access how many hours staff works and if they are within the legal employment requirements. President Finkbiner stated that council has a responsibility with regard to taxpayer money and that it is taxpayer money the borough is spending. Further, maybe David and Sally haven't been pushing for more things to be done but others have and council has looked at all of that on a regular basis wondering how they can satisfy everyone's concerns. The people on council are always looking at what they can do for New Berlin and what is best for New Berlin. Council gets paid \$25.00 per month to spend hours and hours a month at council meetings and committee meetings. They are paying attention and these things have been visited before but New Berlin couldn't financially afford to make things work. A lot of people are reading the minutes and wondering what is going on. This is a good way to get the information out there and explain what the budget restrictions and challenges are regarding police coverage.

Motion – Councilwoman Stamm made a motion to send a police coverage letter, after editing, out to the taxpayers of New Berlin, that the special meetings be advertised. Councilwoman Betty Kratzer made a 2nd to the motion. David Farmer interjected stating that council was violating the

Sunshine Act by making this motion because the public has not yet had a chance to comment, that a motion is an action and an action must be able to be commented on by the public. President Finkbiner stated that Mr. Farmer's interpretation of the Sunshine Act is not correct and that if council could not make motions such as this without public comment, they would never be able to take action. Solicitor Cole stated the Sunshine Act allows public comment on official actions which are or may be before the board but that does not mean that council needs to wait until the next meeting to take action or make a motion on this topic. Mr. Farmer stated that the public has no idea that council is about to take this action so it is impossible for them to comment on it.

Councilwoman Stamm stated that council is taking action to notify people. There was more debate about whether or not it was a violation of the Sunshine Act. There was discussion regarding the police coverage and the way council has been treated by the visitors. Sally Farmer stated she felt as though the council was trying to silence the visitors. There were several statements regarding how the visitors have treated council over the past month. Solicitor Cole stated that the visitors are now saying that council cannot set a time for a meeting without public comment. David and Sally Farmer stated they have not seen the letter and there seems to be some issue with it since it needs revised. Mr. Farmer stated that now council is going to meet in private to revise the letter. Councilwoman Stamm stated that it needs to be revised before sending it out to the public and council has a right to do that. Councilwoman Stamm stated council is not trying to hide anything. There was discussion about council's decision making process and how there isn't a conspiracy. There was discussion about how visitors have been coming to meetings for over a year stating that the police department doesn't work and that they have to call the state police for incidents but that is how it is for all police departments that do not have 24/7 coverage; when an officer is not on duty, the state police are called. John and Nancy Showers have specifically stated that they don't want to have to call the state police nor do they want to be a witness to anything so they want someone walking around or patrolling around to catch people doing things. It has been both implied and stated that they want 24/7 police coverage and they are not going to stop; Nancy Showers has stated the visitors are going to come back again and again and again until they get what they want. Council has been told by the visitors that they don't care and that isn't true. Council needs to consider all of the residents, not just what the Showers want. People are reading the council meeting minutes and are confused, they don't know what's going on, this is a way to

inform everyone of why this has been happening. Priorities of police were also discussed in that any police department is going to prioritize a sex crime over a house egging.

Mayor Hamilton stated she spoke with Nancy and John and does think she made headway with them and explained why the police need to prioritize certain things above others. David and Sally Farmer were also at that gathering and the Mayor believes the parties now understand that New Berlin does not have full-time coverage because of the amount the taxes would increase. Mayor Hamilton stated she thinks it's a good idea to present this to the citizens, she just wishes it was a little sooner. Councilwoman Shambach agreed and stated she thinks it's a good way to clarify why New Berlin does not have 24/7 police coverage. Further, there have been neighbors who asked her why New Berlin does not have 24/7 coverage and the letter explains why.

David and Sally Farmer expressed concern about being lumped together with other visitors in such a small community and stated how the letter is framed will be important. Sally Farmer stated that the visitors want council to communicate more with the visitors and the visitors don't have all the information council does. It was explained that council has no knowledge of the results of police investigations and that council cannot have all the details of everything but they do know that the police investigate every complaint that is received. There was more discussion about council speaking with constituents. There was also more discussion about police issues and council not knowing details about investigations. David and Sally Farmer both stated they appreciated council sharing the information.

Vote on Motion – Vote was taken on the above motion with all in favor and none opposed.

Motion carried.

Personnel Committee – The personnel committee met to discuss a draft form which will be used to submit complaints against borough employees. The committee wants to make an addition before presenting the form to council for review.

STREET SUPERVISORS REPORT – There was no street supervisor report due to him leaving the meeting early. However a quote for painting the community center was discussed as well as

seeking a grant from the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission for painting and restoring the porch and cupola.

MAYOR'S REPORT – Mayor Hamilton stated she welcomes constituent questions or meetings at any time and thinks New Berlin is heading in the right direction.

SOLICITORS REPORT – 608 Spangler Street – The 608 Spangler Street's mortgage satisfaction has been received. Solicitor Cole will now be able to move forward with the real estate closing.

407-411 Front Street – Solicitor Cole reported that the 407-411 Front Street property is scheduled to go up for auction on November 17th.

NEW BERLIN MUNICIPAL AUTHORITY - Minutes – No questions or comments were made regarding the NBMA minutes.

Liaison Report – Water leakage – Councilwoman Shambach stated there is a leak somewhere in a water line or pump up by the reservoir. The municipal authority has been actively trying to find the problem.

Grant – Waterline Replacement - Councilwoman Shambach reported that the municipal authority will start bidding the Walnut and Vine Street waterline replacement sometime this year.

SECRETARY/TREASURER REPORT - Balance – General Fund – The secretary/treasurer reported the balance in the general fund as \$127,973.66.

Check from M&T Bank - Grant Fund – The secretary/treasurer reported the borough received a check from M&T Bank for approximately \$6.00. The check was compensation for bank errors made to the borough grant fund account that has since been closed. The mistake was made to all M&T interest bearing checking and M&T Bank did a mass mailing of checks to compensate for its errors to those accounts. The secretary/treasurer had already discovered the bank errors when they initially happened and the bank made immediate compensation. The secretary/treasurer spoke

with M&T Bank to let them know the borough had already been compensated for the bank errors. After M&T Bank verified the past compensation, there was an agreement that the secretary/treasurer would return the checks back to M&T Bank.

Liberty Street Bridge Project – Change Order – The secretary/treasurer stated that there was a \$9,106.00 change order issued to replace a severely corroded pipe along West Liberty Street to existing pipe which carries water into Tan Run at the Liberty Street Culvert. The change order does not include payment for paving; the borough is responsible to pay that cost from funds other than grant funds.

PHMC Grant – The secretary/treasurer inquired if council was in agreement with her seeking a grant from the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission for the restoration, preservation, and/or painting of the community center porch and cupola. There were no objections to applying for the grant.

READING AND SIGNING OF BILLS/PAYROLL – Councilwoman Barbara Stamm made a motion to pay the bills with any additions. Vice-President Lisa Decker made a 2nd to the motion. Vote was taken with all in favor and none opposed. Motion carried.

BILLS TO BE PAID FROM THE GENERAL FUND

M&T Bank – Service Charge	25.00
Cardmember Service	231.41
Coles Hardware	36.07
Hometown Disposal, Ip	71.34
Iddings Quarry, Inc.	54.72
PP&L	883.06
Windstream Buffalo Valley, Inc.	267.85
HA Thomson Co	239.00
United States Treasury	1,752.36
PA Dept of Revenue	229.82
New Berlin Fire Company No 1	4,020.92
AT&T Mobility	53.50
DE LANGE Landen Financial Services, Inc.	75.57
PP&L	246.45
Union County Treasurer	25.00
Cardmember Service	231.41

PA Department of Revenue	226.00
US Treasury	1,721.28
Curt Keister	572.19
Michael Mattocks	1,153.42
Rawlin Swanger	238.80
Rebecca A. Witmer	1,898.35
Rodney Styers	30.07
William Stamm	1,156.57
PA UC	14.41
Berkheimer	476.48
B.S.& B Repair	85.44
Bilger Automotive	100.00
Cardmember Service	550.22
Coles Hardware	1.76
Country Garden Farm Supply	36.26
Ervin Blank Associates	89.25
Hoover Tractor	10.80
Kim Barton	80.00
Richard's Portable Toilets	160.00
Martin's Small Engine Repair	12.00
New Berlin Fire Company	262.15
PP&L	887.75
Windstream Buffalo Valley	268.07
A+ Office Outlet	163.51
B.S. & B. Repair	99.00

TOTAL \$18,737.26

OLD BUSINESS – WIFI at Community Center – Discussion regarding WIFI at the community center was tabled until after the soundboards are installed at the community center.

Security Camera at Plum Street Park – Councilwoman Meghan Shambach stated she set up and tested the wireless camera to be placed at the Plum Street Park. There was discussion about the camera's memory card and removing it from the camera when needed.

NEW BUSINESS – Community Aid Bin at Recycling Center – The contract terms are changing for the Community Aid bin located at the recycling center. The past agreement terms were that community aid workers were responsible for cleaning the area outside of the bin and the disposal

of items left outside the bin. The amount the borough was compensated for having the bin was .06 cents per pound of items received. The changes to the agreement include the borough now being responsible to dispose of any items placed outside the bin and the amount the borough is compensated is now .04 cents per pound of items received. The borough profits approximately \$200.00 to \$250.00 per year for having the bins at the recycling center. Because there is a bin at the fire company and the cost of labor for and disposal of the items could come close to the amount the borough profits per year, council decided to discontinue the contract with Community Aid.

Plum Street Park Walking Trail Permitted Use – Councilwoman Shambach stated she’s seen bicycles and mopeds on the walking trail and inquired if council’s intent was to allow motorized equipment on the walking trail. Discussed were bicycles, scooters, mopeds, and other equipment. Council tabled the discussion until next month.

Walking Trail Exit – Plum Street Park – Southeast – Councilwoman Shambach stated she is concerned about the walking trail exit at the southeast end of the property. She has seen kids riding their bike on the trail, coming down the hill, and exiting onto the road without looking for vehicles. There was discussion about pedestrians having the right-of-way on residential streets, children’s typical behavior patterns, not obstructing the walking trail as it would prevent ADA accessibility, and signage. Council tabled the discussion until next month.

Playground at Recreation Complex – Councilwoman Barbara Stamm reported that the thistles continue to grow at the recreation complex playground despite years of effort to prevent their growth. The recreation association will be digging out the playground and replacing all of the material in the hopes it will irridacate the thistles.

Executive Session – Real Estate – 407-411 Front Street – An executive session was called at 10:18pm to discuss a real estate matter regarding an auction reserve amount for the property at 407-411 Front Street. All council members, Solicitor Cole, Mayor Bonnie Hamilton, and the secretary/treasurer were in attendance. Executive session ended at 10:25pm.

October 14, 2020

ADJOURNMENT – Motion – Councilwoman Meghan Shambach made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Vice-President Lisa Decker made a 2nd to the motion. Vote was taken with all in favor and none opposed. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,

Rebecca A. Witmer,
Secretary/Treasurer

MAYOR