

Regular Meeting  
Verona Borough Council  
Tuesday, February 9, 2021

## **ZOOM -- COVID 19**

- I. Call to Order**
- II. Pledge of Allegiance**
- III. Roll Call**

Dr. Carpenter  
Mr. Matlin  
Mr. Forbeck  
Ms. LoAlbo  
Ms. Hredzak-Showalter  
Ms. Provenza  
Mayor Ricupero  
Mr. Suhevich  
Mr. Pitsch  
Mr. Alexander

**IV. Registered Comments from the Public**

- 1. Susan Hockenberry-introduced herself, explained her work with the Borough.
- 2. Kathleen Hogue My son Zachary R would like to register for this, in regards to police cars, I am requesting so on his behalf as he is only 11 years old, a 6th grade student. Spoke for her son Zack. He has a petition on Facebook for updating the police car lettering.

**V. Any additional agenda items:**

- 1. Mayor Ricupero-repairs and maintenance question.

**VI. Comments from the Public.** Please approach the podium and clearly state your name & address and limit your comments to **three (3) minutes.**

- 1. Laura Jacko-473 North Avenue, plan for spring planting, would like Council approval.

**VII. Reports and Correspondence.**

- a. Borough Manager's Reports:

**VII. Reports and Correspondence.**

- a. President-Dr. Nancy Carpenter
  - 1. Meeting Minutes -January 26<sup>th</sup> Motion to approve 1<sup>st</sup> Mr. Forbeck, 2<sup>nd</sup> Mr

Suchevich-the North Avenue house to be demo the address needs  
400 block. All ayes, motion approved.

changed to the

2. PSAB membership-We can become members without extra charge in taking the training-  
Motion to join PSAB plus, 1<sup>st</sup> Mr. Suchevich, 2<sup>nd</sup> Mr. Forbeck, motion approved.

3. COVID-19 protocol needed.

4. Committees have changed.

5. Cleaning services in the building. -5 proposal

Preferences? – we do not have to take the lowest bid-we need to make sure they have clearances.

Chief explained that they needed FBI clearance. Issue they cannot be in alone only if they have clearances.

(On police side)

Mr. Suchevich why not take the lowest bid. (Can we wait until the workshop to pick the cleaning service.)

Can we get Sandy's Cleaning to come back one more cleaning until we hire someone? (Building not opened at this time)

Dr. Carpenter can we get someone to choose. Dave Matlin can oversee reviewing the services. Trish will help Dave.

b. Finance Director Rep -Jerry Kenna

1. Bills Payable – Mayors question, Jerry answered.

Motion to pay bills for February, 1<sup>st</sup> Mr. Suchevich 2<sup>nd</sup> Dave Matlin all ayes motion approved.

2. Tax Collector & Special Taxes -Motion to accept, 1<sup>st</sup> Ms. Provenza 2<sup>nd</sup> Mr. Suchevich all ayes motion approved.

3. Treasurer's Report -Motion to accept General Funds-1<sup>st</sup> Mr. Suchevich, 2<sup>nd</sup> Mr. Matlin all ayes motion approved.

c. Mayor's Report: David Ricupero

1. Thanked the young man for taking the initiative regarding the car.

2. Would like to change the one car lettering.

3. Police car selling of the old car – how we should go forward. Fair price. Mr. Suchevich is in favor of selling the car.

d. 1. Police Chief's Report – Motion to accept 1<sup>st</sup> Mr. Suchevich 2<sup>nd</sup> Mr. Forbeck all ayes motion approved.

e. 1. Fire Chief Report – Motion to accept 1<sup>st</sup> Mr. Forbeck 2<sup>nd</sup> Ms. LoAlbo, all ayes motion approved.

If a warming station is offered it will be advertised through word of mouth, social media. Text Verona 21777 to start receiving text.

f. 1. EMS Report – Motion to accept 1<sup>st</sup> Mr. Suchevich 2<sup>nd</sup> Ms Hredzak Showalter all ayes motion approved

## VIII. Council Committee Reports

g. Matt Pitsch- engineer

February 9, 2021

1. PA Small Water and Sewer Grant

Project completed, post work CCTV received, minor items remain.

Reimbursement request submitted to CFA

2. First Street Reconstruction Grant

Multimodal Transportation Grant was selected \$68,050/\$390,000 total project \$458,050. Project is advertised and scheduled for bid opening on 2/18/21.

3. CDBG 2019(Year 45)

Demos on 4<sup>th</sup> St. of 866 and 870 \$6,000/\$24,000 total \$30,000

Bids opened with COG on 1/11/21. Eveready Contracting was low bidder at \$13,400. I recommend award to Eveready Contracting.

Letter requesting the addition of 423 North Avenue submitted to COG/County. Motion to give bid to Eveready Contracting 1<sup>st</sup> Mr. Matlin, 2<sup>nd</sup> Mr. Forbeck, time line June/July period 4<sup>th</sup> St DEMO. all ayes motion approved. Waiting for North Avenue to be accepted to DEMO.

4. DCED Greenway, Trails and Recreation Program Grant (GTRP)

Cribbs Field Grant was awarded for \$200,000 (\$30,000 match), project awarded to Pampena Landscaping & Construction, we are also getting a quote for him to install a field drain.

Base Bid and all 4 Add Items awarded for total contract of \$201,750

Demo work completed, new foundations to be laid out.

Awaiting sketch/rendering of marquee to submit for variance.

5. CDBG 2020 (Year 46)

Sanitary lining along First Street due to road reconstruction project.

Bids opened, Jet Jack, Inc. was low bidder \$63,265. Project awarded to Jet Jack, Inc. (\$41,122.25 grant/\$22,142.75 match), awaiting contracts from County. Update from COG was contractor was missing some paperwork. Paperwork is being corrected and work will be scheduled.

6. PA Small Water and Sewer

Applied for a comprehensive CCTV and Condition Rating of the Borough's storm sewer system. High level defects will also be prioritized and repaired as needed.

Project was funded and contracts with the CFA have been executed. Verona received the full amount requested of \$125,638 and will have a \$33,294 match.

Project specs and bid documents are being create so project can be advertised and bid.

7. Center Avenue Storm Sewer Extension

I had a meeting with Oakmont Water and Peoples Gas to locate their pipes on 8/6/20.

Project was not selected for as CDBG47 project. Project was budgeted for and will be bid in Spring.

8. CDBG 2021 (Year 47)

Projects applied for include, Wildwood Culvert Repair and Demolitions of 473 Union, 558 Church and 856 2<sup>nd</sup>.

This year is the Borough guaranteed year to receive a grant and I was informed the Borough will receive the grant for the Wildwood Culvert Repair.

9. Tree Trimming/Pruning

Beaver Jack Tree Service was the low quoter out of three at \$11,520, I recommend awarding to Beaver Jack Tree Service.

Beaver Jack will be providing me notice once they have the work scheduled.

10. CITF 2021

Projects being applied for are Park Improvements and Alley Reconstruction. Scope of work and applications are being worked on right now and I will have more detailed information at the meeting.

Worked with Mr. Matlin & Mr. Forbeck for alley reconstruction. Trish Hredzak-Showalter park improvement.

General project statement-Oak Alley and Cedar Alley, Peach Alley, Walnut St, Sylvan Way.

Mention alleys total project cost-- \$164 00.50. 15% match \$25,000-\$139,000.50 grant total

Park improvements-looking to do—Cribbs Field equipment some repairs-overall will stay the same—new swing sets-climbing equipment.

Install adult fitness machine looking into –

Riverbank park – looking into improve play/climbing equipment.

Installing rubber mulch surface—

Completing walking trail at Riverbank Park to encompass play area.

Grant asked \$148,328 - 15% match \$22,000 --Grant ask \$126,328

Mayor- would like a splash park-Matt will look into prices.

Mayor-interest in street lights

Matt- Resolution needed for park improvement grant-1<sup>st</sup> Ms LoAlbo 2<sup>nd</sup> Mr. Forbeck all ayes motion approved

Resolution needed for alley improvement grant- 1<sup>st</sup> Mr. Forbeck, 2<sup>nd</sup> Mr. Matlin all ayes motion approved

b. Solicitor: Mr. Craig Alexander

1. Issue on \$\$ amount Borough surplus equipment will have to reconcile codes.
2. Met with Mark Stanton, went through all delinquent pay, sent letters.
3. Issue for new property community garden-can we buy the property from landowner. Craig is looking into it.
4. Reached out George Snyder regarding the bankruptcy.

c. Public Works/Refuse/Sewers (Finance): Dave Matlin

1. Update on borough-wide road condition survey-finished spreadsheet. Will be going forward. Working with Mike Forbeck. Hopefully this will be complete in the next couple months.
2. Landscaping contract working on it.
3. Finance-add there are a couple ideas on how we can keep track of things going forward. Nancy and I would like to use a signature instead of stamped signatures.

e. Ordinances: Trish Hredzak-Showalter

1. Borough manager job description is advertised for review. Will be voted on at Feb's workshop
2. Food truck ordinance and clarification: No restrictions on locations, although updates to this ordinance are needed.
3. Park ordinance updates: will update park ordinances regarding park hours, etc. Dogs in parks looking into it.
4. Ordinance committee will hold next monthly meeting Feb 22nd.
5. Thank you all for helping me.

meeting.

into it.

f. Police/Fire (DPW): Mike Forbeck

1. Thanks Matt and Dave.
2. Borough Manager Search Committee Update-we are delaying. Maybe we should get in touch with some of these folks so we don't lose them. Have an end date.

g. Finance/Budget/Grants (Police & Fire): Ray Sucheich

1. Design for the cars get bids and pick a design and bids. Council needs to vote on what needs to go on police cars.

Crown Vic- minimum bid \$700

h. Parks/Recreation: Janet LoAlbo

1. Parks and Rec Board update-will be meeting every other month at 6:30PM \$75.00 Farmers Market, and Food trucks weekly.
2. Spring tree planting at Cribbs-Motion to go forward 1<sup>st</sup> Ms. LoAlbo 2<sup>nd</sup> Ms. Hredzak Showalter all ayes motion approved  
South Avenue trees on proposal.
3. Hopefully bring back Shakespeare in the park, bike derby etc.
4. Pickle Park Court benches have been ordered. Placed outside fence.

i. Communications: Sylvia Provenza

1. Newsletter-Spring-ads and articles due Monday, March 1<sup>st</sup>. Donald Worf [veronanewsroom@gmail.com](mailto:veronanewsroom@gmail.com)  
412-828-7726 Sylvia Provenza
2. Chamber of Commerce-no update
3. Historical Society-no meetings until further notice
4. Twin Boro Ministry Wed. Feb 24<sup>th</sup> grab and go host Longwood in Oakmont
5. Advertise police car in Newsletter.

**IX. Reports of Special Committees**

1. Allegheny League of Municipalities: (ALOM)-nothing new-still scheduled for seven springs
2. Council of Governments: (COG)-meeting end of January CITF Grant big topic of conversation. ZOOM meeting for Allegheny COG Members

**X. Comments from the Public**

Council will hear comments on public-related items at this time. Please approach the podium and clearly state your name and address, limit your comments to **three (3) minutes**

1. Dan Showalter-North Avenue-thanked Zack the Facebook petition. Planning Committee 7:00PM 18<sup>th</sup> of February. Via Zoom
2. Laura Jacko – North Avenue-tree items, Cribbs planting, DPW -summer trees need watered-railroad park the same-we’ve had issues herbicide damage -go over proper care of trees. Interest in shade tree commission. Can we open it to a 5-member board?  
Craig will look into it. Mike Forbeck can we have ad hoc members.  
Tree removed on North Avenue illegally? What to do.  
EDIT: Craig later confirmed that the Shade Tree Commission is a 5-member board.
3. Kim Roller, 853 1<sup>st</sup> Street- thank you for the alley repaving. Thank you Zack for petition. Talk regarding the Verona Borough website, needs to be updated.

**XI. Adjourn.** Motion 1<sup>st</sup> Ms, Provenza 2<sup>nd</sup> Mr. Sucheovich all ayes motion approved

**XII. Upcoming Public Meetings**

<i>Day and Time</i>	<i>Meeting</i>
1 <sup>st</sup> Tuesday/even months @ 6:30PM The meetings will be virtual until further notice.	Parks & Rec Board Meeting
2 <sup>nd</sup> Tuesday/month @ 7:00 P.M.	Verona Council Public Session
Quarterly 2 <sup>nd</sup> Tuesday/month @ 6:30 (Beginning 1-12-16)	Shade Tree Commission
3 <sup>rd</sup> Tuesday/month @ 7:00 P.M.	Verona Chamber Meeting
Final Tuesday/month @ 7:00 P.M.	Verona Council Work Session
4 <sup>th</sup> Wednesday/month @ 4:00-6:00 P.M. Methodist Church, Center Ave.	Community Dinner
3 <sup>rd</sup> Thursday/month @ 7:00 P.M.	Verona Historical Society Meeting

4 <sup>th</sup> Wednesday @ 7:00 Harmarville	COG
1 <sup>st</sup> Wednesday @ 6:30 PM	Lower Valley Athletic Foundation Meeting