

**FLEETWOOD BOROUGH COUNCIL MINUTES**

X BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING       BOROUGH COUNCIL WORKSHOP  
(Special/Emergency Meeting)

**Date: November 7, 2016**

**Roll Call:**

<u>  </u> <b>Suzanne Pittella Touch</b>	<u>  </u> <b>Tammy Gore, Mayor</b>
<u>  </u> <b>Pete Merkel</b>	<u>  </u> <b>Doreen O’Neil, Secretary</b>
<u>  </u> <b>Jim Meals</b>	<u>  </u> <b>Kevin Musheno, Esq.</b>
<u>  </u> <b>Chris Young</b>	
<u>  </u> <b>Ralph Touch</b>	
<u>  </u> <b>Colin Boyer</b>	
<u>  </u> <b>John Rothenberger</b>	

**Also Present:**

   **Greg Ebeling, Public Works Director**  
   **Robert Weidner, Highway Commissioner**  
   **Steve Stinsky, Police Chief**  
   **Barry Isett & Associates – Ryan Kern**  
   **Reading Eagle – Carole Duran**  
   **Patriot \_\_\_\_\_**

The special/emergency Borough Council Meeting held at 110 West Arch Street, Suite 113 was called to order at 6:35pm by Borough Council President Suzanne Touch.

**4-Way Traffic Light at Main and Franklin Streets**

A 4-way traffic light could be installed on a temporary basis for 1 year at a cost of \$80,000. Half of the cost would be paid by PennDot with the balance of \$40,000 being paid by the Fleetwood Borough. Payment arrangements would be \$20,000 for 2 years.

The first \$20,000 would be taken out of Capital this year. There is \$20,000 remaining in budget for this year and is not earmarked. The other \$20,000 would be put in the budget for 2017 as a current expense. Chris Young can put in a line item for this.

It was mentioned the reason for the cost is that the additional light faces a non-construction area. And in addition, the PennDot detour plans came out late.

Discussions/Comments from Borough Officials and Road Crew:

- Greg had discussions with PennDot and citizens regarding this temporary light during the South Richmond Street construction. He noted that people have commented they can get out of Fleetwood, but they have trouble getting back into Fleetwood. His opinion of spending \$40,000 is money not well spent for the short amount of time the temporary light would be in place. Once South Richmond Street is done, and construction is started on West Main Street, you won't be able to make a left turn from South Franklin onto West Main Street. If the traffic light is installed, they need to prohibit truck traffic from turning right from South Franklin Street onto East Main Street. The turning radius is not good for tractor trailers. If the light poles get damaged, the borough would be liable for replacing them.
- Chris mentioned that a grant application was submitted for a permanent light. Chris has spoken to Mike Rebert (PennDot Executive Director) who agrees that this area needs a traffic light. If the grant is approved, it will be an additional \$165,000 for the permanent 4-way traffic light. There is a safety concern with the traffic flow from Walnut, Buttonwood and Willow Streets when trying to make a left turn on the Main Street (westbound) or going straight across Main Street since these streets are used by the residents to get to Main Street while South Richmond Street is under construction. Difficulty increases when there is a shift change at East Penn Mfg. (Deka).
- If trucks go down South Franklin, they will need to go left onto West Main Street or straight onto North Franklin Street. Once on North Franklin, they can only go out to Route 222, since Arch and Vine Streets are not truck routes.
- The purpose of the additional light would be for car traffic safety.
- PennDot Engineers need to agree it's a safe plan or the borough pulls the plug on the plan. Once the borough commits to the temporary light and submission for grant, PennDot would need to document decision, liability, and signage. Andy George, Esq. and Kevin Musheno, Esq. would need to review the PennDot document to make sure the borough is not liable, etc.
- Chris noted that once we say go, it will take 5 weeks to get the temporary light installed.
- Pete stated that his opinion is the light is a waste of money. Pete mentioned that Brandon (PennDot) had told him that if the borough does not do the light, then PennDot would pave East Locust Street for the borough once the South Richmond Street construction is completed.

- John questioned what the plan was once South Richmond Street is completed and construction starts on West Main Street. Will you be able to travel through the intersection of Richmond and Main Streets? At some point this intersection would be closed for construction.
- It was mentioned that Mike Rebert (PennDot) had stated he would keep the temporary light until the permanent one is installed. He feels the borough stands a good chance of getting the grant. If the borough does not get the grant, then the temporary light stays in place.
- Chris stated that at a prior Borough meeting, Council had agreed on making South Franklin Street 2-way and applying for grant to have light installed.
- Colin stated that his thought was to wait and see what happens and how bad it gets. This past weekend, Colin spotted a vehicle going wrong way on South Franklin Street. He questioned – what is the volume of truck traffic that would be on East Locust Street? He also commented about concerns of right turns from South Franklin onto East Main Street. Even if signs for ‘Trucks no right turn’ are put up; sounds good in theory but trucks will try to turn right. He has concerns of expense for only a few months of benefit.
- Pete mentioned that he spoke to a trucker who delivers to Paul Frederick on West Poplar Street. The trucker did not see any issue with detouring onto East Locust to Walnut Street.
- Suzanne mentioned putting a plan in place and concern of winter weather approaching that East Locust Street becomes a travel issue, so South Franklin Street would be an alternate safer route.
- Jim mentioned that if South Franklin is turned into 2-way traffic from Locust to Main Streets, there needs to be No Parking on this section of South Franklin Street.
- Jim asked that a vote be held at next borough meeting on 11-14-16 regarding the Snow Emergency for East Locust Street.
- Discussion of making East Locust Street on the North side a Snow Emergency Route. Kevin Musheno Esq. or Andy George, Esq. will prepare a temporary ordinance for this temporary snow emergency route on the North side of East Locust Street from South Franklin to Buttonwood Streets.
- Guestimates of truck traffic for South side of town:
  - Paul Frederick – 10 a day
  - AP Merkel – not a regular occurrence
  - East Penn Container – has truck traffic, not sure how many
  - Dick’s Gulf – have gas trucks

- Greg expressed concern of what he has heard from PennDot people he spoke to versus the PennDot people that Council members have spoken to.
- Chris will call Mike Rebert (PennDot) and have him talk to Brandon (PennDot) and see what's going on, since there seems to be mixed thoughts on this new light. Chris will get information put into writing for discussion at the November 14<sup>th</sup> borough council meeting.
- If signs for 'No Trucks' are to be installed, then a traffic study needs to occur which takes some time.
- Chris commented that he would not want to vote against the Fleetwood Borough Road Works Crew'. Mr. Mike Rebert has document of feasible plan.
- Bobby has a list of 80 technical changes to the current parking ordinance (businesses that no longer exist, etc). He will send the list to Alicia Kline at Kozloff Stoudt Attorneys. Authorizing Andy George to rewrite the Snow Emergency for East Locust Street (north side) from South Franklin to Buttonwood Streets. Council would review at next workshop meeting (11-28-16) in preparation to advertise for December 12<sup>th</sup> meeting.

**New Alley** – A one-way street, heading South from Fleetwood onto Route 662 towards Pricetown.

A resident thanked Chief Stinsky and his officers for the job they are doing patrolling the area. Drivers are ignoring detour on North 662 from Pricetown and driving wrong way on New Alley. The resident expressed concern of traffic flow and safety on New Alley.

Suzanne mentioned that there is consideration to closing New Alley and asked Council to consider how to resolve issue during South Richmond Street road construction.

Greg mentioned that the plan is to close New Alley with a guardrail once the South Richmond Street construction is completed.

PennDot is paying portion to pay for extra police patrol. Mandated one hour at New Alley and as time allows.

It was mentioned that if New Alley is closed with guardrail, PennDot will be relocating Chad Moyer's driveway for better access.

For now there will not be any changes to New Alley during the South Richmond Street Construction phase. Possibly consider more signage regarding detour.

### **New Alley – (Continued)**

Chief Stinsky had talked with Chris regarding charges for drivers not obeying the detour signs. Chris needs to meet with Colin, Tammy and Chief regarding the calculation of fines.

Chief Stinsky noted that he has mentioned to other non-Fleetwood Police officers to submit application if interested in performing police coverage for the construction area.

### **South Richmond Street Construction**

A resident from South Richmond Street showed Council a letter he had received from the Fleetwood Post Office. The resident received the letter on 11-05-16 stating that the residents on South Richmond Street would not have mail delivered to their residences due to hazardous material. Home delivery of mail would resume on 11-10-16.

Council was not aware of this letter or of hazardous materials encountered during road construction.

Greg mentioned that during a PennDot meeting he attended, it was stated it is only hazardous to the road construction workers who are down in the road. They are taking out the old dirt (about 5 feet down) down to the lowest utility which is our water lines and replacing with stone to encapsulate. An environmental group will be on site for this. The hazardous material is being hauled to a secure sight.

A copy was made of the resident's letter. Suzanne and Chris will contact Mike Rebert (PennDot) to discuss why they (the Borough Council) were not informed of this, details of the issue, what concerns there are and what the plan is. Also why did the post office know, but not the borough?

There was concern expressed that Greg was at meeting where this was discussed and information was not relayed back to Borough Council.

Greg mentioned that PennDot/Environmental experts told him that they would notify the borough about the problem.

Motion to stop having Fleetwood Borough representative(s) at PennDot meetings if they are not going to report back to Borough Council.

**Made by: Ralph Touch      Seconded by:**  
**Motion Carried        X   Motion Failed**

The motion did not carry. Will wait to see what comes out of the phone call with Suzanne, Chris and Mike Rebert (PennDot).

Pete Merkel left the meeting at 8:45pm and informed Council that he would not be attending anymore PennDot meetings.

The borough office will instruct residents to contact the PennDot HotLine if they have any questions about the letter from the post office.

## **Fleetwood Police**

### **Richmond Township Budget Workshop**

Colin stated that he had attended a budget workshop meeting last week with Richmond Township. He presented a 6.6% increase on their police budget. Richmond township officials had concerns and noted they would be comfortable with 3% increase.

### **Fleetwood Police Staff**

Increased hours for Police Dept clerk and new part-time evidence position.

Clerk hours would increase to 30 hours a week. The part-time evidence position would be 20 hours a week.

Chief Stinsky mentioned that there has been a change in council (3 positions) for Richmond Township. If he can't have the extra help, he is willing to pass for now. He said to go with what Richmond Township is comfortable with and see what happens next year.

It was mentioned that Richmond Township could buy something for the officers.

## **Other:**

### **Capital Projects**

Discussion of plans for 2017:

- There is a 95% chance of the Fleetwood Library taking over the woodshop on the first floor. The cost to the borough is \$50,000 to make the woodshop area more useable for any tenant who would want to rent this area. The \$50,000 covers heat, bathrooms, and window enhancements.
- Pool Pumps
- Roof on Chestnut Street building
- Flooring for Community Center

### **Board Proposal**

Chris provided Council a copy of a Board Proposal from the Surge Volleyball Club. Council is to review proposal for next borough meeting (11-14-16). A copy of the letter was given to Kevin Musheno for Andy George to review.

### **Tri-Valley YMCA Holiday Parade**

Parade will be held on Saturday, December 10, 2016.

The Tri-Valley YMCA needs to provide a parade route to the borough. Chief Stinsky will contact the YMCA asking them to provide this information and for them to fill out an application to be reviewed at the 11-14-16 borough council meeting. Need to consider parking, fire police coverage and police coverage.

Suzanne will check with Gina if the papers for the Cafeteria in the Community Center have been signed and submitted for reserving for the 2016 parade.

**EMS Committee Report**

Chris stated that the EMS Committee report will take about 1 hour to present to Council. Chris will notify them that they are not to attend the 11-14-16 borough council meeting due to other items on the agenda for this meeting. He will ask the EMS team to present their report to Council at the workshop meeting on 11-28-16.

Motion to adjourn meeting at 9:20pm.

**Made by: Ralph Touch**

**Seconded by: John Rothenberger**

**X   Motion Carried**

**Motion Failed**

**Submitted by:**

**Doreen O'Neil, Borough Secretary**