

**ST. LAWRENCE BOROUGH COUNCIL
MEETING MINUTES
THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 24, 2009**

ATTENDANCE:

Mr. Robert J. May, Council President
Mr. David W. Eggert, Council Vice President
Rev. D. Michael Bennethum, Councilman
Mrs. Joan Eshelman, Councilwoman
Mr. James Simmons, Councilman
Mr. Cary G. Whitman, Councilman

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE:

Mr. Warren Lubenow, Borough Mayor
Ms. Allison Leinbach, Borough Manager
Mrs. Susan Eggert, Borough Secretary
Mr. Kevin Conrad, SSM Representative
Ms. Joan London, Borough Solicitor

ABSENT:

Dr. Ronald Ivison, Councilman

CALL TO ORDER: The special meeting of the St. Lawrence Borough Council was called to order by Council President, Mr. Robert J. May, at 7:34 PM.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES: The minutes of the September 10, 2009 meeting were presented to Council for review. There were no additions, corrections, questions or clarifications to the minutes. **MOTION:** Mrs. Joan Eshelman made the motion to approve the minutes as presented; seconded by Mr. David Eggert; all were in favor and the motion carried.

PLANNING COMMISSION - ALLISON LEINBACH

GOODWILL INDUSTRIES - Ms. Leinbach indicated that The Planning Commission did meet last night, September 23, 2009, to review the plans submitted by Goodwill Industries. It was noted that some changes needed to be made to the plans to include parking, truck turning, the entrance and the future installation of sidewalk at the location. Ms. London and Ms. Leinbach met today to review the Zoning Ordinance with regard to parking and because they are limited by the number of employees it was found that 150 parking spaces would be sufficient for that location. This would be a trade off for sidewalks which Planning Commission felt was necessary. It was also decided that they would be told that there cannot be any employee parking in the front of the building. They will have to go to PennDOT for a HOP (Highway Occupancy Permit) and to discuss the changes to the entrance. Mr. Levan indicated that he has since spoken to PennDOT and they are in favor of the sidewalks. Goodwill representatives asked the Planning Commission if they could be given a timeframe to install the sidewalks on the west side and the Planning Commission was in agreement since this was also done for Mr. Weikel a few years back when he renovated his property. Planning Commission recommended that Council grant an extension to Goodwill for the placement of sidewalks on the west side. Mr. London also indicated that a parking variance amendment or a stipulation could be made with regard to the parking at the Zoning Hearing Board level. Mr. May asked whether or not Goodwill asked for a special Planning Commission meeting to review the changes prior to the next Council meeting. Ms. London indicated that she would inquire as to whether or not that would be necessary.

SANITARY SEWER - KEVIN CONRAD, SSM

SANITARY SEWER SYSTEM - Mr. Conrad prepared a power point presentation this evening to explain the sanitary sewer collection system and the expenses related to the discharge of waste to the Exeter Sewer plant. Mr. Conrad began by giving Council some background on the sewer system. Mr. Conrad distributed maps of the sanitary sewer system and referred to the points of discharge; meter pit #4, 213A, #2 and #3. Mr. Conrad explained that there are meters at these locations that measure flow which is how Exeter determines the percentage of flow to the plant. Mr. Conrad also explained to Council that there is liquid that gets into the sewer system that is not waste, this is called I & I or inflow and infiltration. Inflow is storm water that may enter the system but still needs to be processed at the plant. Infiltration is ground water from sub surface defects. In addition there is also something called exfiltration which is sewer flow getting out of the system. Mr. Conrad explained that the Borough has had work done in the past to try to limit I&I. In addition, in the 2003 timeframe the Borough installed rain shields to try to prevent rain water from entering the sanitary sewer system. In 2007 the Borough televised a portion of the system where there were some repairs done and in 2008 the entire sewer system was televised. From the results of the 2008 television the Borough did some cured in place pipe lining, repaired a line as well as repaired a manhole. The televising also identified numerous other defects that need to be repaired. Mr. Conrad indicated that he had prepared bid specs that are being reviewed currently by Ms. London to do some trenchless repairs. The repairs are needed to try to eliminate I&I. The following repairs are needed: CIPP lining of 3616 of 8" pipe along Perkiomen Avenue, Oley Turnpike Road, Parkview and the line that runs behind Community UCC, CCIP lining of 1625 of 10" pipe around Central Catholic Stadium and Poplar Drive and 2055 12" pipe on Bingaman. It was noted that it is much cheaper to do cured in place piping than digging up to make the repairs. In addition, there are CIPP point repairs to 24 sections of 8" sewer pipe and lining of 55 manholes. In addition, the recommendation to televise 26 sewer laterals to investigate for potential I&I. Mr. Conrad indicated that the Borough did apply for the H2O grant but did not receive any money. It was felt that the work needs to be done even though no grant money was received. The bid specs will be extended to give pricing good for 6 months. Mr. Conrad then went on to explain how Exeter determines the cost of St. Lawrence's processing at the sewer plant; this was followed by a lengthy discussion. Ms. London has read the sewer agreement that was signed in 2003 and it is the Borough's intention as well as Ms. London's that Exeter Township is in violation of the agreement and is not billing the Borough properly. Mr. May suggested that from here on out the Borough will calculate their own bill. It was discussed that Ms. London should send a letter to the Solicitor of Exeter Township to that effect. The Borough would like to have a 3rd party arbitrator look into the billing practices of Exeter Township. Ms. London indicated that she would like to have a copy of the last quarter bill so that she can construct the letter. **MOTION:** Rev. D. Michael Bennethum made the motion directing the Borough Solicitor to review the most recent sewer bill, develop a revised amount of the bill and indicated to Exeter that the Borough no longer agrees with the billing practices according to the sewer agreement and suggest that a 3rd party arbitrator get involved to determine whether or not the agreement is being followed; seconded by Mr. Cary Whitman; all were in favor and the motion carried.

SEWER RATE ORDINANCE - At the September 10, 2009 meeting Ms. Leinbach was authorized to advertise the rate increase so that the ordinance could be adopted at the special meeting to be held on September 24. This Ordinance was advertised in the Reading Eagle on September 17, 2009. **MOTION:** Mrs. Eshelman made the motion to adopt Ordinance 401 to increase the sewer rate to \$35 for the first 1,000 gallons and \$6.35 for each additional 1,000 gallons; seconded by Mr. Eggert; all were in favor and the motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT – MOTION: Mr. Whitman made the motion to adjourn; seconded by Mr. Eggert; all were in favor and the motion carried. The meeting of the St. Lawrence Borough Council adjourned at 9:02PM.

Respectively submitted,
SIGNED/ SUSAN D. EGGERT
Susan D. Eggert
Borough Secretary

ST. LAWRENCE BOROUGH COUNCIL
09/09