

MINUTES – August 5, 2024

Borough of Cambridge Springs

A regular meeting was held by the Cambridge Springs Borough Council on Monday, August 5, 2024, at 161 Carringer Street. The meeting was called to order by Mayor Delores Hale at 7:00 p.m. The following members were present: Jennifer Howell, Amber Livermore, Randy Gorske, Jeremy Ball, Larry Morrow and Brian Harmon. Also present was Manager Sandy Pude.

Approval of Minutes

A motion was made by Morrow to approve the July 15, 2024 Borough Council Meeting minutes. The motion was seconded by Howell. A poll vote was taken:

HOWELL	-	yes	LIVERMORE	-	yes	RESULTS:
GORSKE	-	yes	BALL	-	yes	7 yes
MORROW	-	yes	HARMON	-	yes	MOTION CARRIED
HALE	-	yes				

Solicitor’s Report – None

Engineer’s Report – None

Committee Reports

Administration & Finance – None

Police Committee – The meeting for August 6th was cancelled because of National Night Out

Land Use & General Safety – None

Public Works – None

Report on Operations – A written report was submitted

Hearing of Citizens and Taxpayers

Travis Davis of 237 McClellan Street asked why Officer Poux is working as an SRO in the Penncrest Schools.

Police Chief Tad Acker said a lawsuit was filed against Lock Haven University where Officer Poux had worked. He said that a former employee of Lock Haven filed the lawsuit against the University, not Officer Poux.

Travis Davis asked about the musty smell in the water.

Delores Hale said that the temperature of French Creek along with the algae has created the smell. The Supervisor at the Water Plant has adjusted the chemicals to help alleviate the smell,

but that will take a while to get through the system. In the meantime, the water is safe to drink.

Travis Davis also asked why there aren't meters on the sewer lines.

Pude said she does not know of any communities that have meters on the sewer lines.

Christen Wilson of Tattle Street said that Officer Poux has made inappropriate comments to different students and along with the lawsuit at Lockhaven, he shouldn't be around kids.

Chief Acker said if there are complaints against Officer Poux, we need to have documentation and actual evidence not hearsay in the form of a sworn statement. He said the complaint forms that the Borough has can be completed and then notarized and submitted.

John McGee of 124 North Main Street asked why there are SRO's in the schools.

Randy Gorske said that Penncrest approached the Borough when they wanted to have Officers within the schools.

Hale said that most schools now have the SRO's.

Jennifer Howell said that she works at the High School and she said the kids are always talking with Officer Poux and really seem to like him. She hasn't heard anything negative about him.

Travis Davis said that people are scared to come into the Borough to go to the Villa or the Brewery because of the Police Department.

Tammy Wittmaak said that everyone is avoiding Cambridge Springs because of the Police Department.

Justin Moyar said that he disagrees with that statement. He appreciates the Police Department and he doesn't feel people are avoiding town.

Matt Beck asked Chief Acker what type of background checks are done when officers are hired because he had a background check done to work with kids.

Chief Acker said that there is an extensive background check done on each officer hired. He said that any Officer that is disciplined or fired, that is reported and when new hires are made the Act 57 database will contain that information. In this case, if anything would have been reported, those reports would have been found when we did our background check.

Christen Wilson asked why certain post are not being approved on the Borough Facebook page.

Hale said that it was never a "Borough" Facebook page, it was started by a couple of people that wanted to post about events and information to promote our community. She recently changed the name to Cambridge Springs, PA Community Events and Happenings.

Christen Wilson said that one of the cops had driven past her house numerous times and she lives outside the Borough.

Rod Miller said he has heard people talk about over policing withing the community, but he has also heard a lot of people said they are happy with the Police Department because they are trying to prevent problems from happening. He also said that he knows firsthand about how the rumors start when a law suit is filed because it happened to him after their fire in 2019. People were speculating about how the fire started and why the lawsuit was filed.

Unfinished Business – None

New & Other Business

1. Parcel Development Agreement

Zach Norwood from the Crawford County Planning Office talked about the former Nursing Home property located at 110 Canfield Street. He said the plan is for Active Aging to purchase the property, have the existing building demolished and then sub divide the property. Once subdivided, there will be a new Active Aging Senior Center and a building with 40 apartments for seniors.

Ball made a motion to approve the agreement contingent upon all parties agreeing to the language and appendices. The motion was seconded by Morrow. A poll vote was taken:

HOWELL	-	yes	LIVERMORE	-	yes	RESULTS:
GORSKE	-	yes	BALL	-	yes	7 yes
MORROW	-	yes	HARMON	-	yes	MOTION CARRIED
HALE	-	yes				

2. Riverside Music Festival – Justin Moyar

Justin Moyar said the event went well with the only issue being that PennDot did not put in place the detour signs for the road closure. He said the planning for next year will begin within the next few months.

Approval of monthly invoices

A motion was made by Morrow to approve payment of the invoices. The motion was seconded by Howell. A poll vote was taken:

HOWELL	-	yes	LIVERMORE	-	yes	RESULTS:
GORSKE	-	yes	BALL	-	yes	7 yes
MORROW	-	yes	HARMON	-	yes	MOTION CARRIED
HALE	-	yes				

Adjournment

A motion was made by Morrow to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Harmon. A poll vote was taken:

HOWELL	-	yes	LIVERMORE	-	yes	RESULTS:
GORSKE	-	yes	BALL	-	yes	7 yes
MORROW	-	yes	HARMON	-	yes	MOTION CARRIED
HALE	-	yes				

The meeting was adjourned at 8:27 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



Sandra M. Pude, Borough Manager