

WORK SESSION

February 18, 2020

Council President Beverly Wolfe called the meeting of Pennel Borough Council to order at 7:30 p.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Present at the meeting

Mayor Robert Winkler
Council President Beverly Wolfe
Council Vice President Barbara Heffelfinger
Councilwoman Laura Germain
Councilman John Stratz
Councilman Mark Moffa
Councilman Joe Dudash
Councilman Gary Nickerson

Also present

Ben Hauser, Solicitor, Hill Wallack
Carol Schuehler, Value Engineering
Marie Serota, Secretary/Treasurer

Announcements

Barbara Heffelfinger announced that the Heritage Society of Pennel is having their soup dinner from 4:00 p.m. – 6:30 p.m. at the Coffee Cup Café. All homemade soups. \$8.00 per person and kids under five are free. All you can eat soup, salad, rolls and desserts.

The second event for the Heritage Society is an historical tour on May 2nd from 11:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. They will be showcasing some of the very important historical properties in town. The cost of the tour is \$10.00. There will be refreshments at borough hall at the end. They hope to have some historical artifacts to show. They hope to have a loom demonstration going at the carpet mill which is one of the properties on the tour. The gentleman at the lawyer's office will be taking groups through and explaining everything that he has.

MOTION BY BARBARA HEFFELFINGER TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE FEBRUARY 3, 2020 COUNCIL MEETING. SECONDED BY JOHN STRATZ. All ayes, motion carried.

MOTION BY BARBARA HEFFELFINGER TO PAY THE FOLLOWING INVOICES:

COMCAST BUSINESS INVOICE DATED 2/1/2020 IN THE AMOUNT OF \$175.27 FOR POLICE INTERNET AND VOICE SERVICES.

COMCAST BUSINESS INVOICE DATED 2/2/2020 IN THE AMOUNT OF \$129.46 FOR INTERNET SERVICE AT 790 NESHAMINY STREET.

SECONDED BY MARK MOFFA. Gary said there was a discussion a few weeks ago about not having to read out all of the bills at the meetings. It's going to be where they pay the bills that are listed on some sort of roll. The solicitor is looking into it. It would be on a sheet for audience members to look at. Ben Hauser said there is a consent agenda resolution in the works.

Amanda Mieluch, 16 Oak Ave., asked what they are paying Comcast for on Neshaminy St. Beverly Wolfe said that is decommissioned sewer plant property and the internet is for the alarm system and surveillance cameras we have because the property had been broken into. All ayes, motion carried.

Mayor's Report

Mayor Winkler announced that he was very happy to receive a grant for Laura and the Community Relations Committee. After requesting information, LTAP sent him information on the condition of our streets in Pennel. He received the report and will pass it out to everyone on council.

Engineer's Report

Carol Schuehler read her report which is attached.

Barbara Heffelfinger said they really should apply for the application for the Greenways Trail. It requires a 15% match. It is a great opportunity for Pennel. If they can get this done and applied for, it would be a big step in alleviating some of the problems at Taddei Woods, plus it would make it more accessible to the public. Her recommendation is that council should support this and if it comes down to that, they can't work it out, it can't be done or they don't have the funds to match it, they can always turn it down. But she thinks it's a smart move to apply.

Barbara said the project at the rec field, they really need to get it moving. The repairs are needed and she hopes that council supports that. She believes that Senator Tomlinson and State Representative Tina Davis would support them on that.

Beverly Wolfe asked Carol for a scope of work that she has in mind for the Taddei Woods. For \$250,000.00, that's a match of \$37,500.00. The match alone is what we would need to get rid of the dead trees. Carol said they were talking about this for the grant which is upgrading the trail, the survey needed to design it and the vegetation management for the invasive species that is needed for the trail and to include some ongoing maintenance in that grant. Joe Dudash asked if it included the storm water issue that they are dealing with because you can build all the walkways you want but they will get flooded out. Carol said it's not designed yet, it's just a grant application. The biggest problem with storm water in Taddei Woods is that there is nowhere to discharge it. They will have to look at that as part of the design. They can raise the trail and put some piping under it so that you could still walk through there. Joe said that won't solve the problem. He's had four agencies over there. If they are going to do it, he wants to do it right. If they build the trails, they are going to get washed out. Beverly said she is concerned about the dead trees and them falling over on anyone or anyone's property. Maybe if they can take care of the dead trees, they can get some vegetation in there to soak up the water. Carol said she reached out to the DCED and they said it sounds like a viable project. It might help to bring someone down from there to be the cheerleading squad.

Beverly asked Carol about the hydrodynamic inlet. Carol said they need to get the meter reader on pump station 2 which is a minor change. It's a swap, no cost. This is about the MS4 plan. When the borough submitted a plan to address the MS4 requirements, the biggest part of the plan is the hydrodynamic inlet which takes the storm water from a good portion of the borough going towards the Neshaminy Creek and it spins it through a separator to take out trash and debris and sediment. It's a crazy expensive inlet and it is a big part of the MS4 program and permit which is in place today. The borough made a commitment to do this so they are looking for the funding to do that. It is the Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System which is stormwater management. It is an unfunded mandate that the borough gets from the state that comes down

from the federal government. We've got this commitment that started before this council to put this hydrodynamic inlet into that watershed and it is a couple hundred-thousand-dollar project. They are desperately looking for funding for that. They need to get letters of support from State Representative Tina Davis and Senator Tomlinson. There are no guarantees but they are trying. Beverly talked about the CDBG for Memorial Park. The bathrooms and the electrical shack have been the same since her and Joe were playing down there as kids. It is not ADA compliant which she has a problem with. It also has some other issues. Carol said she has a challenge with this. She reached out to a couple of different architects and she also has someone coming down this week to meet with her and Barbara Heffelfinger. They are going to look at it and give a price for their efforts. They are going to need an architect for the scope of work and general estimated cost. They have 30 days to get this done. She's not sure how they are going to get council's approval for the architect and getting the prices and still have enough time to get this application done.

Dave Smith, 146 Bellevue Ave., said they are on the list for the sewer repair and with the curbs and sidewalks have been in contracts since July. The borough is paying for some of the concrete, breaking up the apron. He wanted to know what kind of timeframe it would be. He would like to save some money on the concrete. Carol said the Zoom Drain proposal presumably will be signed tonight. She doesn't have an exact date when they will be out there. She hopes it's pretty quickly. If the Zoom Drain work damages any concrete, then the borough will address that. Carol said if there was already concrete that is supposed to be replaced, how does that coordinate with this. She does not have the answer and maybe she can reach out to him this week. She asked for his phone number and will get back to him.

Tracy McKernan, 152 Bellevue Ave., said she heard there might be some extension for them for the sidewalks since their contractor did not have time to reach all of them. They tried to find other contractors but could only find one which is Joe from Giuseppe's. At the last meeting she heard no extension. She called Doylestown to find out how to get PennDOT to give them an extension. She said John Stratz came to her door when she was sitting in her driveway and started talking to her while she was on the phone having a private conversation. She rolled down her window and he started talking to her about calls to Doylestown. She asked for people to raise their hands if they are ok with someone coming out of nowhere and starts asking question on their private property. She asked about the five properties on Rt. 1 that weren't done because of Wawa. She asked why they weren't put out for bid like they are being forced to. She asked if the weather doesn't cooperate and the work can't be done by the deadline, what happens then. She wanted to know if there would be another extension so the work could be completed. She asked why the letters sent out with no response time for the homeowner to answer. The initial paper sent out stated to get your own contractor and the homeowners did. Now that 90% of the work is completed, it is going out for bid. They have abided by all ordinances and they feel they should have the equal opportunity to have their work completed. This falls under the unfair tradesmen and consumer act. She did her research and she's asking these questions. They are under contract with Giuseppe's and if the other contractor comes on her property, they will have him removed. You cannot force them to use a contractor they did not want. She does not want a stranger coming onto her property when she already has someone, she feels is reliable and who did the work on the church. She was very upset and offended by the letter that was sent to her because she had a contract with Giuseppe's and she knows the borough was aware of it at the end of October and were talking about giving an extension to them. They will seek damage from the township or contractor for the destruction of property if you force a contractor on them that they do not know. If you feel you can, why wasn't it done on Rt. 1. As a homeowner, she has the right to have a contractor do work on her property, not who they are forcing them to use. She's not afraid to speak up but some

homeowners are probably due to the fact that some of your council members show up on their doors and start arguably talking at them. It just so happened that day she had to stop home and let the dog outside and she had to go to a specialist doctor's appointment and had a certain amount of time to finish her conversation on the phone so she was taken aback by this stranger coming on her property. She doesn't know who the council people are. Why is Carol being used still. Why can't they use their own inspector because it would save us a lot of money as taxpayers. All the engineering and surveying is complete. Why is an inspector not being used? She feels what's happening here is not in the favor of the homeowners.

Beverly said she was going to try to answer her questions in order. The Lincoln Hwy. work was in an area that was set for redevelopment and was under contract with a developer. They came through and did the paving. They are going to have to go back and do that. Bev said to Tracy, you have a contract with Joe and he has a contract with you. It is between the two of you. Exactly one year ago, and she has the minutes to prove it, at a council meeting on February 17th they told everyone this project was coming. It was said at council meetings after that until notices were sent out saying that this was coming and when it was coming which was originally August or September. They sent out notices requiring the work be done by August 1st. They noticed that properties were not getting done. They asked PennDOT for a favor to skip over us because so many weren't done. So, they said they would do that. The borough sent out letters again. We have exceeded the timetable. PennDOT is coming around April 1st – 15th. There are no more extensions available. The work has to be done before they come. There is a big gap between September and March. At the last meeting she gave a report when Joe was here on how many days in each month work could have been done, temperature about 40 degrees and no precipitation. She believes September was 25 days and October was 20 days. PennDOT is coming. They put it out for bid on Pennbid which is a site any contractor has access to. They are going to have a preconstruction meeting and once they mobilize, we cannot have them stop. The properties that have not been done will have to be done. Beverly said she said something about contractors not wanting to come here. She said she believes there are contractors that they know of that did do curb and sidewalk work. And they are limited on the time they can do work. It's not PennDel. It's a PennDOT road. They can work from 9:00-3:00. And they need a flagger so nobody gets killed. That costs money and that maybe why some of the contractors weren't as responsive to her. Beverly said she doesn't know. As for the inspections, our zoning and code officers are both very experienced people and wonderful at what they do. But they are not an engineer. That's not their job to make sure the concrete is poured right and the forms are right. That they have the tickets from the concrete. All of that. That is something the borough engineer needs to look at. They want everything done safe and right and only want what's best for the residents. Tracy asked what if PennDOT sees that the works not done. Beverly said they don't care. PennDOT is not who is requiring this work to be done. It is the borough ordinance. This is a PennDOT road. They tell the borough when they are coming. They already skipped over us once. They will not do it again. Tracy said she feels like they need more time and that there should be something that they can do. Ben Hauser asked Tracy if she remembered getting a letter dated May 22, 2019. Tracy said yes. Ben asked her when the due date in the letter was. Tracy said she got a contractor. Ben said the due date was August 1, 2019. Carol said they had permits pulled by three other contractors. Beverly said we don't tell PennDOT what to do. They basically tell us. And borough ordinance requires it. Every other road in this borough that was repaved except for the quadrant by the former Wawa site, every other resident in this borough that had deficient concrete, they had to do the work. They tried to work with everyone but time is now up. Tracy McKernan's husband said it was harassment when the councilman showed up at their house. Beverly said that was his right to consider it harassment. Tracy's husband said because she called PennDOT, John showed up. Beverly asked if they had a name. Tracy said it was Melissa and she has a phone

number. Her husband said that's not working, showing up at someone's door. Beverly said she disagrees with him on something. The timeline started in February 17, 2019, she has a signed copy of the letter from May giving everyone until August 1st. Tracy's husband said there's only three contractors. They had to do the church first and the other streets. Where does that leave them? Ben asked when they contracted with Giuseppe's. He said in August. Ben said he respectively submits that the problem here was not created by the borough. Beverly said they gave everybody ample time. They are coming. We can't stop it. We are beating a dead horse again. Tracy's husband said that Beverly said she doesn't want to stop it. Beverly said she doesn't want to stop it because the road is in bad shape. And even if she wanted to stop it, she can't. Tracy's husband asked why she can't apply. Beverly said there is no application to apply for an extension. They already got the extension. Beverly asked Carol who the contact is. Carol said they are dealing with Mr. Stein at District 6 Southeastern Regional office and he is who deals with the contractor resurfacing the road. They had a contract that they had last year to do the resurfacing work. They got a little behind in their schedule and they were still resurfacing last year through September into October. They were asked to jump over Pennel in October and come back in the spring to give everybody more time to get the work done. They are under a contract with their awarded contractor and just as with any contract, if you block a contractor from doing work, you can actually create a whole other slew of problems. Ben asked Tracy if they asked why their contractor didn't do the work in August and September. Tracy's husband said because it's the winter. Mark Moffa said they were notified a year ago. There is no more time. He's sorry. It's up, it's over. If he doesn't get it done by the time the borough contractor comes in, that's it. End of story. Beverly said she will reiterate that in September 2019, there was 25 days the concrete could have been poured. In October there was 20 days it could have been poured that met the parameters. In November, there was 18 days that the concrete could have been poured. They didn't count December because of Christmas. Mark said the deadline was August 1st and a lot of other people figured out how to meet the deadline. Beverly said their contract was signed before September and there was 25 days in September it could have been poured.

Dave Smith, 146 Bellevue Ave., asked if there was a compromise. He understands he has to get the curbs in because that will interfere with the road work. He doesn't know Joe's predicament. He's looking at their predicament. He wanted to know if they could have an extension on getting the sidewalks done so it doesn't interfere with the work and they won't get charged a premium that this other contractor charges. Beverly said no, the ordinance is curbs and sidewalks. She said she believes everyone is honest but our contractor now leaves and the sidewalks don't get done, we will have negated our own ordinance if they allow that to happen. If they allow it to happen once, it will set a precedence that she doesn't think the residents of this borough will like.

Richard Keller, 107 W. Woodland Ave., said he and his brother are the owners of 124, 126, 128 and 130 Bellevue Ave. He said he heard them say earlier that they awarded a contract, and asked if they have the cost of the linear foot for the curbing and cost of square foot for the sidewalk. There's no way Joe can do it all in that timeframe. He gets it. He knows they have to get it done. Unless Joe is going to put on two or three crews, he can't do it all. If you could come up with the price, maybe you can ease some of this conversation. He's sure his is a larger scale than the other properties because of their frontage. Carol said the unit bids are \$72.75 per linear foot of curb or depressed curb that is replaced. That is for everything including removal and traffic control. If they run into an instance like they did once so far this year where PA 1 Call said they had to hand dig and have to modify their excavation techniques, she has a price for that too. If that should happen, it is a price of \$87.50 per linear foot of curb or depressed curb replacement. For each square foot of concrete sidewalk replacement is

\$9.90. For each square foot of concrete driveway apron replacement is \$11.95. Beverly asked Carol to explain the prices because of the bid process. Carol said when the borough hires a contractor, the borough has to follow certain state laws. There has to be a provision in there for paying prevailing wages to anyone that works on the job. The cost per hour for labor for operators is generally higher on public jobs because you have to pay the prevailing wages. Also, when a borough enters into a contract for this sum of money, there has to be performance bonds and payment bonds. That's something that might not happen with a private contract between the individual contractor and the property owner. So, there are bonding costs, insurance requirements and the prevailing wages which impact the prices. With a government contract we get a detailed list of references and we check them and the work that's been done. Even though the borough is required to take the low bidder, it's the responsible one we use. Rich Keller said that they mentioned they had three contractors that pulled permits. He asked for their names and Carol said she doesn't have them handy. Rich asked if Joe from Giuseppe's could give the comparison in price. Joe Sellechia, Giuseppe's Restoration, stated as for three contractors on Bellevue Ave., there has been multiple contractors. One contractor did one curb. A homeowner did their curb and brought another contractor in. There were no other contractors on Bellevue Ave. that touched curbs other than himself. Beverly said she would have the permits pulled and provide that to him in the president's report at the next meeting. Joe said for square footage, sidewalks run from \$7.00 - \$8.00 a square foot. Aprons run from \$8.00 - \$9.00 a square foot. Curbs at Our Lady of Grace Church, he charged them \$48.00 a foot due to the amount that they had. Some of the customers in here, range from \$50.00 - \$60.00 a foot for depressed or standard curb. There was only one that was \$70.00 a foot and that was the one that had to be dug by hand. The owner thought it was too much money and didn't want to do it. Tracy at 152 Bellevue mentioned Route 1 and asked him a lot of questions that he can't answer. She brought up the Wawa and he thinks she was talking about the properties that were not completed that had nothing to do with Wawa. Beverly said those properties were the result of two resolutions that they did. What was going to happen when that project came to light and was part of the deal was that the developer was going to have to do all of those properties. Joe said it has nothing to do with Wawa. He said the car lot next to the apartments and the 7-Eleven wasn't completed. There was a car lot across the street near Rita's. There is a few that weren't completed. Beverly said they can't discuss it. She thought Tracy meant the curbs by the former Wawa site. Ben Hauser said he has heard mentioned in the audience the word trespass and the general elements of trespass the person commits the offense they are not licensed or privileged to do so entering a place or property. The borough code, 1805 A, upon the failure of any property owner to comply with the requirements of this article, the borough may go onto the property to do the work.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Administration

Barbara Heffelfinger thanked Marie Serota and Karen Kondrk for the stupendous job they have done in the office while the president had problems she had to deal with and has not been able to be here. She wanted to compliment them on the really great job that they've done. Barbara said she is here every day to get things done and go over everything but they have been wonderful and she appreciates that as she knows the president does.

Joe Sellechia, Giuseppe's Restoration, wanted to clarify something. He said he comes in and starts work down the end by Penndel Pizza and he starts working up. He gets all that done and there is ample time still, say four weeks. He comes up and the borough contractor is working on properties he has contracts with. He wanted to know what he should do. Beverly said they have not had the pre-construction meeting yet so they don't know when the borough contractor

is going to mobilize. Beverly said he went from 8 to 18 properties and that is huge. Joe said some of them are small. Joe said nobody is going to tell him how fast he can get the jobs done. Joe said you bring in your contractor and we get three or four weeks of rain and neither one of them can complete everything by the deadline, what happens. Will they get another extension or do you just let the properties go? Carol said we are not in the position to give extensions. It's not something the borough can do. It's a matter of getting the work done before PennDOT gets here. The contractor retained by the borough has the same deadline as Joe does. They can't wait until April 15th to see if the work is done. We are down to eight weeks from when PennDOT wants to be in here. Joe said the weather affects PennDOT as well. Carol said regardless, the information they have is that PennDOT is looking for the week of April 15th for paving. Joe asked if at the pre-construction meeting, will they let the contractor know what properties he has permits pulled for. Carol said yes. Ben Hauser said the letters that went out in January state the property owners have 30 days from the receipt of the letter to complete the curbs. At that point, the borough's contractor can basically go through and do all of the properties if they are not done. Joe said everybody in this building knew he was coming back in the spring to do the work. Ben Hauser asked Joe if council granted him an extension. Joe said council has nothing to do with an extension. Ben asked Joe again if council said he had an extension. Joe said PennDOT told him and Carol said yes. Carol said she didn't give him any extensions. PennDOT put off the work until April. She is not empowered to grant extensions. Carol O'Connor, manager of Bellevue Court Apts., 401 Bellevue Ave., said they have a contract with Joe to do the work. Her company will not allow anyone else on the property to do work for them. It's a long process. They had three other people they called prior to Joe that refused to do the work because they didn't have the metal forms and the other two, their prices were outrageous and the one didn't have the metal forms. That's why they got Joe and she called the borough for a reference for him. Beverly asked when she entered into an agreement with him. Carol said in the beginning, way before all of this. In the beginning of the summer. Ben asked if she reached out to Joe to say the work needed to be done by August 1st. Carol said no because he had other people to do before theirs. Carol said he is supposed to do the work so the borough is not going to send who they decide to go on their property. Beverly said if Joe is already working, then no. Carol asked if everybody has a contract with Joe or do some not have a contract with anyone. Carol Schuehler said they don't have Joe's contracts. They only have a list of who Joe said he has contracts with. Carol O'Connor asked if they were going to have the borough contractor do the ones that don't have any contracts yet. Carol Schuehler said her intent is to have them start on those properties. She said if Bellevue Court is not done by the time they get to that property, then the borough contractor will be doing it. Carol O'Connor said not with her company. They are very strict with what insurance you have. You have to go through a whole big process. Carol Schuehler said the contract is going to be between the borough and the contractor and the expenses will be billed to the property owner. Carol O'Connor said you can just come in and start digging on the property. Ben Hauser said they can. Under the license of the borough code they can do the work. Beverly said they will give ample time when they are coming. Carol said her company will want to see all the insurance they have. Beverly said the borough contractor has got it.

Community Development

Barbara Heffelfinger said that she and John have been working with the engineer on grants and what to apply for. They closed out the RDA grants. They have to start working on what they applied for this year as far as the parking lot, etc.

Community Relations

Laura Germain said they had the Valentine's Day party which turned out really well with a lot of kids. She thanked Barbara for her help. Laura thanked Mayor Bob Winkler for getting them a

grant for borough activities so that will allow them to do more stuff. On March 16th they have their women's history month event which will be right before the work session. They will have several speakers from the League of Women Voters, The Bucks County Women's Advocacy Center and She Should Run which is a non-partisan organization that encourages women to participate in government. We'll have our reading of the Declaration of Sentiment which is commonly known as the Women's Declaration of Independence. If anyone would like to read, let her know. The newsletter will be out this week. It's done. They are just folding them to get them out. They are updating and adding to the website. Beverly asked if she was going to have the training for the website. She told Laura to let her know when.

Ordinance

Mark Moffa asked Ben Hauser what the timeframe was on the TOD. Ben said he expects it to be advertised this week two times within a certain window and then sent to the Bucks County Planning Commission this week so that it will be on their March agenda and he assumes it will be on the March Planning Commission meeting. They will have to post some advertisement around town since they are changing the map for that. It should be passed at the second meeting in April. Carol asked when he would like the poster size of the planning map. Ben said by next week so it can be advertised and people can come into borough hall to see it. Carol asked if Mark had a chance to look at it and he said he saw her small version. Gary Nickerson said it shows Taddei Woods as not being open space. He asked if that was correct. Carol said it was from the current zoning map. Mark asked if the zoning was changed and Beverly said no. Beverly said you don't want to put it together with the TOD. Gary said he doesn't want to cause a delay. Beverly said as much as she would like to change everything that is wrong at one time, you just can't do it.

Open Space

John Stratz said they are keeping their fingers crossed that they don't get more rain that will just add to the problem. There are things he would like to do that would not impact or break any wetlands laws. There are wetlands in front of Wawa. It's a giant retaining pond that is full of cattails, the most natural thing in the world. Cattails build land by filtering out sediment. Beverly said that the engineer is getting ready to do a grant application for mitigation of this. She said cattails would have to be researched because she doesn't know if it is an invasive species or not. First you have to get rid of the dead trees, the things that are not sucking up water.

Public Safety

Joe Dudash said the Public Safety Committee has been meeting in conjunction with the Revitalization Plan to look at the future needs of the community as it grows. The plan is to develop and implement a framework of the borough's emergency services which is your Police, Fire Marshal and Emergency Management Department in meeting the future demands of the revitalization expansion outcome. The committee intends to build on the strengths of the community which are to create new departmental directives and goals, cost analysis on departmental public safety needed elements in conjunction with the revitalization plan and public safety presentation plan to future business developers will identify the main goals of protecting economic growth of the developers. The plan is to develop these three, Fire Marshal, Emergency Services and police so that when they present to a developer you can say, yes, we're already in tune as far as growing and protecting their assets. They are going to meet a couple of times and then present to council. The plan intends to identify the borough public safety as a neighborhood choice for families and businesses. You can add this to your presentation to a developer. This will be an added source for you because you can say we're a small borough but we are trying to meet the goals that we feel you will need as they grow to

build and stuff like that. The Police Chief, the Mayor, Fire Marshal and Barb have been helping him with the directives and you can present to your developer. They don't want to sit still and wait until the last minute and they start building and then we're behind. Beverly said they have spoken to some people and the attractive thing is community policing. The more information they have the better. Joe said they are going to get it together and do a presentation to council and then to the public.

Public Works

John Stratz said he is very happy to say they have gotten half of the lights up. They should be finishing the project the following week. They did start to charge a little bit of the scenario. His expectation was to do the major roadway lighting first and then do the residential but they decided to zip right through and put up all the residential first and then do the complicated stuff on Route 1, the corner of Neshaminy and Route 1 putting up the two new posts which will be coming later in the week. They are on schedule to finish in one more week. He's very happy with their progress. Beverly said John stayed on top of them and that this was a project that was way overdue. Beverly thanked John for his hard work.

Long Range Finance

Beverly Wolfe said before Gary Nickerson makes his report, he had asked for some tasks for that committee and she did come up with a couple. She's still working with input from council. Morrisville recently entered a contest with HDTV for ugly town contest or whatever it was. That's the kind of stuff that might be worthwhile for Long Range Finance to start seeking out. Other opportunities for finance other than the traditional grant route and the DCED. Maybe there is other opportunities with nature conservancies or Extreme Makeover the town addition which might be something worth looking at. The second one is very important. She would like them to start looking at LERTA. Looking at that not only as an incentive for people coming into our town wanting to set up shop but also for business owners who are presently here. LERTA is a tax incentive. Let's say the hardware store wanted to put a new frontage on or an addition. That addition would cost them money in property tax because they would be reassessed for whatever the addition would be. LERTA would allow them over a period of time for that portion, year one would be tax free. Maybe the same for year two. On year three maybe we take it to 20% and so on until they are up to where they should be but it would be an incentive for people to maintain and add on to their property. It's also an incentive to the developers. Their eyes lit up when that was mentioned and most municipalities that are doing redevelopment have LERTA in place. You need the cooperation of the local school district as well. That is something they should look at.

MOTION BY MARK MOFFA TO DIRECT LONG RANGE FINANCE TO LOOK INTO OTHER FORMS OF CONTESTS OR GRANTS, TOWN IMPROVEMENT IDEAS AND TO LOOK INTO LERTA PLUS ANY OTHER TAX ABATEMENT INCENTIVES THEY CAN FIND. SECONDED BY GARY NICKERSON. All ayes, motion carried.

Gary Nickerson said Bud Murphy is currently on the Long-Range Finance Committee and he believes they are looking to remove him from Long Range Finance and insert him as an alternate to the Zoning Hearing Board.

MOTION BY GARY NICKERSON TO REMOVE BUD MURPHY FROM THE LONG-RANGE FINANCE BOARD. Mark Moffa said you can't be on zoning and anything else so let's lay off putting him on zoning because he's on planning already and leave the zoning alternate position open. The move tonight would be to take Bud off of Long-Range Finance and appoint the two new members. SECONDED BY JOE DUDASH. Laura Germain asked if he knew about this

and Mark said yes. Mark said Bud said he would help with any vacancies they had. He did not have a preference. At a previous meeting they appointed him to both Long Range Finance and the Planning Commission because they had spots. Two other members of the public expressed interest in Long Range Finance so he went back to Bud and asked if he cared if they took him off and let the people who really wanted to be on it be on it and he did not care. John Stratz asked if they needed a signed piece of paper from him. Mark said they determined that from a move they made with the Revitalization Task Force, the borough council has the authority. Ben said that is under a resolution for the certain committee which was the task force he believes. Beverly said Long Range Finance is by resolution as well. Barbara Heffelfinger said that maybe they should wait and get it straightened out. Mark said the next borough council meeting is before the next Long-Range Finance meeting so they could wait. Beverly said to let's be uniform with what they do. Mark said they have the application from the two new people. The missing piece is the resignation from Bud.

MOTION BY GARY NICKERSON TO TABLE THE MOTION TO REMOVE BUD MURPHY FROM THE LONG-RANGE FINANCE BOARD. SECONDED BY JOE DUDASH. All ayes, motion carried.

MOTION BY GARY NICKERSON TO APPOINT LOUISE DICKEN TO THE LONG-RANGE FINANCE COMMITTEE. SECONDED BY JOE DUDASH. All ayes, motion carried.

Old Business

Mark Moffa said at the last meeting borough council passed a resolution encouraging PennDOT to give us pedestrian and bicycle crossing on the Hulmeville Ave. bridge. That same evening, he believes due to some communication between Carol, Barbara and Middletown Township, Middletown Township did approve the letter of support for Penndel's request to PennDOT and have submitted their letter to PennDOT. Mark said he gave a template for a letter of support to Langhorne Manor Borough and he went to explain to them at their meeting what was going on with the bridge and showed them the resolution Penndel had passed and the one that Middletown passed and asked if they would consider doing the same thing. They said they would and voted at their meeting to also send a letter to PennDOT. He doesn't believe they sent it yet so he will stay on top of them about it. They were a little confused about why they didn't get a presentation from PennDOT about the bridge when Penndel did which was not about the bridge but was about the intersection but we were able to ask questions about the bridge. They are going to ask PennDOT for a presentation about the bridge. Beverly said we didn't get one. They came in per Carol's request for the bridge. Carol said she reached out to the project managers who came in and met with us during the day at borough hall and provided plans for the bridge and went through the project and answered their questions. Beverly said there was no formal presentation. By the time Carol was able to get them in here, it was already out for bid. Mark said they almost didn't give a letter of support because they did not get a presentation from PennDOT. Beverly said it is a delicate coordination with CSX who is ultimately the one who controls the whole thing because they have to stop trains. PennDOT had been waiting for CSX. Mark said one other thing that came out of the meeting with Langhorne Manor was if we could help them out with the roving speed limit sign. Joe Dudash said the mayor up there was going to contact our mayor about it. Bob Winkler said it's up in Langhorne. It belongs to the four boroughs. The problem is that nobody wants to pay for the repairs to it. Bob said it was from a grant done by the four boroughs. Mark said he doesn't think they know they have part ownership in it. Rich Keller asked if there was a timeframe on the repair of the bridge. Beverly said they were told it would be completed in spring of 2021. Bob Winkler said they first started with the bridge in May of 2007.

New Business

MOTION BY JOHN STRATZ TO APPROVE CHANGE ORDER #2 FOR THE PUMP STATION #2 RETROFIT PROJECT. Beverly said all of council has it and it basically negates each other. SECONDED BY BARBARA HEFFELFINGER. All ayes, motion carried.

MOTION BY JOHN STRATZ TO APPROVE ESTIMATE #80358901 FROM ZOOM DRAIN FOR SEWER LATERAL REPAIRS AT 146 AND 212 BELLEVUE AVENUE IN THE AMOUNT OF \$6,320.28 AS PER THE ENGINEER'S REPORT. SECONDED BY MARK MOFFA. All ayes, motion carried.

MOTION BY BARBARA HEFFELFINGER TO APPROVE ESTIMATE #80373057 FROM ZOOM DRAIN FOR SEWER LATERAL REPAIRS AT 218 AND 224 BELLEVUE AVENUE IN THE AMOUNT OF \$8,089.43. SECONDED BY JOHN STRATZ. All ayes, motion carried. Barbara Heffelfinger asked Amanda Mieluch not to leave until she can talk to her.

Persons to be heard

Rich Keller, 107 W. Woodland Ave., wanted to thank everyone for their hard work. He said he doesn't get out here much and he apologizes for that. He would like to attend monthly meetings but it coincides with his monthly union meetings but as he's come to these couple of work sessions regarding the sidewalks. He's been where they've been on the streets committee and it's the worst part of your life but it has to be done. The curbs and sidewalks are an important part of safety in the borough. It helps with water runoff and makes the borough more attractive. Keep up the good work. It has to get done. Unfortunately, weather has been an enemy. Let's hope for a good March and a week or two in April. Beverly thanked Rich for saying that. She said they kind of get beat up a lot so it is nice to hear somebody be appreciative. They try their best.

Louise Dicken, 125 Centre St., said thank you for the appointment and she will try to do a good job. She said she would like to thank Bob, Carol and Barbara for all the hard work they do to get grants. She doesn't think people in the borough realize what is involved to do that and she thinks they should make the borough aware of how much they've gotten for this borough in a years' time that saves the taxpayer's dollars. She thinks they should get an accommodation for what they do. Beverly said they publish that as part of their budget now and have had it in the borough newsletter. Beverly said \$1,200,000.00 since January of 2018. Louise said that's incredible for a borough this size.

MOTION BY BARBARA HEFFELFINGER TO ADJOURN THE MEETING AT 9:27 P.M. SECONDED BY MARK MOFFA. All ayes, motion carried.

Submitted by: _____
Marie Serota, Secretary/Treasurer