

JUNE 5, 2013
WAYNESBORO, PA 17268
WORK SESSION MEETING

Council Vice-President Wayne Driscoll called the special meeting of the Waynesboro Borough Council to order at 1:00 p.m. with the following in attendance:

Borough Council Members – Benjamin Greenawalt, Craig Newcomer, Darrel Potts,
and Wayne Driscoll

Mayor Richard Starliper

Borough Staff – Lloyd R. Hamberger, II, Borough Manager
Jason Cohen, Assistant Borough Manager
Dan Sheffler, Zoning-Code Enforcement Officer
Kevin Grubbs, Head of Engineering Services

Public In Attendance - Harry Morningstar, Jr., Craig Marhle

NEW BUSINESS

CROSSWALK SIGNALS OBSTRUCTION AT INTERSECTION OF W. MAIN ST. & FAIRVIEW AVE

In light of the severe pedestrian accident that occurred on May 20, 2013, Mr. Hamberger explained that he, Mr. Cohen, Mr. Grubbs, Mr. Benshoff, and Chief Sourbier had all collectively conversed about this matter and had all met on site with the Shade Tree Commission to review the situation, and are in complete agreement that the two street trees located directly to the East of the Rapid Flashing Beacon Lights on both the North and South side of the street, and the tree directly to the west on the South side of the intersection are creating (and will continue to create) an obstruction to the newly-installed signals and should be removed. Upon explanation that PennDot would also insist on their removal when performing the final inspection of the signals in order to release the reimbursement funds, the Shade Tree Commission agreed to the proposal. It was also noted that the trees could not be preserved as they were planted directly over the underground conduit powering the decorative street lamps. Mr. Hamberger also presented a video he shot for the benefit of Council and presented it at this time. He explained that unless any objections were stated, staff would be removing the trees in the very near future - no objections were made. Councilman Greenawalt noted the need to review all of the trees on Main St. with respect to sight distances.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

RENTAL INSPECTION PROGRAM

Mr. Hamberger offered an explanation of the memo he provided to Council recapping the Inspection Ordinance process to date, offering his opinion of the options on how to proceed, and Borough and state-level statistics regarding rental versus owner-occupied units, as well as those for local Borough's.

Mr. Hamberger explained his concern with respect the idea of a “narrow” inspection

program which had been previously brought up, in that an inspector would not be able to ignore genuine health, safety, and welfare issues seen in conjunction with an inspection for any purpose, but rather, would be obligated to see all such issues were addressed or possibly be held liable.

Mr Hamberger then briefly reviewed the Inspection Ordinances of other communities, noting their brevity, their uniform inspection time frame of two to three years, and the option of undertaking a registration program as opposed to an inspection program.

Councilman Newcomer explained that he was hearing that the fees were the greatest concern noted and asked if we could bargain to a lower rate, to which Mr. Hamberger explained that upon any change to the previously-crafted program, a new RFP would need to be issued to reflect those changes so the price was anticipated to change none-the-less.

Mr. Hamberger requested that Council review the provided Ordinances from other municipalities prior to the next Council meeting, and noted that if we are to adopt any type of inspection ordinance, the IPMC should be tailored to the needs of Waynesboro and be re-adopted as such.

Mayor Starliper asked if Council intended to address the owner-occupied units within the Borough in the same or any manner. Councilmen Driscoll and Newcomer concurred with one another that this was a separate issue as owners have the power to subject both themselves and others to certain living conditions, and if they choose to do so to themselves then that is their choice, but tenants have no such authority.

Mr Grubbs noted the need for some type of program because he has seen these conditions first hand, and the situation is not improving.

Mr Sheffler explained that he felt that there is a need for some type of inspection program to address at least the bare minimum standards regarding maintenance and health and safety issues.

Councilmen Driscoll and Newcomer stated that they believed that the color-coded system was leading to some confusion, and that possibly removing this system would lead to greater acceptance of the program.

Mr. Hamberger reiterated his request that Council review the provided Ordinances prior to the next Council meeting.

Having no further business to discuss, Councilman Newcomer made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Councilman Greenawalt. The motion passed unanimously and Council adjourned at 2:25.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jason H. Cohen
Assistant Manager