

**Red Lion Borough Council  
Meeting Minutes  
Monday, December 13<sup>th</sup>, 2021**

**Members present**

Tina Frutiger  
Muriel Slenker  
Stephanie Weaver  
Chris Minnich  
Dennis Klinedinst  
Tony Musso

**Others present**

Dianne Price, Borough Manager  
Mike Craley, Solicitor  
Jeff Shue, Engineer  
Brett Patterson, Public Works  
Randy Gray, Public Works  
Mayor Walt Hughes  
Stacy Myers, Recording Sec'y

**Visitors**

Samantha Craley  
Joyce & Denny Breneman  
Pastor David Tietje  
Mark & Sonya Holloway

Meredith Yakelis  
John Krantz  
Scott Gingrich  
Bob Frutiger

Katie Bulla  
Sue Knaub  
John Brownlee

1. The meeting was called to order @ 7:00p.m. Pastor Tietje from St. John's UCC lead a moment of silence & prayer that included the residents of Mayfield, Kentucky who were victims of devastating tornadoes recently. All followed with the pledge to the flag. Pastor Tietje also commended the Economic Development Committee who planned the Holiday Decorating Contest in the Borough. It's a warm welcoming sight in a world that can sometimes be depressing for some.
2. **Approval of Meeting Minutes**
  - Mrs. Frutiger made a motion to approve the November 1<sup>st</sup>, 2021 Work Session Minutes; Mr. Minnich seconded. All were in favor; motion carried.
  - Mrs. Frutiger made a motion to approve the November 8<sup>th</sup>, 2021 Council Meeting Minutes; Mr. Musso seconded. All were in favor; motion carried.
3. **Visitors & Public Comment**—no one to address Council
4. **Mayor Hughes' Remarks & Recommendations**—Mayor Hughes presented the awards from the Borough's first annual Lighted Tractor Parade, held on Saturday, November 27<sup>th</sup>. Mayor Hughes explained the idea for a Lighted Tractor Parade in Red Lion started in 2019 but was delayed due to the pandemic. Muriel Slenker (Councilwoman & Economic Development Committee member) found the event started in Ireland & the largest one in the U.S. is in Linesville, PA.  
Mayor Hughes gave a special thanks to the following:
  - Lighted Tractor Parade Committee (Councilwomen Muriel Slenker & Stephanie Weaver, Sue Knaub (Steam-O-Rama) & Sue's sister, Joan who created certificates for all the winners.
  - Dianne Price, Borough Manager who coordinated the permitting & helped in many areas.
  - Brett Patterson & the Public Works crew who set up the street barricades & helped with the Borough's float.
  - Dennis Klinedinst who served as Grand Marshall (also PA County President of FFA in 1965)
  - Chris Minnich who served as Santa Claus & did a great job!
  - Girl Scouts who distributed hats & gloves to children during the parade & after, at the park.
  - Chief Gingrich who kicked off the parade, helped with the music & built steps for the reviewing stand.
  - All sponsors & contributors for all their support as NO taxpayer money was used for this event. The event made approx. \$1,600! Thanks to ROARS & Donna Ward who assisted with the tax-exempt status requirements.
  - Fire Police for traffic control

- Judges—Andrew Mergler, John Krantz & Beth Innerst
- Council members & audience thanked Mayor Hughes for all his work during this fun event! Mayor Hughes announced the following winners:
- **Best Decorated Tractor Award** (sponsored by The Mill of Red Lion) went to Ted Grothe (received a certificate & \$250)
- **Best Decorated Antique Award** (sponsored by Steam-O-Rama) went to Sun Rock Cattle Company (received a certificate & \$250)
- **Best Display of Lights** (sponsored by Kocman Insurance) went to the Knaub family (received a certificate & \$250)
- **Mayor's Award** (sponsored by C.S. Davidson Engineers) went to Peters Produce of Red Lion (received a certificate & \$350)
- **Best in Show** (sponsored by Artemis) went to The Family Tree Farm (received a certificate & \$500)

As this is Mayor Hughes' last meeting, he thanked everyone in Red Lion for their support. He is honored by the opportunity to serve and work with Council, Borough staff & the Red Lion community.

5. **Public Safety**—Ms. Weaver said the Fire Company, Ambulance & EMA Reports were distributed. Chief Gingrich asked about a time for road closure on New Year's Eve. Mrs. Price will let Chief know for sure, typically it's 10pm.  
Council President Musso stated tonight is also Ms. Weaver's last meeting. He thanked her for her years of service on Borough Council and her work for the good of Red Lion & its residents.
6. **Solicitor's Report**—Mr. Craley reported:
  - 153 Linden Avenue (Melissa Wilson property)—a status hearing with Judge Trebilcock was held last week. Ms. Wilson did a wonderful job cleaning up her property and, although there is still one inoperable vehicle on the property, she promised it would be gone in two weeks. The remainder of Ms. Wilson's unpaid fines were abated because of all her hard work cleaning up her property.
  - Council's Reorganization Meeting (January 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2022)—Samantha Craley will be present to give new Council members the Oath of Office & Affidavit of Residency.
7. **Engineer's Report**—Jeff Shue reported:
  - Work on the 2022 Street Work contracts is being done so they can be bid early in the year.
  - All paperwork for 2021 paving work has been finalized.
  - His office continues to monitor & inspect work conducted at Rutter's (Winterstown Rd.)
  - The temporary construction easement for work at Lion Pharmacy has been received, signed & notarized. Jeff also brought the traffic signal plans tonight (related to the widening at the square) for Council signatures. Jeff anticipates this work being bid in February 2022. The State has already permitted the work & committed the funds to the Borough. Jeff said the only delay he foresees would be the receipt of the materials; that's why he wants to bid it early for a start date right after April 1<sup>st</sup>, 2022.
8. **Parks & Recreation**—Meredith Yakelis reported:
  - EYC Basketball (grades 7-12) started tonight. Games will start after January 1<sup>st</sup>.
  - Cheerleading starts the week between Christmas & New Year's with 80 girls signed up.
  - Softball started Wednesday, 12/8 & will continue Wednesday nights for anyone who wants to attend.
  - Santa letters—a lot were received this year and Meredith answers all of them individually.
  - Santa Breakfast was well attended & very successful!
  - Santa's Shanty saw a low turnout because of the cold weather, but Santa (Chris Minnich) did great & the children who attended had fun.

- New Year's Eve—plans are set, bands scheduled & advertisements for the programs are being sold. Programs will be printed shortly.  
ROARS has donated \$4,200 to offset fireworks cost for the evening (\$8,500). \$4,000 was budgeted for this event as the normal cost is \$4,500, but due to rising expenses & a shortage of fireworks, the cost increased a good bit this year. Discussions with ROARS will take place after the new year, as they're a great source for funding.

9. **Municipal Services**—Mr. Minnich reported:

- Wednesday, December 15<sup>th</sup>—water shut offs for delinquent bills
- Tuesday, December 14<sup>th</sup>—Red Lion Municipal Authority Meeting @ 7:00p.m.

10. **Public Works**—Mr. Klinedinst reported:

- Used trailer is available for sale at Public Works building—Mr. Klinedinst made a motion to sell the trailer to Tony Musso for \$50 (otherwise, it would be scrapped). Mr. Minnich seconded. Motion carried with Mr. Musso abstaining.
- Two handicapped parking space requests received—
  - 125 W. Gay Street—Mr. Klinedinst tabled this till next month to verify whether or not there are already two handicapped spaces in that block.  
Mark Holloway (resident of W. Gay Street) said it's frustrating when the people who request the handicapped space can easily walk 50-100 ft. or more & those who really need the space can't get it.  
If the resident brings paperwork to the Borough Office to prove their disability, that's acceptable. Otherwise, if there is already one handicapped space in the block, a request for a 2<sup>nd</sup> one gets denied.  
Of note, the handicapped space is not dedicated to the applicant. The space can be used by anyone with a handicapped license plate or placard.
  - 172 S. Franklin Street—Mr. Klinedinst denied this request as there is already one in that block & Council made the decision months ago to only have 1 space per block.
  - After the new year, Mr. Klinedinst (if still Chairman of this Committee) will review the list of handicapped parking spaces in the Borough & eliminate duplicates and monitor the spaces. Mr. Craley stated the general rule is one handicapped space per every 25 spaces, so the Borough is being generous with one space/block.
- 2022 Road Projects—Mr. Klinedinst urged Council to add their input & get involved. Mrs. Price stated a lot of the proposed work for 2022 is on alleys/lanes and will be more reclamation than anything. We won't need to worry about material shortages because there isn't a lot of storm sewer work to be done in those areas.
- The Municipal Authority recently completed a sewer manhole replacement project on Railroad Lane and because it's unclear if a compaction test was or was not performed per an agreement between the Borough & Authority, the Borough did not close out the Authority's permit. Mr. Klinedinst said this will be discussed tomorrow night at RLMA's meeting.
- Sidewalk report—sidewalks are typically repaired/replaced in conjunction with the street projects, but Mr. Klinedinst stated a Henrietta Street sidewalk where a tree was removed still poses a tripping hazard. Mrs. Price will contact the homeowner again.
- Ivy Drive—Kinsley performed work after a gas leak & never installed the rolled curb afterward. Borough staff will research this.
- Mr. Klinedinst reported of a recent water leak on Dixie Drive where a lot of mud was washed into the street. He suggested the Borough bring the sweeper to aid Municipal employees but that didn't happen, and he believes the Borough & Municipal Authority need to start working together more amicably. Mrs. Price said she spoke to John Krantz about the situation and said she was short 3 employees the day of the leak & didn't have the ability to get the sweeper to Dixie Drive. John said the Authority didn't mind taking the VAC truck to the area and both he & Mrs. Price said things are going well between the two entities.

11. **Planning, Zoning & Redevelopment**—Mrs. Slenker reported:
- No Planning Commission or Zoning Hearing will be held this month.
  - Economic Development will hold judging for the Holiday Decorating Contest this Thursday, December 16<sup>th</sup>. It was requested to post the addresses of the contest entries online so people can drive by to view them. The Committee will discuss whether or not this will be done.
  - Hometown Heroes Street Banner Program has a deadline of December 31<sup>st</sup>; however, this will be extended for those interested in purchasing a banner. To date, approx. 15 banners have been purchased.
  - A Garden Tour is being planned for Spring 2022.
12. **Administration**—Mrs. Frutiger reported:
- Approval of 2022 Budget—Mrs. Frutiger made a motion to approve the 2022 Borough Budget; Mr. Musso seconded. Union employees will stay at the same rate until the contract is signed/passed. Contract deadline is December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2021; however, contract negotiations have been known to go months past the deadline.  
Of note, the Special Events Coordinator helps with Borough-sponsored events & not those events planned/sponsored by other committees.  
A vote was taken on the above motion; motion carried, 4-2 (Klinedinst & Weaver opposing).
  - Randy Gray has resigned from his position in the Public Works Department, as he plans to move to Florida on January 6<sup>th</sup>. Borough Council thanked Randy for his years of employment.  
Two laborers have been hired, Scott Urey & Dillon Ward. One will start December 14<sup>th</sup> & the other will start December 20<sup>th</sup>.
  - Ordinance 2021-12-1 to set millage rates at 4.0mils for General purposes and .3mils for Fire Protection (increased from .2mils) has been advertised and is before Council for action. Mrs. Frutiger made a motion to approve Ordinance 2021-12-1; Mr. Minnich seconded. Motion carried, 5-1 (Klinedinst opposing).
  - 2022 Meeting Schedule—Mrs. Price presented the meeting schedule for Council review prior to advertisement. Once the Committees confirm their meetings, it can be advertised again (2<sup>nd</sup> advertisement to be only Committee dates, not a full ad).  
Mr. Klinedinst made a motion to advertise the 2022 Meeting Schedule; Mrs. Slenker seconded. All were in favor; motion carried.
  - Danny Neff will visit the proposed Borough Offices this week (former Pleasant View Church) to look at the HVAC system.
13. **Communication**—nothing further
14. **Other Borough business**—With this being Mayor Hughes' last meeting, Mr. Musso said Walt Hughes has been part of Red Lion Borough since 1991, first serving as Police Chief, then on Borough Council, as Council President and now Mayor. After 30 years, he's stepping down from actively serving the Borough. Mr. Musso thanked Mr. Hughes for his time, dedication and for all he's done for the community and being a special part of Red Lion and Mr. Musso's family.
15. **Approval of bills**—Mrs. Frutiger made a motion to approve the bills; Mr. Minnich seconded. All were in favor; motion carried.  
Of note, Mayor Hughes stated the salaries for elected officials are set by statute of the law in the Borough Code and Red Lion Borough Council takes the minimum, although they could take a lot more. He believes that is commendable & noteworthy.
16. **Adjournment**—Mr. Klinedinst made a motion to adjourn the meeting @ 8:03p.m. Motion carried, meeting adjourned.  
Mr. Musso thanked all of Council, the Borough staff, & Mayor Hughes for all their hard work this year. Merry Christmas & Happy New Year to all!

Respectfully submitted by:

Stacy Myers, Recording Secretary