

**NEWVILLE BOROUGH COUNCIL
PUBLIC WORK SESSION
NOVEMBER 6, 2018 AT 7:00PM**

A public work session of the Newville Borough Council was held on Tuesday, November 6, 2018 in the Newville Borough Office, 4 West Street, Newville, Pennsylvania. The meeting was called to order by President Russell Gould at 7:00PM. The invocation was offered by Solicitor Marcus McKnight, III, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. On roll call, the following members were present: Joey Diehl, Clarence Fry, Robert Over, Bradlee Rickabaugh and Russell Gould. Kristina Keebaugh was absent. Also present were Mayor Randy Finkey, Borough Solicitor Marcus A. McKnight, III, LEMC Robert L. Barrick, Jr. Visitors: Charles and Charlotte Johnson, Diane Weidner, David Keebaugh, Larry Burkholder, Robert and Linda Markley, Jackie Kaltenbaugh, Edmund Strohm, Beverly Gilbert. News media: Andy Milone for the Valley Times Star.

Public Safety: Local Emergency Management Coordinator explained to the audience a proposal for improving parking and traffic flow on East and West Main Street. (1.) Establish no parking on the north side of East Main Street from the Laughlin Mill Bridge to North Corporation Street, (2.) Establish a no parking restriction on the north side of East Main Street from North Corporation Street to Springfield Avenue Monday through Friday from 6:00AM to 6:00PM. Normal parking will resume on the weekends. Mr. Barrick also explained that he contacted Deitch Bus Company and learned that school buses travel Main Street from 6:10AM to 5:30PM. There are 105 bus trips in the time span of 680 minutes. The bus company noted there is an extreme safety hazard for buses turning onto East Main Street from South High Street. If cars are parked in the area of the traffic light, buses find it difficult to negotiate the turn. The intersection may become blocked by the school bus until traffic clears. Mr. Barrick observed that during the day there is sufficient parking on the south side of Main Street to support the parking restrictions. Mr. Barrick urged the council to take action in the interest of public safety.

President Gould then opened the floor to discussion:

Larry Burkholder asked if the double yellow line would be adjusted to accommodate the parking changes, and if the centerline is adjusted, there would be confusion when parking resumed in the evening and on weekends. Mr. Burkholder also observed that opening the parking on one side of Main Street would allow cars and trucks to pass through the borough more quickly. He suggested this would be an even greater safety hazard. Another concern was snow removal. Mr. Burkholder is concerned that with no parking on the north side of Main Street, PennDOT will plow the sidewalks closed in the winter.

Jackie Kaltenbaugh said his vehicle was struck three times while parked in front of his East Main Street home. The accidents all occurred at night, when school buses were not in operation. Mr. Kaltenbaugh stated speeding, not parking is the problem on Main Street.

Diane Weidner suggested that council is more interested in accommodating bus and truck traffic on Main Street than resident safety. She complained of noise at all hours of the day and night, exhaust fumes and dust from the trucks. She also complained about speeding on Main Street.

Bob Markley told council changing the parking would be inconvenient for residents who wish to park in front of their homes. He parks in front of his home to only when taking passengers or loading or unloading his vehicle. He complained of motorcycles parking on Main Street, along with junk or abandoned vehicles.

David Keebaugh complained about abandoned vehicles on Main Street taking up parking spaces. He provided the description of several vehicles.

Charles Johnson stated he was opposed to changing the parking on Main Street just to accommodate the school buses.

Other complaints/comments included:

- Insufficient handicapped parking on Main Street.
- Lack of defined parking spaces.
- Some residents favored a return of parking meters to control parking.
- A suggestion was made to purchase truck scales and inspect the trucks traveling through the borough.
- Lack of adequate parking on Main Street without new parking restrictions.
- Tenants parking on Main Street rather than utilizing off-street parking.
- Increased safety patrols by the Cumberland County Landfill of trash trucks along the east haul route are urgently needed.
- Mayor Finkey commented that truck enforcement cannot be undertaken until the manpower situation improves. He suggested that Council re-open discussions with the neighboring municipalities regarding a by-pass road.

Borough Council explained the actions that it has taken regarding parking on Main Street and High Street.

- Council has adopted a plan to acquire properties in the area of North and South High Street, East and West Main Street to develop off-street municipal parking.
- Council has applied to the Redevelopment Authority for a \$85,000 Community Development Block Grant to acquire a property for off-street parking.
- Authorized the Manager to meet with PennDOT to discuss the turnback of state highways to municipal control. The borough planned to impose weight limitations on the roads to restrict truck traffic through the borough. PennDOT advised it will not turnback Legislative Traffic Routes as a matter of policy.
- Council has appealed to the Tri-County Planning Commission and HATS for a traffic mobility study that will require trucks utilizing the warehouses in Penn Township and West Pennsboro Township to utilize I-81 to the PA Turnpike at Middlesex, rather than SR 0641, Main Street. This would include improved directional signage at the Newville interchange of I-81, and also at the distribution centers.

In summarizing the resident's comments, Borough Council set forth several ideas for the improvement of parking on Main Street and High Street:

- Continue to pursue off-street parking on Main and High streets and the Community Development Block Grant in the amount of \$85,000. Apply for additional funds as they become available.
- Define parking spaces on Main and High streets by seeking a proposal from Alpha Space Control to mark the parking spaces with white lines. Work may be deferred to spring due to cold weather.
- Consider establishing handicapped parking spaces on East Main Street, West Main Street, North High Street and South High Street.
- Increase traffic enforcement for speeding on Main and High streets. Address abandoned vehicles.
- Address landlords who not supplying adequate spaces for off-street parking, which is a requirement to the issuance of a rental license. PA Municipal Code Alliance will be instructed to step-up enforcement of the off-street parking during their 2019 rental inspections.
- Request the safety officer of the Cumberland County Landfill to conduct increased speed enforcement on the haul route.

President Gould stated borough council will consider these actions at an upcoming Council meeting.

Recreation: Mrs. Rickabaugh presented a proposal from Yost Power Equipment to purchase chainlink fence and poles for the backstop and also to complete the installation of chain-link fence on top of the new retaining walls. The total cost is \$3,726 exclusive of shipping that will be charged once the order is placed. This proposal is significantly less and covers more work than a proposal provided by George Ely and Associates for the backstop alone that totaled \$5,230. Mrs. Rickabaugh stated the Public Works Department would like to install the backstop and fence before the end of the year. The purchase will be eligible for reimbursement under the USDA park grant. A motion was made by Mrs. Diehl, seconded by Mr. Over to authorize the purchase of the chain-link fence and material from Yost Power Equipment at a cost of \$3,726.00. All were in favor. Motion was passed with five (5) affirmative and zero (0) negative votes.

Mrs. Rickabaugh announced that a meeting with county officials to tour the Newville Ribbon Mill has been tentatively set for Thursday, November 15, 2018 at 1:30PM.

Adjournment: With no further business to come before the Newville Borough Council the meeting was adjourned at 8:17PM on a motion of Mr. Over, seconded by Mr. Fry. All were in favor. Motion was passed with five (5) affirmative and zero (0) negative votes.

The next work session of the Newville Borough Council will be held on December 4, 2018 at 7:00PM in the Newville Borough Office, 4 West Street, Newville, Pennsylvania.

Minutes recorded by:



Fred A. Potzer, Borough Manager/Secretary