MINUTES OF REGULAR SESSION OF COUNCIL

March 22, 2023

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Regular session of Borough Council convened at 6:00 pm. Present were Councilors Mike Matlos, Tim Sloss, Janice Matyasovsky, Chris Ponchak, Elizabeth Lape and Michael Zrenchak, Mayor Sikorski, Solicitor Matt Racunas and Engineer Don Glenn. Councilor David Sowa was not in attendance.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

**Carl Surgeon – 605 River Ridge Road:** Mr. Surgeon asked if a decision was ever made about the crossing signs.Mr. Zrenchak stated that Mr. Sowa was working on that and he is not in attendance this evening. He asked Mr. Matlos if Mr. Sowa said anything to him regarding the signs. Mr. Ponchak said that he found some sign examples to show Council. Mr. Matlos said that there are crossing signs up now that people ignore so why waste money on more signs. Mr. Surgeon said that he walks his dog anywhere between 9 and dark at Scene Ridge and Liberty Way. Mr. Zrenchak asked Sergeant Mayernik to determine times during the different shifts to monitor the situation. Mr. Ponchak said that maybe a new, brighter sign would catch peoples’ eye. Mr. Matlos said that there is one at Memory, Elizabeth and her (Southern). Mr. Zrenchak said that he knows David is working on it and was going to talk with Mr. Matlos. He also told Sergeant Mayernik that, now that it is getting warmer, if someone wants extra hours to maybe out them on a small detail where they move from crosswalk to crosswalk.

**PROPERTY:** Chris Ponchak

Mr. Ponchak stated that they met with the Blight Committee and went over some properties and they are going to look at some ordinances.

**POLICE, FIRE and EMS:** Michael Zrenchak

Mr. Ponchak read the Fire Department Report for February 2023:

Fires 1

Rescue & EMS 2

Good Intent Call 1

False Alarm & False Call 2

Total 6

He announced that the Fire Department is having a Fish Fry on April 7th from 11am to 7pm. It is eat-in or take-out. They would appreciate the support of the community.

Mr. Ponchak read the EMS Report:

Life Threats 9

Serious 9

Stable-Advance Care 2

Stable-Basic Care 3

Stand by/assist no treatment 6

Total 29

Average response time was 9.3 minutes.

Mr. Ponchak read the Police Vehicle Report for February 2023.

Car 130 770 miles

Car 131 110 miles

Car 131(New Ford) 695 miles

Car 132 114 miles

New tires for #130 $147.14 Mount and Balance $30.00

Routine washes on all vehicles.

**LEGISLATION:** David Sowa

Mr. Zrenchak stated that Mr. Sowa met with the Blight Committee as well and discussed some ordinances so between the Blight Committee, Property, and Legislation they should get some things together.

**PARKS & RECREATION:** Janice Matyasovsky

Mrs. Matyasovsky stated that they had the Senior Dinner on Tuesday, March 14, 2023 at the Liberty Borough Fire Hall. She said that there was about 60 people there and it was very nice.

Mrs. Matyasovsky announced that the Easter Egg Hunt will be held on April 1, 2023 at 12:00pm at the Manor Ball Field for kids under 10 years of age.

**HEALTH & ORDINANCE**: Chris Ponchak

Mr. Ponchak had nothing to report.

**LIGHTS:** Michael Matlos

Mr. Matlos reported that there are 3 lights out and Duquesne Light has been notified.

**FINANCE:** Elizabeth Lape

**Motion to Pay:** Bills for Ratification of $190,277.98 and List of Bills to Pay $14,564.61.

**Motion: Mr. Matlos Second: Mr. Sloss**

**All in favor. Motion carries.**

**Bills for Ratification:**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 02/23/2023 | EFT | ADP [CHECKS] | -13,251.77 |
| 02/23/2023 | EFT | ADP | -4,776.21 |
| 02/23/2023 | EFT | ADP [CHECKS] | -148.18 |
| 02/23/2023 | EFT | ADP | -32.68 |
| 03/07/2023 | EFT | PA SCDU | -82.52 |
| 03/09/2023 | EFT | ADP [CHECKS] | -12,464.97 |
| 03/09/2023 | EFT | ADP | -4,387.90 |
| 03/08/2023 | 4581 | DUQUESNE LIGHT CO | -3,507.81 |
| 02/23/2023 | 12456 | Donald Barkley | -3,450.00 |
| 03/08/2023 | 12457 | AMERICAN WATER | -79.07 |
| 03/08/2023 | 12458 | GLENN ENGINEERING & ASSOC | -230.00 |
| 03/08/2023 | 12459 | PA AMERICAN WATER | -97,559.06 |
| 03/08/2023 | 12460 | PA MUNICIPAL SERVICE CO | -990.88 |
| 02/23/2023 | 23173 | TEAMSTERS LOCAL UNION #205 | -188.00 |
| 02/23/2023 | 23174 | PA MUNICIPAL RETIREMENT SYSTEM | -623.68 |
| 02/23/2023 | 23191 | PA AMERICAN WATER | -369.29 |
| 02/23/2023 | 23192 | QUILL | -33.18 |
| 02/27/2023 | 23193 | Swede Construction Corp | -32,117.50 |
| 03/08/2023 | 23194 | AFLAC | -223.36 |
| 03/08/2023 | 23195 | AMERICAN LEGAL SERVICES | 0.00 |
| 03/08/2023 | 23196 | AQUA FILTER FRESH INC | -11.24 |
| 03/08/2023 | 23197 | CargoRaxx LLC | -696.80 |
| 03/08/2023 | 23198 | CENTER INDEPENDENT ENERGY | -28.34 |
| 03/08/2023 | 23199 | DERKAS AUTO SERVICE | -290.50 |
| 03/08/2023 | 23200 | FIRST COMMONWEALTH BANK (CREDIT CARD) | -641.69 |
| 03/08/2023 | 23201 | GLENN ENGINEERING & ASSOC | -4,951.75 |
| 03/08/2023 | 23202 | HOME DEPOT | -44.26 |
| 03/08/2023 | 23203 | MCI | -31.28 |
| 03/08/2023 | 23204 | MON VALLEY INDEPENDENT | -462.00 |
| 03/08/2023 | 23205 | NAPA AUTO PARTS | -148.97 |
| 03/08/2023 | 23206 | PA AMERICAN WATER | -1,197.70 |
| 03/08/2023 | 23207 | PEOPLES NATURAL GAS | -805.31 |
| 03/08/2023 | 23208 | Pest b Gone | -1,500.00 |
| 03/08/2023 | 23209 | Safsecur LLC | -808.34 |
| 03/08/2023 | 23210 | SHERWIN WILLIAMS CO | -271.73 |
| 03/08/2023 | 23211 | STEEL RIVERS COG | -28.71 |
| 03/08/2023 | 23212 | T-MOBILE | -175.83 |
| 03/08/2023 | 23213 | THE PENNSYLVANIA STATE UNIVERSITY | -499.00 |
| 03/08/2023 | 23214 | AMERICAN NATURAL SUPPLY LLC | -2,717.79 |
| 03/08/2023 | 23215 | RUSSELL STANDARD CORP | -400.00 |
| 03/09/2023 | 23216 | AMERICAN LEGAL SERVICES | -50.68 |
|  |  |  | -190,277.98 |

**List of Bills to Pay:**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **AMERICAN WATER** |  |  |  |  |
|  |  | 03/01/2023 | 4000254986 | 03/11/2023 | 80.09 |
|  | Total AMERICAN WATER |  |  |  | 80.09 |
|  | **AMTRUST NORTH AMERICA** |  |  |  |  |
|  |  | 03/10/2023 | 17594925 | 03/20/2023 | 3,886.00 |
|  | Total AMTRUST NORTH AMERICA |  |  |  | 3,886.00 |
|  | **AQUA FILTER FRESH INC** |  |  |  |  |
|  |  | 03/13/2023 | 4.46 |  | -4.46 |
|  | Total AQUA FILTER FRESH INC |  |  |  | -4.46 |
|  | **BUILDING INSPECTION UNDERWRITERS OF PA** |  |  |  |  |
|  |  | 02/28/2023 | 80380 | 03/10/2023 | 55.00 |
|  | Total BUILDING INSPECTION UNDERWRITERS OF PA |  |  |  | 55.00 |
|  | **CARA SLOSS** |  |  |  |  |
|  |  | 03/20/2023 | Flowers | 03/30/2023 | 159.42 |
|  | Total CARA SLOSS |  |  |  | 159.42 |
|  | **CHRISTIE AND ASSOCIATES** |  |  |  |  |
|  |  | 03/13/2023 | 4205 | 03/23/2023 | 641.00 |
|  | Total CHRISTIE AND ASSOCIATES |  |  |  | 641.00 |
|  | **COMCAST** |  |  |  |  |
|  |  | 03/03/2023 | 8993209080009060 | 03/13/2023 | 377.45 |
|  | Total COMCAST |  |  |  | 377.45 |
|  | **DUQUESNE LIGHT CO** |  |  |  |  |
|  |  | 03/02/2023 | 1744-720-000 | 03/12/2023 | 99.50 |
|  |  | 03/02/2023 | 0823-500-000 | 03/12/2023 | 105.28 |
|  |  | 03/02/2023 | 0744-720-000 | 03/12/2023 | 248.86 |
|  |  | 03/02/2023 | 3993-460-000 | 03/12/2023 | 197.71 |
|  | Total DUQUESNE LIGHT CO |  |  |  | 651.35 |
|  | **O'REILLY AUTO PARTS** |  |  |  |  |
|  |  | 03/15/2023 | 5219-218133 | 03/25/2023 | 56.47 |
|  | Total O'REILLY AUTO PARTS |  |  |  | 56.47 |
|  | **ONE DIGITAL** |  |  |  |  |
|  |  | 03/02/2023 | 10205-000116 ver.1 | 03/12/2023 | 40.00 |
|  |  | 03/18/2023 | 46940 | 03/28/2023 | 92.16 |
|  | Total ONE DIGITAL |  |  |  | 132.16 |
|  | **ORKIN EXTERMINATING** |  |  |  |  |
|  |  | 03/09/2023 | 236976411 | 03/19/2023 | 207.92 |
|  | Total ORKIN EXTERMINATING |  |  |  | 207.92 |
|  | **PA AMERICAN WATER** |  |  |  |  |
|  |  | 03/16/2023 | 1024-210034877260 | 03/26/2023 | 38.54 |
|  |  | 03/16/2023 | 1024-210030156299 | 03/26/2023 | 18.50 |
|  |  | 03/16/2023 | 1024-210033713752 | 03/26/2023 | 196.49 |
|  | Total PA AMERICAN WATER |  |  |  | 253.53 |
|  | **QUILL** |  |  |  |  |
|  |  | 03/09/2023 | 31270074 | 03/19/2023 | 1,199.88 |
|  | Total QUILL |  |  |  | 1,199.88 |
|  | **RACUNAS LAW GROUP LLC** |  |  |  |  |
|  |  | 02/01/2023 | 1643 | 02/11/2023 | 1,338.00 |
|  | Total RACUNAS LAW GROUP LLC |  |  |  | 1,338.00 |
|  | **SHERWIN WILLIAMS CO** |  |  |  |  |
|  |  | 03/09/2023 | 0267-2 | 03/19/2023 | 45.73 |
|  | Total SHERWIN WILLIAMS CO |  |  |  | 45.73 |
|  | **STEEL RIVERS COG** |  |  |  |  |
|  |  | 03/20/2023 | Annual Dinner | 03/30/2023 | 100.00 |
|  | Total STEEL RIVERS COG |  |  |  | 100.00 |
|  | **Triple "A" Express 'n More LLC** |  |  |  |  |
|  |  | 03/20/2023 | Fun To Be A Kid | 03/30/2023 | 75.00 |
|  | Total Triple "A" Express 'n More LLC |  |  |  | 75.00 |
|  | **UPMC HEALTH PLAN** |  |  |  |  |
|  |  | 03/09/2023 | ML0000328419 | 03/19/2023 | 5,197.60 |
|  | Total UPMC HEALTH PLAN |  |  |  | 5,197.60 |
|  | **VERIZON GARAGE** |  |  |  |  |
|  |  | 03/09/2023 | 450-731-927-0001-53 | 03/19/2023 | 57.47 |
|  | Total VERIZON GARAGE |  |  |  | 57.47 |
|  | **WESTCOM WIRELESS INC** |  |  |  |  |
|  |  | 03/14/2023 | 1190 | 03/24/2023 | 55.00 |
|  | Total WESTCOM WIRELESS INC |  |  |  | 55.00 |
| **TOTAL** | |  |  |  | **14,564.61** |

**PERSONNEL:** Tim Sloss

**Motion to hire** Leah Yarborough as the custodian for the Liberty Borough Municipal Building.

**Motion: Mr. Matlos Second: Mrs. Lape**

**All in favor. Motion carries.**

**Motion to ratify** the start date of March 8, 2023 for Alexander Edwards as a part-time police officer for the Liberty Borough Police Department.

**Motion: Mr. Matlos Second: Mr. Ponchak**

**All in favor. Motion carries.**

**STREETS AND SEWERS:** Tim Sloss

**Motion to reimburse** Donald Barkley of 3415 Liberty Way $259.99 for A-! Sewer Cleaning invoice.

**Motion: Mr. Matlos Second: Mrs. Lape**

**All in favor. Motion carries.**

Mr. Zrenchak clarified that Mr. Barkley had a sewer back-up due to the sewer lignin shifting. This invoice was overlooked last month when he was reimbursed.

**MAYOR’S REPORT:** Larry Sikorski, Mayor

Mayor Sikorski read the Police Report for February 2023:

Traffic Stops 55

Domestic Disturbances 2

Disorderly Person 1

Assault 1

Assist to other Police 24

Assist to EMS 19

Assist to Fire Department 3

Ordinance Complaint 3

Suspicious Activity 2

Welfare Checks 2

Juvenile Complaints 1

Animal Complaints 2

Shots Fired 1 Unfounded

Business Checks 6

School Bus Stop Details 7

Mayor Sikorski thanked Sergeant Mayernik for the report.

**SOLICITOR’S REPORT:** Matt Racunas

Solicitor Racunas had no action items for this month.

**ENGINEER’S REPORT:** Don Glenn

Mr. Glenn attempted to make a final inspection at eh Manor Field Restrooms and he is asking Council to make the decision to pay Swede Construction subject to the following:

The locks at the Men’s and Ladies’ rooms did not operate properly and the lock at the storage room did not allow entry. He needs to make an interior inspection before the invoice is paid. The contractor needs to supply an 18 month maintenance bond in the amount of 100% of the contract. He is asking council to approve payment subject to those items being taken care of.

Amanda Rausche asked about the water and electric bills for the bathrooms. Mr. Zrenchak said that he submitted them to the contractor. Mrs. Matyasovsky asked if the bathrooms will be ready for the Easter Egg Hunt on April 1st. Mr. Zrenchak said that they are ready now. Mr. Glenn also told the contractor to put a transition between the concrete and the street because it is a tripping hazard.

Mr. Glenn stated that he will need Council’s permission to draw up the plans and specs for the E Street Storm Sewer, the Liberty Way Slide and the Street Resurfacing. Mr. Zrenchak explained that on March 16th, Senator Brewster’s office announced the LGA Awards were granted for the funding for the above mentioned projects. The small water grants we applied for are to be announced in July 2023.

**Motion to pay** Swede Construction’s final payment request in the amount of $22,135 contingent upon review and recommendation from Glenn Engineering.

**Motion: Mr. Ponchak Second: Mrs. Matyasovsky**

**All in favor. Motion carries.**

**Motion to authorize** Glenn Engineering to prepare the plans and specs for the E Street Storm Sewer, the Liberty Way Slide, and the Street Resurfacing.

**Motion: Mr. Matlos Second: Mr. Ponchak**

**All in favor. Motion carries.**

Mrs. Lape stated that thy budgeted some money for street resurfacing also.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

Mr. Zrenchak stated that Council is asking for Letters of Interest for the Zoning Board (1 Seats). He said that this is a way to serve the community. There is also an opening on the Vacancy Board. Solicitor Racunas explained that if there is an open council seat and they cannot decide on that appointment, the vacancy board would act as the 7th person to help fill that seat.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

ALOM Spring Educational Conference in Seven Springs April 13-16,2023.

Dates for Spring Clean-up Day – Lincoln’s tentative date is April 29, 2023. Mr. Zrenchak stated that there will be more details as they look into that.

Mr. Zrenchak stated that everyone can see the school is down on the ground. The contractor said that they have been monitoring it on all four corners to make sure that there has been nothing out of the ordinary. They have been spraying water on it all in accordance with Allegheny County’s requirements to take the building down in place. There were 2 small puffs of smoke that were just dust when they took 2 of the corners down but there has been nothing that was out of range. If there had been the job would have been shut down immediately. All the things that were to be salvage were. Now it is just the clean up. He stopped every day and they tried to keep it a neat and clean as possible. They have been very conscience. The school has been a black eyed to the community for multiple years.

Vicki Underwood questioned why the bills are higher every three months. Mrs. Lape explained that we pay PA American Water for the sewage quarterly.

**CORRESPONDENCE:**

**Motion to accept** the typed minutes from the February 22, 2023 meeting.

**Motion: Mr. Matlos Second: Mrs. Matyasovsky**

**All in favor. Motion carries.**

Next meeting dates/times: Work Session, Wednesday April 12, 2023 at 6:00 pm – Regular Session, Wednesday, April 26, 2023 at 6:00 pm.

**Motion** to adjourn.

**Motion: Mr. Matlos Second: Mrs. Matyasovsky**

**All in favor. Motion carries.**

**Meeting adjourned at 6:23pm**

Respectfully submitted by:

Jill Pack

Borough Secretary