

**MINUTES OF REGULAR SESSION OF COUNCIL
WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 14, 2019**

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Regular session of Borough Council convened at 7:30 pm. Present were Councilors Janice Matyasovsky, Tim Sloss, Jane Weigand, Mike Matlos, Melissa Morgan, and Chris Ponchak; Mayor Larry Sikorski; Solicitor Matt Racunas; and Engineer Don Glenn.

Mr. Racunas said the borough has implemented a Public Participation Policy, which will keep the meetings a little more structured than in the past. Anyone wishing to speak must sign in, and will generally be given three minutes to speak. It is at council's discretion if any additional time will be allotted.

Mr. Ponchak said that Mrs. Morgan wanted to recognize some of the local athletes. Mrs. Morgan asked the girls to come up front; they are members of LBAA 10u and 8u teams. They both won the championships in their division. The 10u team went 18 and 1, and the 8u team went 22 and 0. The 8u team is special to Mrs. Morgan because her daughter is on that one. She is very proud of them all. They worked really hard and did an awesome job.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS.**

**Dan Gretz, 2904 H Street,** wanted to give an update on his problems. The tree is almost down; it is going to fall on his vehicles or himself or his wife. He contacted his insurance agent; they are coming up to take a picture of the tree, because they know they are going to end up paying when it falls, and Mr. Gretz said he will be paying close to \$1,000 for the deductible. The road is twice as big where it eroded and has undermined the roots of the tree. His grass cutter refuses to cut the lawn there; they use a weedwacker, so they don't smash the blades on their mowers. The water company put grass seed over rocks and gravel, which is not going to grow. He has talked to Mr. Matlos, Mr. Racunas, and the Mayor, and they have all agreed with him. He talked to the PA American Water Supervisor, who promised him the world, but he has never been back and hasn't returned his call. Mrs. Morgan asked if he got in touch with the PUC, as was recommended at prior meetings. Mr. Gretz said he has not; he feels it is council's job to get it taken care of. He can't handle it on his own; council needs to get something done. They have a contract with the water company that says they must replace "as is" or better. Mr. Racunas said his three minutes are up. Mr. Ponchak said that Mr. Zrenchak has been in contact with the water company and they were supposed to come out and look at it with him. Mr. Gretz said he has seen no one. Mr. Ponchak said that unfortunately Mr. Zrenchak could not be here tonight. They will check with him and will follow up with Mr. Gretz. Mr. Gretz said he's been here three months now; he hopes he doesn't have to come back for next month's meeting. He hopes something can be done. Mr. Racunas said it is a simple process to file a complaint with the PUC, who regulates the water company. Mrs. Morgan said the trees are not on borough property. Mr. Ponchak recommended that Mr. Gretz call the PUC, and they will follow up with Mr. Zrenchak. Mr. Gretz said he will make a call to the PUC, but he may also have to explore other avenues.

**Christine Esack Peterson, 2725 B Street**, said she has planned the Community Yard Sale for September 29 from 8am – 2pm. Sign-up sheets are in the hallway. Mr. Ponchak thanked her for her efforts.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS.**

**PROPERTY.** Mrs. Weigand, Chairman, reporting.

Mrs. Weigand made a motion to give the Vet’s Club permission to close Kaler Street from B Street to C Street for two hours, beginning at 1:00 pm on Sunday, August 25, for a Wounded Warriors project. They are expecting 250 motorcycles, and they are starting in Dravosburg, then going to the Cemetery of the Alleghenies, then back here. The motion was seconded by Mr. Matlos and passed unanimously.

Mrs. Weigand made a motion to close Valley Street from the Presbyterian Church to Elizabeth Street on August 17, from 8am – 12pm, for hose testing for the Fire Department. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Morgan and passed unanimously.

**POLICE.** Mrs. Weigand reporting.

Mrs. Weigand read Lieutenant Johnson’s report on police equipment for the month of July, as follows:

Vehicle mileage:

|               | BEGIN  | END    | MILEAGE |
|---------------|--------|--------|---------|
| Unit #130     | Parked | Parked | 0       |
| Unit #131     | 38400  | 39400  | 1000    |
| Unit #132     | 68641  | 70465  | 1824    |
| Total mileage |        |        | 2824    |

Vehicle Maintenance:

Unit 130

- None

Unit 131

- Oil change; brakes; rotors; tire rotation

Unit 132

- None

Mrs. Weigand read Fire Chief Derr’s report for the month of July, as follows:

Total calls: 17

|                     |   |
|---------------------|---|
| Fires               | 3 |
| Rescue and EMS      | 8 |
| Hazardous Condition | 1 |
| Service Call        | 2 |

|                  |   |
|------------------|---|
| Good Intent Call | 2 |
| False Alarm/Call | 1 |

A letter of thanks was sent to Rep. Bill Kortz and his associate Jennifer Halaszynski for their work in obtaining a grant for a 2019 Tahoe for the Police Department.

**LEGISLATION.** Mr. Ponchak, Chairman, reporting.

There was nothing to report.

**PARKS & RECREATION.** Mrs. Morgan, Chairman, reporting.

Mrs. Morgan made a motion to donate \$700 towards a stage for the Firemen’s Fall Festival on September 13 and 14. The motion was seconded by Mr. Matlos and passed unanimously.

Mrs. Morgan made a motion to pay the invoices from Sports & Recreation Associates in the amount of \$27,965.25 for the Liberty Borough Tot Lot, and to seek reimbursement from the GTRP Grant Program. The motion was seconded by Mr. Matlos and passed unanimously.

Mrs. Morgan thanked everyone that was involved with Fun-To-Be-A-Kid Day. It was a really hot day, but they had a good turnout. Mr. Ponchak thanked Mrs. Morgan for organizing it.

**HEALTH & ORDINANCE.** Mr. Sloss, Chairman, reporting.

There was nothing to report.

**LIGHTS.** Mr. Matlos, Chairman, reporting.

There were two verbal complaints today; Duquesne Light will be notified tomorrow.

**FINANCE.** Mrs. Matyasovsky, Chairman, reporting.

Mrs. Matyasovsky presented the Bills for Ratification, as follows:

|                                                            |          |
|------------------------------------------------------------|----------|
| Aflac – short-term disability [July]                       | \$ 40.60 |
| American Legal Services – police insurance [August]        | 50.68    |
| Artman Equipment, Inc – blade for Kubota                   | 52.69    |
| Bob’s CHS Express Barrel Train Rides – Fun-To-Be-A-Kid Day | 200.00   |
| Comcast – internet/phones                                  | 291.13   |
| Comm of PA – PennVest loan payment [interest only]         | 779.39   |
| Corwin Inspections LLC – asbestos survey & report          | 2,000.00 |
| Dearborn National – life insurance [8/1/19 – 10/31/19]     | 194.29   |
| Direct Energy – EMS                                        | 30.98    |
| Direct Energy – garage                                     | 79.60    |

|                                                                       |                     |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------|
| Direct Energy – Municipal Building                                    | 484.74              |
| Direct Energy – pump station                                          | 151.71              |
| First Commonwealth Bank – loan payment [PW truck]                     | 1,301.99            |
| First Commonwealth Bank – loan payment [2015 street paving]           | 3,686.14            |
| First Commonwealth Bank – wire fee [PennVest]                         | 20.00               |
| Glenn Engineering & Associates [PennVest]                             | 6,638.77            |
| Liberty Borough Auto – oil change, front brakes & rotors [2014 Chevy] | 451.12              |
| MCI – long distance                                                   | 29.35               |
| McKee Asphalt Paving – paving                                         | 11,335.00           |
| PA American Water – shut-offs                                         | 120.00              |
| PA American Water – EMS                                               | 15.48               |
| PA American Water – garage                                            | 57.86               |
| PA American Water – Municipal Building                                | 36.23               |
| PGH Party Creations - Fun-To-Be-A-Kid Day [deposit]                   | 50.00               |
| PGH Party Creations - Fun-To-Be-A-Kid Day [final payment]             | 200.00              |
| R.A Foster & Son – janitor supplies                                   | 122.95              |
| Racunas Law Group, LLC – Solicitor fees [June]                        | 3,165.00            |
| Ray’s Tree Service – removal of tree at Elizabeth Street Park         | 1,600.00            |
| Ricoh – copier maintenance                                            | 38.22               |
| Rita’s – Fun-To-Be-A-Kid Day                                          | 231.09              |
| Russell Standard – cold patch                                         | 264.10              |
| Sam’s Club – Fun-To-Be-A-Kid Day                                      | 313.00              |
| South Allegheny Band Parents – ad for program                         | 45.00               |
| Sports and Recreation Associates – drainage at Liberty Park           | 1,700.00            |
| Sprint – mobile laptop                                                | 40.24               |
| State Pipe Services Inc. – PennVest Trenchless Technology             | 85,661.50           |
| Steel Rivers COG – application fee [CDBG grant]                       | 300.00              |
| TEC Benefits – benefits admin [August]                                | 20.00               |
| The Jumpy Co. – Fun-To-Be-A-Kid Day                                   | 700.00              |
| Turner Dairy Farms Inc. – Fun-To-Be-A-Kid Day                         | 42.00               |
| United States Treasury - PCORI fees                                   | 7.17                |
| UPMC Health Plan – health insurance [August]                          | 2,262.45            |
| WC Weil Company – repairs to pump station                             | 1,472.50            |
| Walmart – Fun-To-Be-A-Kid Day                                         | 142.13              |
| Westcom Wireless – radio maintenance [8/1/19 - 9/1/19]                | 55.00               |
| <b>TOTAL RATIFIED BILLS</b>                                           | <b>\$126,480.10</b> |

Mrs. Matyasovsky presented the list of bills, as follows:

|                                                                   |             |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------|
| AmTrust – Worker’s Comp installment                               | \$ 3,447.00 |
| Aqua Filter Fresh – bottled water                                 | 43.07       |
| Artman Equipment – tractor parts                                  | 35.96       |
| Artman Equipment – tractor parts                                  | 57.93       |
| Artman Equipment – tractor parts                                  | 105.11      |
| Center Independent Oil (Double Car Wash) – police vehicles [July] | 35.00       |

|                                                                     |           |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------|
| Collura, Dave – wildlife control [July]                             | 175.00    |
| Comcast – police Internet                                           | 163.81    |
| Comcast – phones/Internet                                           | 291.13    |
| Direct Energy – EMS                                                 | 18.45     |
| Direct Energy – garage                                              | 46.34     |
| Direct Energy – Municipal Building                                  | 361.40    |
| Direct Energy – pump station                                        | 85.47     |
| Duquesne Light – street lights                                      | 3,181.98  |
| Duquesne Light – EMS                                                | 25.55     |
| Duquesne Light – garage                                             | 51.86     |
| Duquesne Light – Municipal Building                                 | 164.67    |
| Duquesne Light – pump station                                       | 87.61     |
| Glenn Engineering – general engineering                             | 1,092.50  |
| Glenn Engineering – Act 537                                         | 1,680.00  |
| Glenn Engineering – sewage                                          | 83.75     |
| Glenn Engineering – 2019 paving                                     | 10,194.50 |
| Guy Norelli Graphics – shirts for Fun-To-Be-A-Kid Day               | 553.00    |
| Home Depot – mortar mix                                             | 16.91     |
| Jefferson Hills Lawn Equipment – weedwacker parts                   | 145.75    |
| Mr. John – 1 @ Latrobe Park [7/22/19 – 8/18/19]                     | 120.00    |
| Mr. John – 2 @ Manor Park [7/22/19 – 8/18/19]                       | 240.00    |
| Office Depot – office supplies and copy paper                       | 116.30    |
| Orkin – termite treatment [Municipal Building]                      | 2,117.00  |
| Orkin – sewers                                                      | 207.92    |
| PA American Water – consumption data                                | 66.99     |
| PA American Water – fire hydrants                                   | 1,097.18  |
| PA Municipal Service Co – 2 <sup>nd</sup> quarter sewage billing    | 918.76    |
| Paul’s Auto Sales & Service – oil change / lube [Tahoe]             | 49.95     |
| Paul’s Auto Sales & Service – caliper bolt / diagnose wheel lock up | 118.48    |
| Peoples Gas – EMS                                                   | 20.62     |
| Peoples Gas – garage                                                | 20.62     |
| Peoples Gas – Municipal Building                                    | 20.62     |
| Quicken Loans – real estate refund                                  | 12.54     |
| Ricoh – copier lease                                                | 114.95    |
| Sherwin-Williams – paint for street markings                        | 498.05    |
| Sprint – cell phones                                                | 69.48     |
| Tomasic, Robert – 2018 audit                                        | 4,400.00  |
| Turner Dairy Farms – drinks for Fun-To-Be-A-Kid Day                 | 42.00     |
| Zrenchak Environmental Services – pump station inspection [July]    | 675.39    |

**TOTAL BILLS** **\$33,070.60**

Mr. Ponchak made a motion to accept the ratified bills and to pay the list of bills. Mr. Matlos seconded the motion. Mrs. Matyasovsky, Mr. Sloss, Mr. Matlos, and Mrs. Morgan voted for all of the bills to be paid, with the exception of the bill from Paul’s Auto Sales & Service in the amount of \$118.48 not to be paid. Mrs. Weigand and Mr.

Ponchak voted for all bills to be paid. With a vote of 4 against and 2 for, the bill from Paul's Auto Sales & Service in the amount of \$118.48 will not be paid.

The receipts for the month of July are as follows:

**GENERAL FUND**

|                                          |                      |
|------------------------------------------|----------------------|
| Real Estate Tax – Aquilante              | 34,229.98            |
| Fire Tax – Aquilante                     | 4,889.99             |
| Delinquent Real Estate Tax – Keystone    | 6,674.27             |
| Act 77 Tax Refund                        | 7,157.96             |
| Real Estate Transfer Tax                 | 1,390.37             |
| Earned Income Tax – Keystone             | 14,004.10            |
| Local Services Tax                       | 406.38               |
| Zoning/Building Permits                  | 360.53               |
| Zoning/Occupancy Permits                 | 210.00               |
| Solicitor's Permits                      | 140.00               |
| Dye Test Permits                         | 300.00               |
| Police Fines                             | 598.56               |
| No Lien Letters                          | 140.00               |
| Employee Contribution – Health Insurance | 20.00                |
| COBRA – TEC Benefits                     | 156.25               |
| Police Report                            | 0.00                 |
| Grants – Comm of Pa [Tahoe]              | 59,784.00            |
| Fun-To-Be-A-Kid Day Donations            | <u>750.00</u>        |
| <b>TOTAL RECEIPTS FOR THE MONTH</b>      | <b>\$ 131,212.39</b> |

**GENERAL FUND**

**REGISTER BALANCE** **\$ 75,296.51**

**GENERAL FUND SAVINGS**

Interest 206.51  
**REGISTER BALANCE** **694,918.10**

**SEWER FUND**

Customer Payments 7,166.88  
**REGISTER BALANCE** **136,964.35**

**HIGHWAY AID FUND**

|                         |                     |
|-------------------------|---------------------|
| Interest                | 19.20               |
| <b>REGISTER BALANCE</b> | <b>\$ 62,966.93</b> |

**SINKING FUND [2018 NOTE]**

|                         |                      |
|-------------------------|----------------------|
| Surcharge               | 697.88               |
| PennVest Loan Proceeds  | 92,300.27            |
| <b>REGISTER BALANCE</b> | <b>\$ 102,051.75</b> |

Mrs. Matyasovsky called for a motion to ratify the action taken in accepting the liability insurance proposal in the amount of \$63,191.00. The motion was made by Mr. Matlos, seconded by Mr. Ponchak, and passed unanimously.

**PERSONNEL.** Mrs. Matyasovsky, Chairman, reporting.

There was nothing to report.

**STREETS & SEWERS.** Mr. Sloss reporting, in absence of Mr. Zrenchak.

Mr. Sloss called for a motion to accept the Snow & Ice Agreement from Allegheny County. The motion was made by Mr. Matlos, seconded by Mrs. Morgan, and passed unanimously.

Mr. Sloss called for a motion to accept the agreement from Cargill for rock salt, at a price of \$82.24 per ton. The motion was made by Mrs. Weigand, seconded by Mr. Matlos, and passed unanimously.

Mr. Sloss called for a motion to have C & D Towing do our towing exclusively. The motion was made by Mr. Matlos, seconded by Mrs. Morgan, and passed, with all voting yes except for Mr. Ponchak.

**MAYOR SIKORSKI'S REPORT.**

Mr. Sikorski highlighted the following police activity from the July report:

|                             |    |     |
|-----------------------------|----|-----|
| Total Call Activity         |    | 125 |
| Traffic Accidents           | 1  |     |
| Traffic Stops               | 18 |     |
| Adult Arrests               |    | 2   |
| Traffic Citations Issued    |    | 14  |
| Assist Other Departments    |    | 28  |
| Assist By Other Departments |    | 10  |

The fines for the month were \$598.56.

### **SOLICITOR RACUNAS'S REPORT.**

Mr. Racunas called for a motion to ratify the settlement of tax assessment appeal BV 14-1096. The motion was made by Mr. Ponchak, seconded by Mr. Matlos, and passed unanimously.

Mr. Racunas called for a motion to advertise Ordinance 2019-03, providing additional parking restrictions. The motion was made by Mrs. Morgan, seconded by Mr. Matlos, and passed unanimously.

### **ENGINEER GLENN'S REPORT.**

Mr. Glenn noted that CDBG year 46 pre-apps are due shortly. Mr. Glenn recommended the B Street Storm Sewer Project, which is a re-application from last year, and the Glenn Avenue Embankment Solidification. Mrs. Weigand made a motion for Mr. Glenn to prepare the pre-apps for the above two projects. The motion was seconded by Mr. Matlos and passed unanimously.

Mr. Glenn called for a motion to approve change order BCO-01. This was to slip line 250 feet of 8-inch sewer behind the ball park and down through the dump area. The area covered was from manhole LB579 to LB563. Convention Excavation contract EC-02 was eliminated, which had been previously approved. The amount of the change order is \$53,124.00. Mr. Matlos made a motion to approve the change order. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Weigand and passed unanimously.

Mr. Glenn called for a motion to pay the invoice for State Pipe Services in the amount of \$53,124.00 for the work. The motion was made by Mrs. Matyasovsky, seconded by Mrs. Weigand, and passed unanimously.

Mr. Glenn called for a motion to pay the invoice from Glenn Engineering in the amount of \$3,984.30, which is the engineering for that project. The motion was made by Mr. Matlos, seconded by Mrs. Weigand, and passed unanimously. Mr. Glenn added that the above two invoices will be paid from the \$100,000 state grant that was received.

There was no New Business, Old Business, or Correspondence.

Mr. Ponchak called for a motion to accept the typed minutes from the Regular Sessions on June 12, 2019 and July 10, 2019. The motion was made by Mr. Matlos, seconded by Mrs. Weigand, and passed unanimously.

The next meeting date is Wednesday, September 11, 2019; Work Session at 6:00 pm and Regular Session at 7:30 pm.

A motion to adjourn was made by Mrs. Morgan, seconded by Mr. Sloss. All were in favor and the meeting adjourned at 7:55 pm.



Respectfully submitted,

Debra L. Helderlein  
Borough Secretary