MINUTES OF REGULAR SESSION OF COUNCIL

February 28, 2024

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Regular session of Borough Council convened at 6:00 pm with the Pledge of Allegiance. Present were Councilors Mike Matlos, Elizabeth Lape, Tim Sloss, Mr. Sowa, Janice Matyasovsky, Chris Ponchak, Michael Zrenchak, Mayor Larry Sikorski, Solicitor Matt Racunas, and Borough Engineer Lou Corrales.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

**EILEEN WALL 3403 ORCHARD DRIVE:**  Mrs. Wall expressed her concern about what happened in Port Vue the night before (there was a fight between some kids at the basketball courts). She was interested in whether Liberty Borough Police were patrolling the Liberty Borough. Mr. Zrenchak assured her that Liberty Borough Police were in fact always patrolling the Borough. Mrs. Wall insisted that Council should tell the residents what is going on in the Borough so that are aware of incidents. Mr. Zrenchak said that there have not been any incidents to report to the residents. Mrs. Wall said that there was a raid at Jims Pub. Mr. Zrenchak asked her if she knew who conducted the raid at Jims Pub, because obviously they knew more than Council. Mrs. Wall said that Cookie Bonzek seen it all from her house when Cookie was home. Mrs. Wall said that Cookie said she seen all the lights on, and the Police were down there. Mr. Zrenchak, that does not mean that there was a raid. There could have been several different things going on; a call for a disturbance, a fight needed broken up or whatever. Mayor Sikorski gives that report at the meeting about the incidents in the Borough. Mrs. Wall said that a police officer told her at the Elizabeth Halloween Parade that there was a raid at Jim’s Pub at Halloween. Mr. Zrenchak asked her then who conducted the raid. Mrs. Wall said all the police from all departments were there. Mr. Zrenchak said that this was news to him, however if it is under an investigation that we are not privy to; we are not going to know about it because if it gets out, it would be defeat the purpose of the investigation. Mrs. Wall said that if Jims Pub is a nuisance bar it should be shut down. Mr. Zrenchak said that he would check with Chief Lynch about all the incidents that Mrs. Wall is referring to.

**LOU ATTANUCCI 407 SOUTHERN AVENUE:** Mr. Attanucci stated that he understands that Dan Couch’s (2823 E Street) house is going to be sheriff sold in April. Mr. Zrenchak confirmed that the house is going to be sheriff sold. Mr. Attanucci asked if the Borough was putting any restrictions on the sheriff’s sale. Mr. Zrenchak explained that he was positive that the Borough was not allowed to put any restrictions on a sheriff’s sale. Mr. Racunas confirmed Mr. Zrenchak’s statement while adding that a sheriff sale is an “as is” sale. Mr. Attanucci explains that his reasoning for questioning the sheriff’s sale is that if someone buys it for $15,000 and does not do anything to it and it sits it there for another 20 years. It does not solve the problem. Mr. Zrenchak explained to him that is the risk that happens when it goes to the sheriff’s sale. Mr. Attanucci asked if the Borough has restrictions if it is deemed uninhabitable. Mr. Zrenchak explained that it was not deemed uninhabitable and was only condemned so that the Borough had access to the home to be able to board up the door and windows to keep the people out of the home and to allow the public works guys to be able to maintain the grass so that the yard didn’t become overgrown. He said it was not condemned for being structural unsound. Mr. Attanucci said he heard that the home had black mold. Mr. Bogdan confirmed that the home indeed did not have black mold. Mr. Attanucci said he had seen people go into the home with the protective gear on. Mr. Zrenchak explained that sometimes when companies go into check a home it very well could be the protocol for their firm to be in protective gear for all home checks. It does not mean that there is something wrong with the home such as black mold. Mr. Attanucci wanted to know if someone were interested in buying the home for the sheriff’s sale would they be allowed to enter the home to see what the inside of the home looked like. Mr. Zrenchak and Mr. Racunas confirmed that you would not be allowed inside the home, you would only be allowed to look outside. Mr. Zrenchak said that all sheriff sales are “as is” sales, people buy them all the time like that. Mr. Racunas stated that sheriff sales are “sight unseen,” he also stated that they are subject to all liens and conferences. Mr. Racunas explained that this is why people who are not familiar with sheriff sales should not bid on a property. He said because you could bid on a property and then find out on the back end that there is a $100,000 mortgage on it. Mr. Racunas said they do not always clean it off, you can buy it through a free and clear sale sometimes, but if you just go to the sheriff’s sale and put a bid in, you are just taking it as is. Mr. Racunas advised him that you really needed to know what you are doing when you buy property at a sheriff’s sale. Mr. Zrenchak said that someone approached him and inquired about buying the property and that he advised that person to do their due diligence and check to see all liens, taxes to do all the research. Mr. Attanucci said the sheriff’s sale was $15,000.00 and Mr. Zrenchak said that was not correct, it was only used as an example to explain how it would work if that was what was owed to it. Mr. Zrenchak said he does not know what that house is going to be up for the sheriff’s sale for. Mr. Racunas said that the sheriff’s sale does not only include the taxes it also includes whatever liens are against that home. Mr. Racunas explained that is the danger in buying a house that is up for the sheriff’s sale. A resident asked if you could do that research yourself and Mr. Racunas says that you can but that you need to really know where to look and what research needs to be done to ensure that the house is worth what you would end up paying for in the end.

**SCOTT DECECCO 2800 E STREET:**  First,Mr. Dececco thanked Council for updating the website with the minutes. Then, Mr. Dececco questioned Council about the E Street Sewer Project. Mr. Dececco said he spoke with Mr. Zrenchak about the project and in return Mr. Zrenchak was going to talk to Glenn Engineering about an issue that Mr. Dececco has with the project coming up. Mr. Dececco explained that a couple of years ago, in the alley behind his house, the pipe collapsed. The Borough replaced the pipe. Mr. Dececco is now worried about his driveway. He is worried about his driveway cracking and falling apart. He said that he was at meetings in the past and that Glenn Engineering and Council were talking about not replacing those sewer lines and now he is worried that if they are not replaced that from him coming and going from his garage that his driveway and the alleyway may collapse in the near future. Mr. Matlos said that they fixed the pipe. Mr. Zrenchak said that they would have to camera it to see if they needed to fix it and to see what was going on, and then they could produce a solution if they decided to abandon that pipe. Mr. Dececco said he just wanted to bring it up in case there was an issue later on after the project was completed. Mr. Zrenchak said that was fine and that Mr. Matlos and Mr. Corrales now have notes about that pipe in the alleyway behind Mr. Dececco house at 2800 E Street. Mr. Zrenchak assured him that they would take a look at it and Mr. Corrales confirmed his address.

**GLORIA DUVAL 3334 ORCHARD DRIVE:** Ms. Duval wanted to discuss the Manor field. She stated that at the last three meetings there was discussion of the use of the Manor field at 1 Glendale Road by the Steel Valley Men’s Softball League. She wants to know if there was any discussion, or a decision made on this issue. Mr. Zrenchak said that it will be discussed under new business.

**PROPERTY:** Chris Ponchak

Mr. Ponchak confirmed that Jason Ruzich has started the process of the sale of the properties on Scene Ridge.

Mr. Ponchak wanted to remind the residents that there are no dogs allowed on any of Liberty Borough ballfields, this is including the Senior Citizen Pavilion area. The dogs are destroying the grass and tearing up the property.

Mr. Ponchak reported that all the building permits were submitted to BIU for the Dollar General. The address for the Dollar General will be 3011 Liberty Way, McKeesport, PA 15133.

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

Mr. Ponchak read the Fire Department Report for February 2024 submitted by Fire Chief Corey Derr:

 Fires 5

 Rescue & Emergency Medical Service 5

 Hazardous Condition (No Fire) 1

 Service Call 1

 Good Intent Call 2

 False Alarm & False Call 4

 Special Incident Type 1

 Total Incidents 19

Liberty Borough VFD is having a Fish Fry on Friday, March 8, 2024, 11:00 am – 7:00 pm @ the Liberty Borough Fire Department 900 Haslage Street. Mr. Ponchak said that they would appreciate it if everyone would show up to support them at that event.

Mr. Ponchak read the EMS Report for January 2024. There were 25 EMS Calls, and the average response time was 9.8 minutes.

**LEGISLATION:** David Sowa

Mr. Sowa reported that a South Allegheny High School student inquired about being a Junior Councilmember for Liberty. Mr. Sowa said that he sent the student the paperwork and that she will most likely be at the workshop meeting in two weeks. Mr. Racunas informed Council that he emailed Ms. Leber a copy of the Resolution that he uses to establish the Borough of Liberty as part of the Junior Councilmembers Program.

**PARKS & RECREATION:** Janice Matyasovsky

Mrs. Matyasovsky announced that the Easter Egg Hunt will be March 23, 2024 @ 12:00 pm promptly until the eggs are all found. She said it takes about ten minutes so if you are not there at 12:00, you could miss it. The hunt will be at the big Manor field, 1 Glendale Road. It is weather permitting. Mrs. Matyasovsky reminded everyone to please RSVP to Ms. Leber at the information provided by March 8th. so that we have enough supplies. Mrs. Matyasovsky announced that the Senior Citizen Dinner will be on April 11, 2024, at 6:00 pm. We will be having Olive Garden just like last year. We will be taking reservations shortly. St. Joachim and Anne Parish Community Festival will be August 1, 2, and 3, 2024. Liberty Borough will be supplying Police coverage as in previous years. Mrs. Matyasovsky announced that Clean Up Day will be April 27, 2024, tentatively. She said she was not sure if we were going to have an electronics container or not. Mr. Zrenchak said that Ms. Leber is working on getting a container for electronics. He said now that Big’s Sanitation was bought out, we were not sure if that was still an option. He said we will inform everyone of what we find out about the containers as soon as we are able to.

**HEALTH & ORDINANCE**: Chris Ponchak

**Motion to advertise** Ordinance for regulating dumpsters and portable storage units.

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

 **All in favor. Motion carries.**

**LIGHTS:** Michael Matlos

No Report.

**FINANCE:** Elizabeth Lape

Mrs. Lape reported that Council will be reviewing the delinquent taxes. She said that they have received the most updated paperwork on the delinquents.

**Motion to Pay:**  Bills for Ratification of **$152,574.50** and List of Bills to Pay **$130,184.87**

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

 **All in favor. Motion carries.**

**Bills for Ratification:**

**Payroll**

 01/19/2024 EFT ADP[INVOICE] - 79.21

 01/26/2024 EFT ADP[CHECKS] - 15,689.74

 02/09/2024 EFT ADP[CHECKS] - 13,519.82

 01/26/2024 EFT ADP[TAXES] - 5,276.42

 01/31/2024 EFT ADP[INVOICE] - 317.40

 02/09/2024 EFT ADP[TAXES] - 4,469.02

 02//09/2024 EFT ADP[INVOICE] - 88.19

 02/23/2024 EFT ADP[CHECKS] - 14,185.92

 02/23/2024 EFT ADP[TAXES] - 4,801.57

 **TOTAL** - **58,427.20**

**Sewer Fund**

 02/16/2024 12523 GLENN ENGINEERING - 820.00

 02/16/2024 12524 AMERICAN WATER - 79.14

 02/19/2024 23835 PA MUNICIPAL SERVICE CO \*\*\* - 1,015.17

 02/19/2024 23836 PA ONOE CALL SYSTEM INC\*\*\* - 13.31

 **TOTAL - 1,927.62**

**Highway Fund**

01/26/2024 23770 CARGILL\*\*\* - 9,467.12

 **TOTAL - 9,467.12**

**General Fund**

01/24/2024 23758 AMERICAN NATURAL SUPPLY INC - 2,815.56

01/24/2024 23759 CMA - 250.00

01/24/2024 23760 DERKAS AUTO SERVICE - 4,952.94

01/24/2024 23761 NOGA SERVICES - 580.72

01/24/2024 23762 ONE DIGITAL - 100.00

01/24/2024 23763 PA AMERICAN WATER - 1,195.78

01/24/2024 23764 PEST B GONE - 300.00

01/24/2024 23765 SINGER PAINT AND GLASS INC - 14,698.00

01/24/2024 23766 STEEL RIVERS COG - 4,927.40

01/24/2024 23767 SUMMIT FIRE & SECURITY LLC - 673.55

01/24/2024 23768 WESTCOMM WIRELESS INC - 55.00

01/26/2024 23772 DEARBORN LIFE INSURANCE - 70.80

01/26/2024 23773 LAW ENFORCEMENT SYSTEMS - 368.00

01/26/2024 23771 VERIZON GARAGE - 60.03

02/05/2024 23774 AMERICAN LEGAL SERVICES - 108.60

02/05/2024 23775 MCI - 33.46

02/05/2024 23776 PA AMERICAN WATER - 114.14

02/05/2024 23778 RA FOSTER AND SON CO - 83.50

02/05/2024 23779 RICOH USA - 149.42

02/05/2024 23780 T-MOBILE - 175.83

02/16/2024 12523 GLENN ENGINEER (NEVEAH BILL)\*\*\* - 9,388.04

02/16/2024 23810 RACUNAS LAW GROUP - 3,567.00

02/16/2024 23811 RC WALTERS AND SONS INC - 56.66

02/16/2024 23812 SAFSECUR LLC - 869.20

02/16/2024 23813 SOUTHEAST REGIONAL EMS - 43.50

02/16/2024 23814 SPECIALTY CLEANING SYSTEMS - 300.00

02/16/2024 23815 WATERFRONT EMBROIDERY - 271.75

02/16/2024 23816 AFLAC - 125.84

02/16/2024 23817 AQUA FILTER FRESH INC - 33.30

02/16/2024 23818 CITY OF MCKEESPORT - 50.00

02/16/2024 23819 COMCAST - 1.79

02/16/2024 23820 DERKAS AUTO SERVICE - 570.36

02/16/2024 23821 DUQUESNE LIGHT COMPANY - 500.82

02/16/2024 23822 DUQUESNE LIGHT COMPANY - 384.58

02/16/2024 23823 FIRST COMMONWEALTH (CREDIT CARD) - 1,955.92

02/16/2024 23824 FLYNNS TIRES - 244.22

02/16/2024 23825 GENERAL CODE - 995.00

02/16/2024 23826 GIPSON BEARING AND SUPPLY CO - 78.20

02/16/2024 23827 GLENN ENGINEERING & ACCOC - 225.00

02/16/2024 23828 MICHAEL LYNCH - 300.25

02/16/2024 23829 MON VALLEY INDEPENDENT - 1,258.40

02/16/2024 23830 NAPA AUTO PARTS - 123.97

02/16/2024 23831 NUTTAL PUBLIC SAFETY EQUIPMENT - 840.00

02/16/2024 23832 OREILLY AUTO PARTS - 30.45

02/16/2024 23833 ORKIN EXTERMINATING - 207.92

02/16/2024 23834 PA MUNICIPAL RETIREMENT SYSTEM - 2,526.00

02/16/2024 23837 PEOPLES NATURAL GAS - 682.45

02/16/2024 23838 PEST B GONE - 300.00

02/16/2024 23839 DERKAS AUTO SERVICE - 210.08

02/16/2024 23840 PA MUNICIPAL RETIREMENT SYSTEM - 495.00

02/16/2024 23841 PA AMERICAN WATER - 1,195.78

02/16/2024 23842 SABRE EQUIPMENT INC - 22,502.00

02/16/2024 23843 PSAB U/C PLAN - 706.35

 **TOTAL - 82,752.56**

**List of Bills to Pay:**

**Sewer Fund**

02/28/2024 12522 AMERICAN WATER - 80.52

02/28/2024 12525 KONZEL CONTRACTING - 113,430.00

**TOTAL - 113,510.52**

**Highway Fund**

02/28/2024 4594 CARGILL - 3,814.84

 **TOTAL - 3,814.84**

**General Fund**

02/26/2024 23848 FLYNNS TIRES - 630.64

 02/26/2024 23849 MCI - 32.75

 02/26/2024 23850 NUTTAL PUBLIC SAFETY EQUIPMENT - 420.00

 02/26/2024 23851 OREILLY AUTO PARTS - 8.46

 02/26/2024 23861 ACTIVE 911 - 167.50

 02/26/2024 23863 AMERICAN NATURAL SUPPLY LLC - 2,924.93

 02/26/2024 23864 DERKAS AUTO SERVICE - 121.20

 02/26/2024 23865 RAAC AUDIT PAYMENT - 1,000.00

 02/26/2024 23866 AQUA FILTER FRESH INC - 42.25

 02/26/2024 23867 QUILL - 145.65

 02/26/2024 23868 POINT SPRING & DRIVESHAFT CO - 729.04

 02/26/2024 23869 VERIZON - 61.31

 02/26/2024 23873 ONE DIGITAL - 100.00

02/26/2024 EFT UMPC HEALTHPLAN (FEB. & MARCH) - 5,833.11

02/28/2024 23874 AMERICAN LEGAL SERVICES - 101.36

02/28/2024 23875 ORKIN EXTERMINATING - 207.92

02/28/2024 23876 PA AMERICAN WATER - 102.56

02/28/2024 23877 WESTCOM WIRELESS - 55.00

02/28/2024 23878 TMOBILE - 175.83

 **TOTAL - 12,859.51**

**PERSONNEL:** Tim Sloss

Mr. Sloss reported that the Borough of Liberty is still conducting interviews for the full-time Borough Secretary. There has been no decision made yet.

**STREETS AND SEWERS:** Tim Sloss

**Motion to accept** the new fee schedule for PA Municipal Service for Sewage Collection.

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

 **All in favor. Motion carries.**

Mr. Sloss reported that the pump station is installed, and that the Borough is looking to get a new emergency generator for the pump station. He said that they are getting pricing on the generators and that this project will be funded with CAP funds. Mr. Sloss reported that Liberty Borough received a Small Water and Sewer Grant in the amount of $100,000.00 for the Liberty Way Sanitary Sewer Repair.

Mr. Sloss reported that the Public Works new truck was picked up. Mr. Zrenchak said that he had seen Public Works riding around in the new truck and asked Mr. Matlos if there were any issues with the new truck. Mr. Matlos said it is different but that it will work.

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

Mayor Sikorski read the Police Report.

 911 Hang up 1

 Accident Report 1

 Administrative Report (Request) 1

 Assist Other Agencies 6

 Assist Persons 2

 Civil Dispute 1

 Death/Drug Investigation 1

 Domestic Disturbance 1

 Fire Call 1

 Miscellaneous Disturbance 1

 Traffic Stops 5

 Welfare Check 1

 **Total** **22**

**SOLICITOR’S REPORT:** Mr. Racunas

Mr. Racunas reported that he received the proposed MOU from South Allegheny School District. He said that he did have some comments on the MOU that he talked about with Chief Lynch about and Mr. Racunas will be getting those comments over to Chief Lynch and Council for final review.

**ENGINEER’S REPORT:** Lou Corrales

**Motion to award** the bid to Morgan Excavating in the amount of $124,845.90 for the Paving Contract. The Roberts Street portion will be $53,689.00 and the E Street Alley portion will be $71,156.90. The E Street Alley portion is more expensive due to the inverted crown.

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

 **All in favor. Motion carries.**

**Motion to award** Murin & Murn, Inc. in the amount of $109,738.01 for the E & Roberts Street Storm Sewer Contract.

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

 **All in favor. Motion carries.**

Mr. Corrales reported that the original bid for the above projects together came in at $492,059.85 from El Grande. The new total cost to the Borough after the rebid is $234,583.91. Mr. Corrales said the total savings are $257,476.84. Glenn Engineering did receive multiply bids when they broke the projects apart into separate projects.

**Motion to award** Creative Enterprises in the amount of $56,675.00 for Walnut Alley Storm Sewer Contract.

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

 **All in favor. Motion carries.**

Mr. Corrales stated that they opened the bids for Walnut Alley Storm Sewer on the 5th of February and there was one gentleman that put a bid in, and they had to reject his bid due to the fact that he could not supply any work history or references from previous work. The gentleman did supply Glenn Engineering with a letter retracting his bid.

Mr. Corrales reported that the Carmen Paliotta Contracting has installed steel beams into solid rock and on Monday they will start inserting the walls on the Liberty Way Slide Project. He said they will be bringing some heavier equipment in, so he wanted everyone to be prepared for that. Mr. Corrales said that they noticed some soil movement at an alternate spot where the flashing temporary light is at the bottom on Liberty Way. He is asking if he can have permission to do some soil testing on that site so they can get some determination of what they are looking at.

**Motion to approve** Invoice #1 from Konzel Contracting in the amount of $113,430.00 which includes 5% retainage.

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

 **All in favor. Motion carries.**

Mr. Corrales reported that Liberty Borough did receive $200,000.00 in Small Water and Sewer Grant and he is not positive on what is actually left of the Pump Station Project, but he is sure that it will cover the shed, debris basket and steps. These items will make it easier to have access to and use that pump station.

**Motion to advertise** for a fence, debris catch basket and steps.

 **Motion: Mr. Matlos Second: Mr. Sowa**

**All in favor. Motion carries.**

Mr. Corrales announced the following grants in the amount of approximately $510,171.00. He said that he said approximately cause he seen a change in the amounts listed below for the backhoe. Mr. Zrenchak explained that a letter was sent out stating that you cannot use soft costs in with equipment, you can only use those costs with projects. Mr. Zrenchak said they took out the $20,000.00 trade.

Inlets $140,000.00

Public Works Truck $121,010.00

Liberty Way Drainage $84,904.00

Backhoe $164,257.00 (Grant request lowered to $144,257.00 per DCED)

Total of Grants $490,171.00

The announcement for rewarding of the Grants will occur in late 2024.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

Mr. Zrenchak stated that Council is asking for Letters of Interest for the Zoning Board (1 Seats) and Planning Commission (2 seats). Mr. Zrenchak said if anyone was interested in volunteering for any of these seats to please submit a letter to Ms. Leber.

Mr. Zrenchak reported that the subject of the Steel Valley Men’s Softball League was talked about at the workshop meeting on Wednesday night. He said that there was some concern expressed by LBAA about the men’s league continuing to use the Manor field. Mr. Ponchak asked if he was correct in stating that Port Vue Pub was not sponsoring the men’s league this year. Mr. Zrenchak said that Port Vue Pub did sponsor the team last year but is not sponsoring them this year. Mrs. Rausch said that Port Vue Pub did not sponsor them last year. Mr. Zrenchak said that Ms. Leber called Port Vue Pub and that they did sponsor them but are not sponsoring them this year. Mrs. Rausch said they were not sponsored in the fall by Port Vue Pub. Mr. Ponchak asked if we knew who was sponsoring them and Mr. Zrenchak said that we do not know as of now who is sponsoring the team. Mrs. Matyasovsky asked if some other league was interested in the Manor field. Mr. Zrenchak explained that a women’s softball league reached out inquiring about Manor field because the field in Little Boston is being redone so they were wondering if Liberty had any time open on the Manor field for them to use. Mr. Zrenchak said that the issue at hand is whether Steel Valley Men’s League is able to rent the Manor field for the year 2024. Mr. Matlos said that the league has been renting the field for years and has never been an issue in the past, he is fine with them using the field. Mr. Sloss said that if LBAA says there are certain issues, then give them a warning that if they do not follow the rules, they will not be able to use the field. Mrs. Matyasovsky thinks that if the Steel Valley League does not have a sponsor, then they should not be able to rent the field. Mr. Ponchak agrees with Mrs. Matyasovsky about the league having a sponsor. Mr. Zrenchak asked Council if they want to make the conditions of renting the field based on having a sponsor. Mrs.Rausch said that she believes that the league needs to be in good standing with the sponsor. She said that she spoke with the owner of Port Vue Pub in the fall and that the league was not in good standing with the bar. A resident asked what would happen if she went down to the Manor field on a Friday when the men’s league was playing and they are carrying on because they are drinking and she calls the police, what will happen. Mr. Sowa said that if they were causing a disturbance they would be asked to leave. Mr. Zrenchak said that it is part of the contract not to have any alcohol at the field. Mr. Matlos said that the men’s league was down there last year playing ball when Liberty was having movie night and they moved to the Senior Citizen Pavilion and never caused any issues. Mrs. Rausch said the agreement in the past was always that there were no glass bottles allowed in the field, she said that it has been that way for years. Mrs. Matyasovsky asked Mrs. Rausch if LBAA allowed them to drink as long as it was not glass bottles. Mrs. Rausch assured Mrs. Matyasovsky that was not an LBAA agreement. Mrs. Rausch said that there is not supposed to be any alcohol as far as she knew but that the agreement in the past, she guesses it was a compromise, since it was an adult team that they were allowed to have alcohol as long as there were not glass bottles. She said however, there should not be any smoking weed while they are down there. Mrs. Lape stated that the agreement should be with the Borough and not with LBAA. Mr. Zrenchak said that Mrs. Lape is correct that the agreement is with the Borough not with LBAA. Mr. Matlos stated that if the guys on the league have a medical marijuana card, you really do not have a legal right to stop them. Mr. Matlos said that those guys are smoking those marijuana pens. Mrs. Rausch asked what they do when they have parents of 8 -10-year-old kids, asking them why that is being allowed. Mr. Ponchak said he is not sure if you are allowed to smoke medical marijuana in a public place but that he will be sure to check with Chief Lynch to see what the laws entail. Mrs. Rausch said that she would appreciate that so that they have an answer for when the parents asked them, when organizations from the places come to play LBAA and it does not put LBAA in a good light. Mrs. Matyasovsky asked if Mrs. Rausch knew who Steel Valley plays. Mrs. Rausch says it is just bar teams playing against other bar teams. Mrs. Matyasovsky and Mr. Ponchak said if they prove they have a sponsor and they have a contract with the Borough, and there are no issues, it should be fine. Mrs. Rausch said that in the past it was never a problem, but the last couple of years it has not been the same type of team. Mr. Ponchak said for LBAA to let Council know if there are issues and then they can act on it from there.MR. Racunas said that the fields belong to the Borough, we regulate the use of it. It is a revocable license, and if they are not following our rules or there are issues then we can pull the permit. Mr. Zrenchak said that Ms. Leber will check to see who the sponsor is and what the agreement says. Mrs. Lape said that she will be fine with them playing as long as they are following the agreement they have with the Borough. The resident asked if the Boston field is a recreational kid’s team or an adult team. Mr. Zrenchak told them it was a women’s softball league. Mrs. Rausch said the guy called her and asked if they could use Manor field, but that Manor field is limited to all the teams that are already playing on there. Mrs. Rausch said that the LBAA scheduling meeting is Sunday, and she was interested if she was to leave the Friday night spot open. Mr. Sloss said to just leave the spot open and if Steel Valley could not use the field maybe the girls league might be interested in using it.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

Mr. Zrenchak reported that Senator Brewster sent out information on grants for park rehab, which needs a match and indoor recreation facilities, which need a match, these grants are through the DCNR, these grants are due by April 4, 2024. Mr. Zrenchak asked Mr. Corrales to confer that these grants usually need a 50 percent match. Mr. Corrales confirmed that Mr. Zrenchak was correct. Mr. Zrenchak stated that DCED is also offering grants for multi-purpose community centers and those grants do not need a match. Those grants are in the amount of up to 2.5 million dollars. Those applications are due April 20, 2024. Ms. Leber forwarded Council an email with a letter about a couple of these projects if anyone was interested or if something would benefit us. Council can talk about it at the next workshop meeting. He said the CFA has the following grants available:

* ACT 13 Programs (7): Application Period February 1st to May 31st, 2024
* Building PA: Always Open
* Multimodal Transportation Fund: March 1st to July 31st, 2024
* Pipeline Investment: Always Open
* Statewide LSA: September 1st to November 30th, 2024

Mr. Zrenchak said Council will start looking into those and see what would benefit the Borough and what needs a match and what does not.

Mr. Zrenchak mentioned the Strategic Management Planning Program (STMP) through the DCED. This would have the Borough to develop short- and long-term goals and help streamline operations. This would give a good picture of where we would want to be in the next five to ten years. He said there is a cost, but he thinks that it might be worth it.

 **CORRESPONDENCE:**

**Motion to accept** the typed minutes from the January 24, 2024, meeting.

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

 **All in favor. Motion carries.**

Next meeting dates/times: Work Session Meeting – Wednesday, March 13, 2024, and the Regular Session Meeting -- Wednesday, March 27, 2024, at 6:00 pm.

**Motion** to adjourn at 6:35 p.m.

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

 **All in favor. Motion carries.**

**Meeting adjourned at 6:16 p.m.**

Respectfully submitted by:

Mike Zrenchak

Council President

Typed by:

Jamie Leber

Assistant Secretary