MINUTES OF REGULAR SESSION OF COUNCIL

SEPTEMBER 27, 2023

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Regular session of Borough Council convened at 6:00 pm. Present were Councilors Mike Matlos, Tim Sloss, Janice Matyasovsky, David Sowa, Chris Ponchak, Elizabeth Lape and Michael Zrenchak, Mayor Sikorski, Solicitor Matt Racunas, and Engineer Laura Branthoover.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

**Carl LeDonne – 3108 Woodrow:** Mr. LeDonne stated that about a month ago he had a kid first sending him text messages threatening his life then he started making phone calls. Mr. LeDonne filed charges about a month ago or tried to file charges about a month ago. After about a week they finally did the paperwork and told him that they were sending everything to the magistrate. It is a month now and the magistrate still does not have a report. He went to them last week when he called the magistrate and asked why nothing was filed – they said they think he filed it this morning. Three weeks after his life was threatened, they were going to file charges. He called the magistrate this morning and they still don’t have any charges filed there. This is the second time he has asked for assistance from the police department for problems that he was having and this is the second time they have pretty much ignored him. Mr. Zrenchak said that he would find out what is going on because that is unacceptable. The other council members agreed with him. Mr. Zrenchak asked for Mr. LeDonne’s phone number. Mr. LeDonne said that he has all of the text messages for evidence so he is not sure why charges have not been filed.

**PROPERTY:** Chris Ponchak

Mr. Ponchak had nothing to report.

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

Mr. Ponchak read the August 2023 Vehicle Report:

Unit 130 350 Miles

Unit 131 1,147 Miles  
 Unit 132 227 Miles

Unit 130 – Kush Customs/New starter, battery, oil change $1,740.38

Unit 132 – Cabin filter $16.95 / Lt. Mayernik installed

Mr. Ponchak read the EMS Report:

There was a total of 25 calls with an average response time of 9.4 minutes.

Mr. Ponchak read the Fire Report for August:

Fires 3

Rescue & EMS 2

Hazardous Condition (no fire) 1

Service Call 3

False Alarm/False Call 2

Total 11

**Motion to donate** $1,200 tothe Liberty Borough Fire Department for the cost of the stage for the Fall Festival.

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

**All in favor. Motion carries.**

**LEGISLATION:** David Sowa

Mr. Sowa said that everything he had would go under Health & Ordinance which they have talked about regulating the dumpster and portable storage such as bagsters. There needs to be a couple things addressed with that and once they finalize that it would have to be advertised.

**PARKS & RECREATION:** Janice Matyasovsky

Mrs. Matyasovsky stated that Halloween Parade will be on October 31, 2023 and will start at 5:30 pm. The parade will start down by where the old machine shop used to be by the Catfish Pond down to the Memorial. Trick or Treat will be from 6 to 8. There will also be a Halloween Decorating Contest again this year. She said there are already a lot of houses that are decorated. 3 winners will be chosen.

Mrs. Matyasovsky said that the next event coming up is Christmas but they will talk about that later.

**HEALTH & ORDINANCE**: Chris Ponchak

Mr. Sowa stated that they already mentioned the ordinance for dumpsters and bagsters under Legislation so that is all that he had for tonight.

**LIGHTS:** Michael Matlos

Mr. Matlos said that there were three lights out on Washington that have been replaced.

**FINANCE:** Elizabeth Lape

**Motion to Pay:** Bills for Ratification $ 250,151.11 and List of Bills to Pay $ 5,008.70

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

**All in favor. Motion carries.**

**Bills for Ratification:**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 08/24/2023 | EFT | ADP [CHECKS] | -12,124.28 |
| 08/24/2023 | EFT | ADP | -4,325.41 |
| 09/01/2023 | EFT | ADP [INVOICE] | -99.41 |
| 09/06/2023 | EFT | PA SCDU | -82.52 |
| 09/07/2023 | EFT | ADP [CHECKS] | -10,888.84 |
| 09/07/2023 | EFT | ADP | -4,024.86 |
| 09/19/2023 | EFT | ONE DIGITAL | -20.00 |
| 09/22/2023 | EFT | ADP [CHECKS] | -11,242.98 |
| 09/22/2023 | EFT | ADP [CHECKS] | -1,959.05 |
| 09/22/2023 | EFT | ADP | -4,033.92 |
| 09/22/2023 | EFT | ADP | -521.43 |
| 09/22/2023 | EFT | PA SCDU | -82.52 |
| 09/13/2023 | 4587 | DUQUESNE LIGHT CO | -3,531.45 |
| 08/24/2023 | 12487 | AMERICAN WATER | -79.07 |
| 09/13/2023 | 12488 | DUQUESNE LIGHT CO | -175.79 |
| 09/13/2023 | 12489 | GLENN ENGINEERING & ASSOC | -300.00 |
| 09/13/2023 | 12490 | PA AMERICAN WATER | -128,349.92 |
| 09/13/2023 | 12491 | PA MUNICIPAL SERVICE CO | -1,066.17 |
| 09/13/2023 | 12492 | PA ONE-CALL SYSTEM INC | -19.04 |
| 09/21/2023 | 12493 | COMMONWEALTH OF PA | -500.00 |
| 08/24/2023 | 23509 | MCI | -31.72 |
| 08/24/2023 | 23510 | NAPA AUTO PARTS | -187.98 |
| 08/24/2023 | 23511 | Northern Tool & Equipment | -9.98 |
| 08/24/2023 | 23512 | ONE DIGITAL | 0.00 |
| 08/24/2023 | 23513 | PA AMERICAN WATER | -491.08 |
| 08/24/2023 | 23514 | RC WALTER & SONS INC | -116.98 |
| 08/24/2023 | 23515 | RICOH USA | -149.42 |
| 08/25/2023 | 23516 | South Allegheny Fall Boosters **Motion** | -200.00 |
| 08/31/2023 | 23517 | AFLAC | -223.36 |
| 09/13/2023 | 23518 | AMERICAN LEGAL SERVICES | -36.20 |
| 09/13/2023 | 23519 | AMERICAN NATURAL SUPPLY LLC | -3,380.43 |
| 09/13/2023 | 23520 | AMTRUST NORTH AMERICA | -3,886.00 |
| 09/13/2023 | 23521 | AQUA FILTER FRESH INC | -42.05 |
| 09/13/2023 | 23522 | BUILDING INSPECTION UNDERWRITERS OF PA | -110.00 |
| 09/13/2023 | 23523 | COMCAST | -449.70 |
| 09/13/2023 | 23524 | DUQUESNE LIGHT CO | -693.88 |
| 09/13/2023 | 23525 | FIRST COMMONWEALTH BANK (CREDIT CARD) | -1,909.95 |
| 09/13/2023 | 23526 | FLYNN'S TIRE | -1,194.00 |
| 09/13/2023 | 23527 | Galvin Reporting Services **Zoning minutes** | -35.00 |
| 09/13/2023 | 23528 | GLENN ENGINEERING & ASSOC | -16,483.50 |
| 09/13/2023 | 23529 | JEFFERSON HILLS LAWN & EQUIP | -90.07 |
| 09/13/2023 | 23530 | KUSH KUSTOMS | -1,740.38 |
| 09/13/2023 | 23531 | Mark Fike **Tax refund** | -64.08 |
| 09/13/2023 | 23532 | MON VALLEY INDEPENDENT | -979.60 |
| 09/13/2023 | 23533 | MR JOHN | -399.00 |
| 09/13/2023 | 23534 | NATIONAL HYDRAULICS, INC | 0.00 |
| 09/13/2023 | 23535 | O'REILLY AUTO PARTS | -22.27 |
| 09/13/2023 | 23536 | ONE DIGITAL | -125.00 |
| 09/13/2023 | 23537 | PA AMERICAN WATER | -1,197.70 |
| 09/13/2023 | 23538 | PA DEP | -100.00 |
| 09/13/2023 | 23539 | PC TIRE & FOAMFILL SPECIALISTS | -344.58 |
| 09/13/2023 | 23540 | PEOPLES NATURAL GAS | -69.58 |
| 09/13/2023 | 23541 | Pest b Gone | -300.00 |
| 09/13/2023 | 23542 | R A FOSTER & SON CO | -103.50 |
| 09/13/2023 | 23543 | RACUNAS LAW GROUP LLC | -2,363.00 |
| 09/13/2023 | 23544 | RC WALTER & SONS INC | -59.88 |
| 09/13/2023 | 23545 | RUSSELL STANDARD CORP | -202.50 |
| 09/13/2023 | 23546 | Safsecur LLC | -822.16 |
| 09/13/2023 | 23547 | SHERWIN WILLIAMS CO | -35.48 |
| 09/13/2023 | 23548 | STEEL RIVERS COG | -2,050.00 |
| 09/13/2023 | 23549 | T-MOBILE | -175.81 |
| 09/13/2023 | 23550 | Teresa Countryman **LST refund** | -130.00 |
| 09/13/2023 | 23551 | UPMC HEALTH PLAN | -3,649.97 |
| 09/20/2023 | 23552 | PA MUNICIPAL RETIREMENT SYSTEM | -3,790.66 |
| 09/20/2023 | 23553 | VOLUNTEER FIREMEN'S ASSOC OF LIBERTY | -18,278.00 |
|  |  |  | -250,151.11 |

**List of Bills to Pay:**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **AMERICAN WATER** |  |  |  |  |
|  |  | 09/01/2023 | 4000264458 |  | 79.94 |
|  | Total AMERICAN WATER |  |  |  | 79.94 |
|  | **MR JOHN** |  |  |  |  |
|  |  | 09/15/2023 | INV-69942 |  | 266.00 |
|  |  | 09/15/2023 | INV-69941 |  | 133.00 |
|  | Total MR JOHN |  |  |  | 399.00 |
|  | **ORKIN EXTERMINATING** |  |  |  |  |
|  |  | 09/22/2023 | 245007438 |  | 207.92 |
|  | Total ORKIN EXTERMINATING |  |  |  | 207.92 |
|  | **PA AMERICAN WATER** |  |  |  |  |
|  |  | 09/19/2023 | 1024-210033713752 |  | 523.45 |
|  |  | 09/19/2023 | 1024-210030156299 |  | 21.84 |
|  |  | 09/19/2023 | 1024-210034877260 |  | 125.38 |
|  | Total PA AMERICAN WATER |  |  |  | 670.67 |
|  | **RACUNAS LAW GROUP LLC** |  |  |  |  |
|  |  | 08/01/2023 | 1745 |  | 2,184.00 |
|  | Total RACUNAS LAW GROUP LLC |  |  |  | 2,184.00 |
|  | **RC WALTER & SONS INC** |  |  |  |  |
|  |  | 09/21/2023 | 766539 |  | 17.99 |
|  | Total RC WALTER & SONS INC |  |  |  | 17.99 |
|  | **RICOH USA** |  |  |  |  |
|  |  | 09/15/2023 | 107625270 |  | 149.42 |
|  | Total RICOH USA |  |  |  | 149.42 |
|  | **SHERWIN WILLIAMS CO** |  |  |  |  |
|  |  | 09/13/2023 | 5895-5 |  | 1,186.65 |
|  | Total SHERWIN WILLIAMS CO |  |  |  | 1,186.65 |
|  | **VERIZON GARAGE** |  |  |  |  |
|  |  | 09/09/2023 | 450-731-927-0001-53 |  | 58.11 |
|  | Total VERIZON GARAGE |  |  |  | 58.11 |
|  | **WESTCOM WIRELESS INC** |  |  |  |  |
|  |  | 09/14/2023 | 1190 |  | 55.00 |
|  | Total WESTCOM WIRELESS INC |  |  |  | 55.00 |
| **TOTAL** | |  |  |  | **5,008.70** |

**PERSONNEL:** Tim Sloss

Mr. Sloss read the motions:

**Motion to ratify** hiring Christopher Abraham as a part-time police officer for the Liberty Borough Police Department.

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

**All in favor. Motion carries.**

**Motion to ratify** hiring Michael Shook as a part-time police officer for the Liberty Borough Police Department.

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

**All in favor. Motion carries.**

**STREETS AND SEWERS:** Tim Sloss

Mr. Sloss read the motion:

**Motion to pay** Smith and Loveless $153,905 for the new pump station.

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

**All in favor. Motion carries.**

Mr. Zrenchak explained that part of this money will come from the grant. We just have to pay for this and we will get reimbursed.

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

Mayor Sikorski read some of the Police Report for August 2023: There were 44 calls:

Children/Child Welfare Report 1

Domestic Disturbance 3

Traffic Stop 1

Non-Traffic Citations 3

Traffic Citations 1

Mayor Sikorski said that the report was quite comprehensive and if anyone wanted to read it they could after the meeting.

**SOLICITOR’S REPORT:** Matt Racunas

Solicitor Racunas stated that all of the items that he had were discussed during the executive session.

**ENGINEER’S REPORT:** Laura Branthoover

Ms. Branthoover reported that the LSA grants are due at the end of November. You can apply for demolition, infrastructure, paving, vehicles, equipment, engineering, sidewalks, building rehab. That is something for council to figure out in the next month. Ms. Branthoover recommends putting in at least two applications. Mr. Zrenchak said that we put in four applications last time.

Ms. Branthoover said her next item was to approve the invoice for Nevaeh Pipe Bursting in the amount of $51,339.60.

The next item is to re-advertise the E Street Alley once things slow down. Also she mentioned re-advertising the Liberty Way Slide in the next week.

The last item is the Liberty Way Pump Station. Don would like to set up a meeting to discuss what the plan is with the installation.

**Motion to adopt** Resolution 2023-04 – Plan Revision for New Land Development for the proposed Dollar General.

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

**All in favor. Motion carries.**

**Motion to pay** Nevaeh Pipe Bursting payment #1 in the amount of $51,339.60 for the inlet replacement project.

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

**All in favor. Motion carries.**

**OLD BUSINESS:**

Council is asking for Letters of Interest for the Zoning Board (1 Seat).

**NEW BUSINESS:**

Mr. Zrenchak announced that the Keep Pennsylvania Beautiful / Fall Clean-up Day will be held on October 21st from 9am to 12pm behind the Liberty Borough Fire Hall at 900 Haslage Street. There will be two dumpsters and an electronics dumpster. There will be signs put up, it is on Facebook and Savvy Citizen and on the board. We will take a variety of things but no appliances with freon in them, and no household chemicals. Usually, the county will have a couple days that they will take that sort of thing. There will be a list on the website.

**Motion to ratify accepting** Singer Glass quote in the amount of $14,698 to replace the borough office, caucus room, and police department windows.

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

**All in favor. Motion carries.**

Mon Yough Area Chamber of Commerce is asking for donations of toiletries, towels, and clothing for the people who were displaced due to the fire at McKeesport Towers.

Mr. Zrenchak asked Ms. Branthoover to answer the question about the development. Ms. Branthoover stated that the resolution is for Dollar General. Mr. Zrenchak clarified that it is for the land development plan for the proposed Dollar General at the old Belmont site (3011 Liberty Way).

Amanda Rausch stated that they were to submit the six properties for the additional grant in case we didn’t get the Act 152 money to demolish. Mr. Zrenchak stated that would have been something that Don was handling. Ms. Branthoover asked if they were the properties that were submitted in the Act 152 grant application. Amanda said that they submitted for the Act 152. There was a grant at the last work session that Don mentioned that had to be in by the following Monday and she requested, that since we did not have anything else and everything was already written up for those properties, could we also submit them for that since we may or may not get the Act 152 money for the demolition. Ms. Branthoover stated that anything that was submitted for Act 152 was automatically submitted for that grant. Mr. Zrenchak said he thought it was the CDBG that Don was going to submit for the demolition. Ms. Branthoover said that they were just automatically submitted as CDBG grant applications.

**CORRESPONDENCE:**

**Motion to accept** the typed minutes from the August 23, 2023 meeting.

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

**All in favor. Motion carries**

Next meeting dates/times: Work Session, Wednesday October 11, 2023 at 6:00 pm – Regular Session, Wednesday, October 25, 2023 at 6:00 pm.

**Motion** to adjourn.

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

**All in favor. Motion carries.**

**Meeting adjourned at 6:14 pm**

Respectfully submitted by:

Jill Pack

Borough Secretary