MINUTES OF REGULAR SESSION OF COUNCIL

June 26, 2024

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

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

**MARY WILKS 725 ELM STREET**: Ms. Wilks voiced concern regarding the 18-wheeler trucks getting stuck on her street and backing up just missing her gas meter and damaging her property making a big rut in the grass. She asked about putting up a sign, but Mr. Zrenchak told her the truck drivers would not follow it, they use noncommercial GPS, and it takes them in the wrong direction. Mr. Zrenchak advised calling 911 the next time she sees a truck there so that the police can come and make note if any damage is done to submit a claim to the trucking company.

Ms. Wilks also voiced concern about the alley being only half paved and it’s not paved by her garage. Mr. Zrenchak advised her we are not going to pave a paper alley. Ms. Wilks wants the part of the alley that goes to her driveway done. Mr. Zrenchak said Mr. Matlos can go look and put some reclaim down.

**CARL SURGEON 605 RIVER RIDGE ROAD:** Mr. Surgeon stated Jeremy Baker from Pest b Gone set a trap for a racoon on June 10 and someone else from Pest b Gone picked up the trap on June 17 and said he would turn the trap in and return the check for deposit for the trap. Mr. Surgeon made several calls to Jeremy Baker to get the check back with no response. Rachael Waltonbaugh also called him and left two messages with no response. Mr. Zrenchak advised if he still won’t respond we will have to have solicitor Matt Racunas send him a letter.

**GLORIA DUVALL 3334 ORCHARD DRIVE:** Ms. Duvall was inquiring about her air purifier and why she has not received it. Mr. Sowa advised her VCAN would be here at the Liberty Borough building July 9, 2024, from 5:00 PM to 8:00 PM to pass them out. Mr. Sowa suggested she fill out another form and mail it again or call them.

**LOUISE JACKSON 3402 ORCHARD DRIVE:** Ms. Jackson voiced concern that Mr. Miller’s grass is not being cut and she is worried he will fall back into the same habit of not cutting it. Mr. Bogdan advised he has called Chad twice to let him know the grass in the back yard needs cut but has not heard back yet.

**LINDA LUPINACCI 212 NEVADA STREET:** Ms. Lupinacci voiced concern regarding the Japanese knotweed and the trees from the woods that are going into her yard from the borough property. She stated all other trees are being tended to in the borough except hers. Ms. Lupinacci stated this has been going on for years and she should not have to pay to maintain borough property. Mr. Zrenchak advised her the borough should not be taking care of weeds on private property. Ms. Lupinacci said when she is backing out of her driveway, she cannot see due to the weeds. She said the knotweed is bringing snakes and racoons and taking over her property, leaves are constantly in the gutters and causing water problems. Ms. Lupinacci is concerned that every time there is a storm the dead trees will fall. It needs to be looked at. Mr. Zrenchak told Ms. Lupinacci he would do a little research and get back to her.

**BLIGHT COMMITTEE**: Amanda Rausch

Mrs. Rausch said the little free library boxes are being revamped for use and need powder coated so if anyone knows any powder coaters to let her know.

Mrs. Rausch also reminded everyone there will be a Farmer’s Market July 21, August 18, and September 15, 2024, from 9:00AM to 1:00PM at the old Liberty Way School lot. Mrs. Rausch also suggested if anyone knows any vendors to let her know.

**PROPERTY:** Chris Ponchak

No Report.

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

No Fire Report.

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

Fires 2

Rescue & Emergency Medical Services 3

Hazardous Conditions (No Fire) 1

Service Call 1

Good Intent Call 2

False Alarm & False Call 6

Total Incidents 15

Mr. Ponchak read the EMS Report for May 2024. There were 14 responses, 14 EMS Calls, and the average response time was 9.5 minutes. Total calls for 2023 were 335.

**LEGISLATION:** David Sowa

No Report.

**PARKS & RECREATION:** Janice Matyasovsky

Movie night will be July 19, 2024. Ratatouille

Mrs. Matyasovsky told everyone if you received a Southeast Regional EMS subscription in the mail it is important to fill it out so the ambulance service can stay here.

Also, a reminder: Fun to be A kid Day, August 11, 2024; National Night Out August 6th; Saints Joachim and Anne Parish Community Festival August 1st, 2nd. And 3rd 2024; Halloween, October 31, 2024; Light Up Night, December 6, 2024.

**HEALTH & ORDINANCE**: Chris Ponchak

Mr. Ponchak advised we are still looking into trash contracts.

Also, Mr. Ponchak noted we are still looking into occupancy inspections.

**LIGHTS:** Michael Matlos

No Report.

**FINANCE:** Elizabeth Lape

**Motion to Pay:**  Bills for Ratification of **$ 192,796.58**  and List of Bills to Pay **$ 115,367.16**

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

**All in favor. Motion carries.**

**Mr. Zrenchak abstains from the Zrenchak Environmental Services invoice.**

**Bills for Ratification:**

**Payroll**

05/31/2024 EFT ADP[INVOICE] - 90.43

05/31/2024 EFT ADP[CHECKS] - 13,721.96

05/31/2024 EFT ADP[TAXES] - 4,426.99

06/14/2024 EFT ADP[INVOICE] - 92.67

06/14/2024 EFT ADP[CHECKS] - 15,518.05

06/14/2024 EFT ADP[TAXES] - 5,110.95

06/24/2024 EFT ADP[INVOICE] - 0.00

06/24/2024 EFT ADP[CHECKS] - 16,492.41

06/24/2024 EFT ADP[TAXES] - 5,496.53

**TOTAL - 60,949.99**

**Sewer Fund**

**TOTAL - 0.00**

**Highway Fund**

06/2/2024 4597 DUQUESNE LIGHT - 3,486.00

**TOTAL - 3,486.00**

**General Fund**

05/31/2024 EFT PA SCDU - 82.52

06/14/2024 EFT PA SCDU - 82.52

06/12/2024 24004 AFLAC - 125.84

06/12/2024 24005 AMERICAN LEGAL SERVICES - 101.36

06/12/2024 24006 PA AMERICAN WATER - 81.65

06/12/2024 24007 AQUA FILTER FRESH INC - 10.50

06/12/2024 24008 CHRISTIE AND ASSOCIATES - 420.00

06/12/2024 24009 DERKAS AUTO SERVICE - 134.28

06/12/2024 24010 DUQUESNE LIGHT CO - 213.57

06/12/2024 24011 DUQUESNE LIGHT COMPANY - 634.83

06/12/2024 24012 FINAL SCORE TROPHIES - 30.00

06/12/2024 24013 FIRST COMMONWEALTH BANK - 649.87

06/12/2024 24014 JUST-KLEAN INC - 384.00

06/12/2024 24015 MCI - 31.33

06/12/2024 24016 MON VALLEY INDEPENDENT - 421.80

06/12/2024 24017 MR. JOHN OF PITTSBURGH - 133.00

06/12/2024 24018 MURIN & MURN INC -109,738.01

06/12/2024 24019 O’REILLY AUTO PARTS - 29.95

06/12/2024 24020 ONE DIGITAL - 100.00

06/12/2024 24021 ORKIN EXTERMINATING - 207.92

06/12/2024 24022 PA AMERICAN WATER - 1,331.09

06/12/2024 24023 PA MUNICIPAL SERVICE CO - 1,021.43

06/12/2024 24024 PA ONE CALL SYSTEM - 7.49

06/12/2024 24025 PC TIRE & FOAMFILL - 220.98

06/12/2024 24026 PEOPLES NATURAL GAS - 88.73

06/12/2024 24027 RACUNAS LAW GROUP - 2,193.00

06/12/2024 24028 LARRY RATVASKY - 350.00

06/12/2024 24029 RC WALTER & SONS INC - 62.82

06/12/2024 24030 RUSSELL STANDARD CORP - 315.90

06/12/2024 24031 STEEL RIVERS COG - 511.87

06/12/2024 24032 TMOBILE - 176.73

06/12/2024 24033 THE EMBROIDERY PEOPLE - 469.00

06/18/2024 EFT UPMC HEALTH PLAN - 7,943.60

06/12/2024 24034 WESTCOM WIRELESS INC - 55.00

**TOTAL - 128,360.59**

**List of Bills to Pay:**

**Sewer Fund**

06/24/2024 12537 AMERICAN WATER - 82.32

06/24/2024 12538 ZRENCHAK ENVIRONMENTAL - 2,450.00

06/24/2024 12538 CREATIVE ENTERPRISES CORP -56,625.00

**TOTAL - 59,157.32**

**Highway Fund**

**TOTAL - 0.00**

**General Fund**

06/24/2024 24035 AMTRUST NORTH AMERICA - 3,814.00

06/24/2024 24036 AMERICAN NATURAL OPERATIONS - 1,967.46

06/24/2024 24037 AQUA FILTER - 49.25

06/24/2024 24038 DERKAS AUTO - 387.77

06/24/2024 24039 GLENN ENGINEERING - 39,537.89

06/24/2024 24040 GROFF TRACTOR & EQUIPMENT - 451.12

06/24/2024 24041 HTM DESIGNS - 420.00

06/24/2024 24042 LEAF - 196.96

06/24/2024 24043 OREILLYS AUTO PARTS - 19.74

06/24/2024 24044 PEST B GONE - 300.00

06/24/2024 24045 RACUNAS LAW GROUP - 1,662.00

06/24/2024 24046 SAFSECUR LLC - 885.13

06/24/2024 24047 SHERWIN WILLIAMS - 10.44

06/24/2024 24048 TRUGREEN CHEMLAWN - 874.19

06/24/2024 24049 VERIZON - 64.09

06/24/2024 24050 WESTCOMM WIRELESS INC - 55.00

06/24/2024 24051 MCI - 32.76

06/24/2024 24052 ORKIN EXTERMINATING - 207.92

06/24/2024 24053 TEAMSTERS LOCAL UNION (JUNE) - 268.00

06/24/2024 24054 BRICKHAAS PLUMBING - 2,200.00

06/24/2024 24055 COMCAST - 534.52

06/24/2024 24056 AMERICAN LEGAL SERVICES - 101.36

06/24/2024 24058 RACHAEL WALTONBAUGH - 150.08

06/24/2024 24059 CARA SLOSS - 14.94

06/24/2024 24060 SHELLEY AQUILANTE - 40.00

06/24/2024 24061 PA AMERICAN WATER - 110.37

06/24/2024 24062 JUST KLEAN INC - 384.00

06/24/2024 24063 GRAINGER - 716.48

06/24/2024 24064 TRUGREEN CHEMLAWN - 582.80

06/24/2024 24065 PA MUNICIPAL RETIREMENT SYSTEM - 171.57

**TOTAL - 56,209.84**

**PERSONNEL:** Tim Sloss

**Motion to ratify** the approval of placing the ad for full time police officer and a chief of police per said Lizz.

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

**All in favor. Motion carries.**

**STREETS AND SEWERS:** Tim Sloss

No Report.

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

Mayor Sikorski read the Police Report.

**SOLICITOR’S REPORT:** Mr. Racunas

No Report.

**ENGINEER’S REPORT:** Lou Corrales

**Motion to authorize Glenn Engineering to proceed with an advertisement and plans and specifications to correct Liberty Way slide #2.**

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

**All in favor. Motion carries.**

**Motion to pay** Murin & Murn Inc in the amount of $109,738.01.

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

**All in favor. Motion carries.**

**Motion to pay** Creative Enterprises in the amount of $56,625.00.

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

**All in favor. Motion carries.**

Ackenheil Engineers completed the drilling and rock was found approximately 16’ deep. Approximately 9’ shallower than phase one.

E Street storm Sewer is completed.

E Street and Roberts Hollow paving is completed.

Walnut storm sewer project is completed.

The inlet on Fritchie Street has been replaced.

Pump Station will be opening bids July 1, 2024, at 10:00AM for the generator, fence and shed.

Multimodal Transportation Fund Grant Program (MTF) Due July 31, 2024, Grant funding for projects with streetscape, lighting, sidewalk enhancement, and pedestrian safety.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

No Report.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**Motion to adopt** bank resolution for bank accounts.

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

**All in favor. Motion carries.**

**Motion to accept rock salt agreement with Cargill**.

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

**All in favor. Motion carries.**

**CORRESPONDENCE:**

**Motion to accept** the typed minutes from the May 22, 2024, meeting.

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

**All in favor. Motion carries.**

Next meeting dates/times: Work Session Meeting – Wednesday, July 10th, 2024, and the Regular Session Meeting -- Wednesday, July 24th, 2024, at 6:00 pm.

**Motion** to adjourn at 6:33 p.m.

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

**All in favor. Motion carries.**

**Meeting adjourned at 6:33 p.m.**

Respectfully submitted by:

Rachael Waltonbaugh

Secretary/Treasurer