

**MINUTES OF REGULAR SESSION OF COUNCIL
WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 11, 2019**

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

Mr. Ponchak called for a moment of silence to honor those whose lives were lost in the 9/11 attacks in 2001.

Mr. Racunas said the borough has implemented a Public Speaking Policy. Anyone who has signed up to speak will be given three minutes. Mr. Racunas will have the timer and will remind everyone when there is 30 seconds left, so they can wrap it up.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS.**

**Dan McClelland, 3300 Oakland Drive**, asked if the yellow lines recently painted were in addition to the previous ordinance; Mr. Ponchak said yes. Mr. McClelland said all under the old ordinance are not painted; Mr. Ponchak said they should be. Mr. McClelland said Oakland Drive adjacent to the school was not painted, nor Glendale. There is a bunch that was missed. Mr. Ponchak said possibly they were repaved a few years ago and not re-painted. Mr. McClelland said every other road has a designated side, except for Glendale; what was the reasoning behind that. Mrs. Morgan said the other side has the white line for the walking area. Mr. McClelland said that Oakland and Elizabeth Streets also have walking areas, but are not painted. Mr. Ponchak said they will look into it, and also the previous ordinance to ensure all is done.

**Hilary Baker, Jr., 3024 Memory Lane**, asked why the street sign name was changed to New Memory Lane. About twenty years ago, it was New Memory Lane; there was no approval from the post office and they wouldn't deliver the mail. Now he has to change his license, passport, credit cards, and others. Mr. Matlos said the sign was stolen, and they ordered a new one. It will be fixed; they will take the "New" off, and will add the 3000 block.

**Leonard Stinebaugh, 3006 Valley Ridge**, had questions with the new parking regulations. How strictly is this going to be enforced on holidays? He heard some tickets have been written already. Mrs. Morgan said they have not. Mr. Ponchak said it was done for public safety reasons; for access by the Fire Department, EMS, and road crew. Mr. Stinebaugh asked where are people supposed to park for the holidays? Mr. Ponchak said they can't give any allowances. Mr. Racunas said that from a legal perspective, you can't enact an ordinance and not enforce it. Everyone is required to comply with the ordinances.

**Bonnie Evanchak, 601 Roberts Street**, asked about the yellow line at her house. Her address is Roberts, but she is on the corner at F Street, and the yellow line starts at her

house. She feels it should start further up the road; the ordinance states the 2800 side of F Street, so it should start at those houses. Mr. Ponchak said they will have to look at it and let her know. Ms. Evanchak said the alley is overflowing and water is going into the basement. Mr. Zrenchak said there is a catch basin there. Mr. Ponchak said they are aware of it; they have discussed that several catch basins need to be worked on. Ms. Evanchak asked if they have to park off the alley, how do they get out when it snows? Alleys are the last to get plowed. Mr. Zrenchak said they will try to come up with a solution.

**Darla Trunzo, 2806 F Street**, said she moved there twenty-seven years ago, and has never had a complaint until now. The yellow line was painted with no warning or explanation on how the ordinance came to be without the community being notified first. Since she is now restricted from parking in front of her house, she would need to use the alley to access their two-car garage, while owning three vehicles. The alley is in poor condition, and the water from the storms is washing the alley away. There are two storm grates on F Street that are filled with debris, and overflow into the alley. The sewer wall is crumbled, causing a sink hole that gets larger daily. She was told in March that the alley was going to be paved in May; that did not happen. They used to drag the alley every summer, and lay gravel, but it's not been done for two years. The poor condition can cause damage to her vehicles. Mr. Ponchak said the parking issue has been brought up and discussed for at least two years, prior to him being on council; it's been an ongoing issue. They have received complaints and it's been talked about at public meetings; it's been pushed down the road for a long time and finally done. The vactor truck will soon be scheduled to clean out the catch basins. Mr. Zrenchak said that as far as paving alleys is concerned, after the 2018 storm events, it created a larger problem with more surface water and drainage problems. Mrs. Weigand said they used to get millings from the county, and would put it down in the alleys.

**Marcy Cendroski, 3246 Jeffrey Drive**, lived here for fifty years. When they mentioned that this parking issue had been discussed at meetings and it is in the minutes, there have been no minutes on the website since November 2018. Not everyone is able to come down here and look at them. Why is there not a way for the public to have access to the minutes? Mrs. Morgan said it was a volunteer-run website. When the volunteer was screamed at, had an umbrella and finger pointed in his face, and was disrespected; she can see why he was upset. Mrs. Cendroski said she had volunteered in the past to do it, if they show her how. Mr. Ponchak can understand why it was stopped, but they need to look at an alternative way. It will be worked on. Mrs. Cendroski asked, in regards to the street painting, if there wasn't a better way to do it than staple notices to telephone poles. Mrs. Morgan said it was advertised in our paper of record, the Mon Valley Independent. Mrs. Cendroski said since people with multiple vehicles are having problems parking in front of their houses, can we restrict boat parking on the streets? Mr. Ponchak asked Code Enforcement Officer Mike Bogdan if boats can be parked on the street; Mr. Bogdan said no, and there are none parked on the streets; he drives the streets every day.

**Angela Soldati, 2810 F Street**, applied for a handicap parking spot since the parking issue came up. She had to pay a \$65 fee to put a parking area in her yard. The yellow

line was placed on the even side, and there are already two handicap parking spaces on that side. People park on the opposite side across from the handicap parking spaces, so it is still narrow there. The residents on the odd side have garages and driveways. Mr. Ponchak said the ad for the ordinance for the new handicap parking spots is up for approval tonight, and should be adopted at the next meeting. Ms. Soldati asked if she would get her \$65 back; Mr. Ponchak said no. Ms. Soldati said she had to put a parking spot in her yard, since the street parking was taken away; there was nowhere else to park. These parking changes were not communicated well; there were other alternatives. You need to keep up the minutes on the website. Mr. Ponchak said the minutes are available from the office, also.

**Mary Wilk, 725 Elm Street,** said she lives next to the no-name alley. The property below hers needs to be cleaned up. People are putting grass clippings, tree stumps, and dead bushes there and it is starting to add up. Mr. Zrenchak said he will look at it, and see about putting a "No Dumping" sign there. She also agrees there is no communication in the borough. You have to stop and pull your car over to read the sign.

**Donna Tonarelli, 3220 Jeffrey Drive,** had an opinion on the line painting; if you are going to paint lines, paint all the streets, to be fair. The people on the yellow-lined side do not want to park in front of the houses on the other side. People parking in their yards looks like a ghetto, and you get fined if your yard looks bad. Not everyone can afford to put a parking pad in their yard; it would cost her \$2,000 to extend her driveway to put one in. If you have family coming, or during the holidays, you can't fine everyone if they are parked at the yellow line. There is no yellow line on Elizabeth Street, or the small section of Woodrow, which is narrow. Mr. Ponchak said the streets that were done were problematic. Ms. Tonarelli said she had asked the borough several times if they could do something with the cluster of trees on borough property, in the middle of Jeffrey, on the left-handed side going up the hill. It causes a lot of debris, leaves, expense, and work; if they could even cut half of them down and toss them over the hill so they would rot away. Mr. Ponchak said they will look at it. Ms. Tonarelli said the digital sign was a huge mistake; it is not good. Put the old one back. Mr. Ponchak said it was a scout project.

**Chris Esack Peterson, 2725 B Street,** said that in two more Saturdays, it will be our yard sale. She needs someone to put up the banners in front of the borough building, and she wants two tables and chairs put out there.

**Mia Dainty, 3245 Jeffrey Drive,** said her husband is a fireman, and her mother's car was hit, so she understands the need for clearance. She agrees there has to be some notification by social media. Her mom can't get to a meeting, and doesn't get a paper. The residents should have been notified a month earlier; not three days. Can you park anywhere on the street on the unlined side, even in front of another person's house? Mr. Ponchak said that is correct. Mrs. Dainty said that people need to watch what they say when they reply to social media.

### **COMMITTEE REPORTS.**

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

There was nothing to report.

**POLICE.** Mrs. Weigand reporting.

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

Vehicle mileage:

|               | BEGIN  | END    | MILEAGE |
|---------------|--------|--------|---------|
| Unit #130     | Parked | Parked | 0       |
| Unit #131     | 39400  | 40000  | 600     |
| Unit #132     | 70465  | 72327  | 1862    |
| Total mileage |        |        | 2462    |

Vehicle Maintenance:

Unit 130

- Wiper blades

Unit 131

- Battery

Unit 132

- None

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

Total calls: 18

|                     |   |
|---------------------|---|
| Fires               | 5 |
| Rescue and EMS      | 5 |
| Hazardous Condition | 1 |
| Service Call        | 3 |
| Good Intent Call    | 1 |
| False Alarm/Call    | 3 |

The EMS responded to 25 calls.

The firemen are having their Fall Festival this weekend, starting at 5:00 pm on Friday the 13<sup>th</sup>. They are having the same band as last year, a lot of great food, a hayride, a Chinese auction, a rock climbing wall, and lots for the kids. On Saturday, the park will be shut down at noon to prepare for the fireworks.

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

There was nothing to report.

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

Halloween will take place on Thursday, October 31, with Trick-or-Treat taking place from 6:00 pm – 8:00 pm. The parade line-up will be at 5:15 pm in St. Mark's parking lot, and will commence at 5:30 pm.

Come out and support the firemen this weekend.

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

There was nothing to report.

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

There was nothing to report.

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

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

|                                                                     |           |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------|
| Aflac – short-term disability [August]                              | \$ 40.60  |
| American Legal Services – police insurance [September]              | 50.68     |
| American Natural – gasoline                                         | 1,879.20  |
| American Natural – diesel                                           | 799.00    |
| Building Inspection Underwriters (BIU) – building inspection [July] | 165.00    |
| CNH Capital – belt for backhoe                                      | 40.28     |
| Comm of PA – PennVest loan payment [interest only]                  | 839.36    |
| First Commonwealth Bank – loan payment [PW truck]                   | 1,301.99  |
| First Commonwealth Bank – loan payment [2015 street paving]         | 3,686.14  |
| Glenn Engineering – PennVest                                        | 5,926.72  |
| Glenn Engineering – PennVest                                        | 11,007.76 |
| Keystone Collections Group – liens for 2016 tax year                | 540.00    |
| MCI – long distance                                                 | 30.18     |
| PA American Water – EMS                                             | 15.48     |
| PA American Water – garage                                          | 61.29     |
| PA American Water – Municipal Building                              | 39.00     |
| R.A Foster & Son – janitor supplies                                 | 105.00    |
| Ricoh – copier maintenance                                          | 38.22     |
| S & D Calibration – Accutrak certification                          | 26.00     |
| Sprint – mobile laptop                                              | 40.24     |
| TEC Benefits – benefits admin [September]                           | 20.00     |
| UPMC Health Plan – health insurance [September]                     | 2,262.45  |
| Verizon – garage                                                    | 108.37    |
| WestComm Wireless – radio maintenance [9/1/19 – 10/1/19]            | 55.00     |

**TOTAL RATIFIED BILLS**

**\$29,077.96**

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

|                                                                              |             |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------|
| AmTrust – Worker’s Comp installment                                          | \$ 3,447.00 |
| Aqua Filter Fresh – bottled water                                            | 65.42       |
| Center Independent Oil (Double Car Wash) – police vehicles [August]          | 55.00       |
| Collura, Dave – wildlife control [August]                                    | 175.00      |
| Comcast – police Internet                                                    | 163.81      |
| Comcast – phones/Internet                                                    | 291.13      |
| DEP – storage tanks registration/permits                                     | 100.00      |
| Direct Energy – EMS                                                          | 15.36       |
| Direct Energy – garage                                                       | 44.88       |
| Direct Energy – Municipal Building                                           | 323.12      |
| Direct Energy – pump station                                                 | 54.26       |
| Duquesne Light – street lights                                               | 3,181.98    |
| Duquesne Light – EMS                                                         | 22.83       |
| Duquesne Light – garage                                                      | 52.34       |
| Duquesne Light – Municipal Building                                          | 151.05      |
| Duquesne Light – pump station                                                | 86.44       |
| Elizabeth Electric – parts                                                   | 60.70       |
| Glenn Engineering – general engineering                                      | 2,537.50    |
| Glenn Engineering – Act 537                                                  | 840.00      |
| Glenn Engineering – sewage                                                   | 61.25       |
| Glenn Engineering – Liberty Park Tot Lot                                     | 2,796.52    |
| Home Depot – ground clear                                                    | 52.22       |
| Liberty Boro Auto Sales – battery [unmarked car]                             | 167.95      |
| Lico – supplies                                                              | 91.60       |
| Mon Valley Independent – ad [parking ordinance]                              | 109.00      |
| Mr. John – 1 @ Latrobe Park [8/19/19 – 9/15/19]                              | 120.00      |
| Mr. John – 2 @ Manor Park [8/19/19 – 9/15/19]                                | 240.00      |
| O’Reilly – wiper blades                                                      | 51.23       |
| PA American Water – 2nd quarter sewage                                       | 92,790.60   |
| PA American Water – consumption data                                         | 67.11       |
| PA American Water – fire hydrants                                            | 1,097.18    |
| PA Municipal Retirement System – Police Pension [3 <sup>rd</sup> qtr]        | 1,040.00    |
| PA Municipal Retirement System – Non-Uniformed Pension [3 <sup>rd</sup> qtr] | 1,560.00    |
| PA One Call – notices                                                        | 16.26       |
| Peoples Gas – EMS                                                            | 19.94       |
| Peoples Gas – garage                                                         | 19.94       |
| Peoples Gas – Municipal Building                                             | 20.62       |
| Phonetics, Inc – auto dialer [pump station]                                  | 60.00       |
| RA Foster & Son – janitor supplies                                           | 132.50      |
| Racunas Law Group, LLC – Solicitor fees [July]                               | 3,057.00    |
| Sam’s Club - annual membership fee                                           | 45.00       |
| Sherwin-Williams – paint for street markings                                 | 2,142.53    |
| Sprint – cell phones                                                         | 69.48       |
| TEC Benefits – benefits admin [October]                                      | 20.00       |

Zrenchak Environmental Services – pump station inspection [August] 385.00

**TOTAL BILLS \$117,900.75**

Mrs. Weigand made a motion to accept the ratified bills and to pay the list of bills. The motion was seconded by Mr. Matlos and passed unanimously, with Mr. Zrenchak abstaining from the bill for Zrenchak Environmental Services.

The receipts for the month of August are as follows:

**GENERAL FUND**

|                                          |                  |
|------------------------------------------|------------------|
| Real Estate Tax – Aquilante              | 3,024.00         |
| Fire Tax – Aquilante                     | 432.00           |
| Delinquent Real Estate Tax – Keystone    | 6,695.60         |
| Act 77 Tax Refund                        | 7,720.31         |
| Real Estate Transfer Tax                 | 624.26           |
| Earned Income Tax – Keystone             | 29,940.05        |
| Local Services Tax                       | 1,268.93         |
| Zoning/Building Permits                  | 251.50           |
| Zoning/Occupancy Permits                 | 120.00           |
| Solicitor’s Permits                      | 0.00             |
| Dye Test Permits                         | 150.00           |
| Police Fines                             | 179.66           |
| No Lien Letters                          | 60.00            |
| Employee Contribution – Health Insurance | 20.00            |
| COBRA – TEC Benefits                     | 156.25           |
| Police Reports                           | 0.00             |
| Donation (Ballfields) – US Steel         | 2,400.00         |
| Donation (Memorial) – US Steel           | 1,500.00         |
| Fun-To-Be-a-Kid Day Donations            | 1,775.00         |
| Cable TV – Comcast                       | <u>13,226.36</u> |

**TOTAL RECEIPTS FOR THE MONTH \$ 69,543.92**

**GENERAL FUND**

**REGISTER BALANCE \$ 46,464.21**

**GENERAL FUND SAVINGS**

|                         |                   |
|-------------------------|-------------------|
| Interest                | 206.57            |
| <b>REGISTER BALANCE</b> | <b>695,124.67</b> |

**SEWER FUND**

|                         |                   |
|-------------------------|-------------------|
| Customer Payments       | 103,080.93        |
| <b>REGISTER BALANCE</b> | <b>229,840.38</b> |

**HIGHWAY AID FUND**

|                         |                     |
|-------------------------|---------------------|
| Interest                | 18.35               |
| <b>REGISTER BALANCE</b> | <b>\$ 59,803.30</b> |

**SINKING FUND [2018 NOTE]**

|                         |                      |
|-------------------------|----------------------|
| Surcharge               | 13,897.26            |
| PennVest Loan Proceeds  | 16,934.48            |
| <b>REGISTER BALANCE</b> | <b>\$ 115,109.65</b> |

Mrs. Matyasovsky called for a motion to accept the MMOs for the Police Pension in the amount of \$4,180 and the Non-Uniformed Pension in the amount of \$9,420. The motion was made by Mr. Ponchak, seconded by Mrs. Weigand, and passed unanimously.

Mrs. Matyasovsky called for a motion to authorize a letter of acceptance for the 2020 Option Year on the garbage contract with Waste Management. The new rate will be \$37.74 per quarter. The motion was made by Mr. Ponchak, seconded by Mr. Matlos, and passed unanimously.

Mrs. Matyasovsky said if you haven't seen the new Fire Department building, go look at it. They did a good job; it is really beautiful. Chief Derr was in the audience and said they have a security system around the building.

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

There was nothing to report.

**STREETS & SEWERS.** Mr. Zrenchak, Chairman, reporting.

A lot of the issues have already been discussed. The PennVest Project is pretty much wrapped up.

Mr. Zrenchak presented two invoices from State Pipe Services:

|                     |          |
|---------------------|----------|
| Alt. Manhole Rehab: | \$45,050 |
| Pipe Bursting:      | \$53,124 |



The invoices are to be paid from the PA Water and Sewer Grant. Mrs. Matyasovsky made a motion to pay the invoices. The motion was seconded by Mr. Matlos and passed unanimously.

Mr. Zrenchak presented the last two invoices for the PennVest Project:

| <i>From</i>         | <i>For</i>        | <i>Amount</i> |
|---------------------|-------------------|---------------|
| State Pipe Services | Alt Manhole Rehab | 24,507.00     |
| State Pipe Services | Pipe Bursting     | 21,495.10     |

Mrs. Matyasovsky made a motion to pay the invoices. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Weigand and passed unanimously.

Mr. Zrenchak called for a motion to adopt a resolution authorizing the appropriate borough officials to enter into a five-year Winter Maintenance Agreement with PennDOT. Mr. Ponchak made the motion, seconded by Mr. Zrenchak, and passed unanimously.

**MAYOR SIKORSKI'S REPORT.**

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

|                              |    |     |
|------------------------------|----|-----|
| Total Call Activity          |    | 117 |
| Calls for Service            |    | 28  |
| Local Ordinance Complaints   | 9  |     |
| Assaults                     | 5  |     |
| Crimes Against Persons       |    | 1   |
| Traffic Related Incidents    |    | 13  |
| Traffic Stops                | 13 |     |
| Adult Arrests                |    | 1   |
| Traffic Citations Issued     |    | 3   |
| Non-Traffic Citations Issued |    | 1   |
| Assist Fire                  |    | 4   |
| Assist Other Departments     |    | 10  |
| Assist By Other Departments  |    | 7   |

The fines for the month were \$179.66.

**SOLICITOR RACUNAS'S REPORT.**

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

Mr. Racunas called for a motion to advertise Ordinance 2019-04, providing for three additional handicap parking spots. The motion was made by Mr. Ponchak, seconded by Mrs. Weigand, and passed unanimously.

**ENGINEER GLENN'S REPORT.**

All items were discussed at the Work Session. Mr. Glenn asked if there were any questions.

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

Mr. Ponchak called for a motion to accept the typed minutes from the Regular Session on August 14, 2019. The motion was made by Mr. Matlos, seconded by Mr. Ponchak, and passed unanimously.

The next meeting date is Wednesday, October 9, 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 8:20 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Debra L. Helderlein  
Borough Secretary