MINUTES OF REGULAR SESSION OF COUNCIL

April 23, 2025

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

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

**STEVE MAGYAR 2704 A STREET:** Mr. Magyar reported that his garbage had not been collected, prompting him to try to contact Pro Waste. He spoke to Joshua in customer service, who then connected him with Caroline at Pro Waste. Caroline informed Mr. Magyar that a letter had been sent to explain why his trash had not been picked up, but he had not yet received it. She mentioned that the issue was caused by the garbage thrower becoming dirty due to a bag of his dog's feces that broke. Mr. Magyar has requested to see the letter from Pro Waste regarding the suspension of service. Rachael Waltonbaugh informed Mr. Magyar that she had also spoken with Caroline, who confirmed that his garbage would be picked up in the future if the dog's feces are placed in a securely tied, sturdy bag and put out weekly. Caroline added that the original letter might have been lost in the mail and assured Mr. Magyar that she would send another one. Mrs. Waltonbaugh also left a voicemail as a follow-up to Mr. Magyar's phone number.

**DONALD RUDBERG 605 SCENE RIDGE ROAD:** Mr. Rudberg wished to officially state that he was served with a lawsuit today by the Borough of Liberty regarding the property next to his house. Mr. Racunas informed Mr. Rudberg that neither he nor the council would be commenting on any ongoing litigation; if Mr. Rudberg had questions, he was encouraged to contact Mr. Racunas at his office. Mr. Racunas reminded Mr. Rudberg that a letter sent over a year ago indicated a survey had been conducted, identifying that his personal belongings were located on Borough property. We requested that he remove his items, which were followed by multiple discussions with the Borough Council and several phone calls from Mr. Racunas. Despite all of this, Mr. Rudberg continued to refuse to retrieve his belongings from Borough property, leading to the lawsuit against him.

**BLIGHT COMMITTEE**: Amanda Rausch

Mrs. Rausch stated they will be working for Liberty Borough cleanup day. They are also working on reviewing different ordinances next month starting with the garbage ordinance due to recent issues brought up to council from borough residents.

**PROPERTY:** Chris Ponchak

No Report.

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

Mr. Ponchak read the Fire Department Report for March 2025 submitted by Fire Chief Corey Derr:

Alarm system activation – no fire, unintentional 3

Arching, shorted electrical equipment 1

Building fire 7

Brush or brush-and-grass mixture fire 1

Carbon monoxide detector activation 2

Cover assignment, standby, move up 4

Dispatched and cancelled in route 4

False alarm or false call, other 1

Gas leak 1

Motor vehicle accident - with injuries 1

Motor vehicle/pedestrian accident 1

Special outside fire – other 1

Total Incidents 27

Mr. Ponchak read the EMS Report for March 2025. There were 16 EMS Calls, and the average response time was 9.1 minutes.

Chief Ralph Marsico read the Police Report for March 2025.

911 Hang Up 1

Accident – Non reportable 1

Accident – Hit and run 1

Animal Complaint 4

Assist Other Agency 9

Assist Person 1

Automobile Suspicious 1

Beathing Problems 1

Burglar Alarm – Business 1

Business Check 1

Check Hazard 1

Citizen Complaint 1

Civil Dispute 1

Fire Alarm Business 1

Fire Call 1

Found Property 1

Fraud 1

Lockout Vehicle 2

PFA Service 1

Police Detail 2

Sick Person 1

Suspicious Person 1

Traffic Complaint 1

Traffic Stops 44

Trespassing of Real Property 1

Unknown Trouble 1

Warrant Service – Outside Agency-Service 9

Wires Down 1

Total Incidents 92

**LEGISLATION:** Janice Matyasovsky

No Report.

**PARKS & RECREATION:** David Sowa

Mr. Sowa reported that we had the Easter Egg hunt over at Manor School. We had around 55 kids in attendance.

The upcoming Spring Cleanup Day will be May 17th from 9 am to 12 Noon at the Liberty Borough Firehall. **Please note**: no building materials, no tires, no appliances, no brush.

**Just on the agenda so not forgotten about:** Memorial Day event May 25, 2025; Liberty Farmers Market June 28, 2025, Movie Night, July 19, 2025; Liberty Farmers Market July 26, 2025; National Night Out August 5, 2025; Saints Joachim and Anne Parish Community Festival August 7th, 8th and 9th 2025; Fun to be A kid Day, August 16, 2025; Liberty Farmers Market August 23, 2025; Fall Clean Up Day September 20, 2025; Liberty Farmers Market September 27, 2025; Halloween, October 31, 2025; Light Up Night December 6, 2025.

**HEALTH & ORDINANCE**: Chris Ponchak

**Motion to adopt** handicap ordinance 2025-01 for 2800 E Street McKeesport, PA 15133.

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

**All in favor. Motion carries.**

**LIGHTS:** Michael Matlos

The light on Woodrow Street has been replaced.

**FINANCE:** Elizabeth Lape

**Motion to Pay:**  Bills for Ratification in the amount of **$ 68,569.51** and List of Bills to Pay **$48,063.46.**

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

**All in favor. Motion carries.**

**Bills for Ratification:**

**Payroll**

03/28/2025 EFT ADP[INVOICE] - 111.48

04/04/2025 EFT ADP[CHECKS] - 16,152.93

04/04/2025 EFT ADP[TAXES] - 5,206.58

04/11/2025 EFT ADP[INVOICE] - 156.93

04/18/2025 EFT ADP[CHECKS] - 16,099.97

04/18/2025 EFT ADP[TAXES] - 5,347.08

**TOTAL - 43,074.97**

**Sewer Fund**

04/09/2025 12588 PA AMERICAN WATER - 1,348.74

04/09/2025 12589 GLENN ENGINEEERING & ASSOC - 832.50

**TOTAL - 2,181.24**

**Highway Fund**

03/11/2025 4613 DUQUESNE LIGHT COMPANY - 3,761.66

**TOTAL - 3,761.66**

**General Fund**

04/21/2025 EFT UPMC HEALTHPLAN - 8,570.28

04/09/2025 24516 GALVIN REPORTING SERVICES - 280.00

04/09/2025 24517 HOME DEPOT - 1,436.56

04/09/2025 24518 RC WALTER & SONS - 19.82

04/09/2025 24519 AQUA FILTER FRESH INC - 53.00

04/09/2025 24520 CARA SLOSS - 112.81

04/09/2025 24521 PEST B GONE - 300.00

04/09/2025 24522 T-MOBILE - 176.73

04/09/2025 24523 FIRST COMMONWEALTH BANK (CREDIT CARD) - 2,968.07

04/09/2025 24524 JEFFERSON HILLS LAWN EQUIP - 511.99

04/09/2025 24525 WOEHLER LANDSCAPE SUPPLY - 139.92

04/09/2025 24526 PA ONE-CALL SYSTEM INC - 7.23

04/09/2025 24527 SHERWIN WILLIAMS - 22.42

04/09/2025 24528 AFLAC - 125.84

04/09/2025 24529 CITY OF MCKEESPORT - 50.00

04/09/2025 24530 DUQUESNE LIGHT CO - 581.24

04/09/2025 24531 PEOPLE NATURAL GAS - 545.98

04/09/2025 24532 CHRISTIE & ASSOC - 641.00

04/09/2025 24533 SAFSECURE LLC - 948.75

04/09/2025 24534 GLENN ENGINEERING & ASSOC - 2,060.00

**TOTAL - 19,551.64**

**List of Bills to Pay:**

**Sewer Fund**

04/21/2025 12590 SPORTS AND RECREATION ASSOCIATES - 21,500.00

04/21/2025 12591 PA MUNICIPAL SERVICE CO - 1,056.85

04/21/2025 12592 PA AMERICAN WATER - 330.00

**TOTAL - 22,886.85**

**Highway Fund**

**TOTAL - 0.00**

**General Fund**

04/21/2025 24535 PA AMERICAN WATER - 142.78

04/21/2025 24536 TRUMOE AUTO - 274.58

04/21/2025 24537 JIM PARTYKA PLUMBING - 385.00

04/21/2025 24538 ONE STOP TIRE SHOP LLC - 212.49

04/21/2025 24539 BUILDING INSPECTION UNDERWRITERS - 325.00

04/21/2025 24540 LEAF - 196.96

04/21/2025 24541 ONE DIGITAL - 100.00

04/21/2025 24542 DEARBORN LIFE INSURANCE - 146.40

04/21/2025 24543 PA MUNICIPAL RETIREMENT SYSTEM - 132.96

04/21/2025 24544 COMCAST - 356.36

04/21/2025 24545 HB SOUTH PRINTERS - 179.00

04/21/2025 24546 WESTCOMM WIRELESS - 55.00

04/21/2025 24547 TEAMSTERS LOCAL UNION #205 - 364.00

04/21/2025 24548 VERIZON GARAGE - 61.75

04/21/2025 24549 PA MUNICIPAL RETIREMENT SYSTEM - 13,381.12

04/21/2025 24550 TRUGREEN CHEMLAWN - 603.19

04/21/2025 24551 AMTRUST NORTH AMERICA - 4,314.00

04/21/2025 24552 MCI - 32.24

04/22/2025 24553 SHRED-IT USA - 913.68

04/22/2025 24554 PSAB U/C PLAN - 3,000.10

**TOTAL - 25,176.61**

**PERSONNEL:** Tim Sloss

**Motion to accept** the resignation of Officer Michael Birchfield effective April 11, 2025.

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

**All in favor. Motion carries.**

**Motion to accept** the resignation of Officer Leo Di Cesare effective April 17, 2025.

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

**All in favor. Motion carries.**

**STREETS AND SEWERS:** Tim Sloss

**Motion to adopt** Elizabeth Street Storm Sewer resolution 2025-01.

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

**All in favor. Motion carries.**

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

Police Report submitted by Chief Marsico

**SOLICITOR’S REPORT:** Mr. Racunas

No Report.

**ENGINEER’S REPORT:** Lou Corrales

**Motion to pay** the invoice for Sports and Recreation Associates in the amount of $21,500 for the River Road Pump Station generator cover.

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

**All in favor. Motion carries.**

Liberty Way Slide – Phase I & Phase II

Phase I & II are now completed. We have received the final reimbursement of $31,250.00.

Pump Station Cover

This project is complete. I will need a motion to pay the Sports and Recreation Association in the amount of $21,500.00.

Pump Station Fencing

The Generator cover has been installed by the Sports and Recreation Association. The Fence Contract has been awarded to Martin Matta of Precision Fencing. Glenn Engineering has issued a notice to proceed.

LSA Grant Excavator

The Excavator has been delivered. Reimbursement of $144,257.00 has been requested.

Paving Glenn Ave to Liberty Way

We will need a motion to Award El Grande Industries in the amount of $195,140.10 for Liberty Way Paving. The Borough received $100.00.00 in Grant funding.

2024 GEDTF – 179 Council Chambers & Garage Door Rehab

The Borough was awarded $50,000. Glenn engineering has prepared a scope of work and are waiting on the County for approval to advertise.

CD 49 Glenn Ave Embankment

This project is currently underway and should be finished in the near future. The CD Grant is in the amount of $60,744.00 Tedesco’s bid came in at $70,919.00

The Borough’s cost will be $10,175.00 we will receive $1,750.00 off the overall cost due to not having to remove the Guiderails that will reduce the contribution to $8,425.00

A: GTRP Park Grant

This grant is geared toward parks recreation or trails. Glenn engineering has started the grant application process for Lou Wunderly Park. This project requires a 15% match.

B: Small Water and Sewer

The current application has been prepared and will be submitted by the April 30th, 2025 deadline. This project shall replace the concrete storm vault at Elizabeth Street and replace 603 lineal feet of 48’’ storm sewer pipe and manhole. The project cannot exceed $500,000. Therefore, the budget has been prepared as follows

Construction $424,700

Engineering $42,470

Administration $8,494

Contingency $21,235

**OLD BUSINESS:**

No Report.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**Motion to appoint** Ann Marie Sowa, Cathy Beadling, and Carl Surgeon to the Quality-of-Life Appeal Board.

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

**All in favor. Motion carries.**

**Motion to accept** the loan from Brentwood Bank for the purchase of the Police truck.

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

**All in favor. Motion carries.**

**Motion to purchase** a sewer camera for the borough from Home Depot.

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

**All in favor. Motion carries.**

**CORRESPONDENCE:**

**Motion to accept** the typed minutes from the March 26, 2025, regular meeting.

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

**All in favor. Motion carries.**

Next meeting dates/times: Workshop Session Meeting – Wednesday, May 14, 2025 at 6:00 pm, and the Regular Session Meeting -- Wednesday, May 28, 2025, at 6:00 pm.

**Motion to adjourn**.

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

**All in favor. Motion carries.**

**Meeting adjourned at 6:27 p.m.**

Respectfully submitted by:

Rachael Waltonbaugh

Secretary/Treasurer