MINUTES OF REGULAR SESSION OF COUNCIL

June 25, 2025

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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, 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 wanted to express that he has yet to receive any communication from Pro Waste regarding the suspension of his service. He mentioned that water seems to be building up in Maple Alley and requested assistance in getting it graded or a drainage ditch put in. In response, Mr. Zrenchak assured Mr. Magyar that he would contact Mr. Matlos to see if they can address the water issue. Mrs. Waltonbaugh will contact Pro Waste and ask again for the letter to be sent to Mr. Magyar letting him know the reason his service was previously suspended.

**BLIGHT COMMITTEE**: Amanda Rausch

Mrs. Rausch mentioned that the properties located at 2720 Washington Boulevard and 201 Latrobe Street are set for demolition. The little free library boxes are currently at the US Steel Training Center in Duquesne for welding, where they provide all the necessary materials. Mrs. Rausch also reminded everyone that the Liberty Roadside Market will take place on the fourth Saturday of June, July, August, and September. There are 17 Vendors signed up for June.

**PROPERTY:** Chris Ponchak

No Report.

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

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

 Alarm system activation – no fire, unintentional 1

 Building fire 6

 Carbon Monoxide Detector Activation 1

 Cover assignment, standby, move up 3

Dispatched and cancelled en route 3

Gas Leak 1

 Total Incidents 15

Chief Ralph Marsico read the Police Report for May 2025.

 911 Hang Up 1

 Animal Complaint 1

 Assist Other Agency 14

 Assist Person 1

 Burglar Alarm – Business 1

 Civil Dispute 2

 Criminal Mischief 1

 Disables Vehicle 1

 Domestic Disturbance 3

 Fire Alarm - Residence 2

 Found Property 1

 Fraud 1

Harassment 3

Hazardous Conditions 1

Health/Safety 2

Juvenile Disturbance 1

Local Ordinance Violations 1

 Mental Health 3

 Return Phone Call 1

 Suspicious Incident 1

 Suspicious Vehicle 1

 Theft - Bicycles 1

 Traffic Post 3

 Traffic Stops 61

 Welfare Check 1

 Total Incidents 109

Chief Marsico emphasized that the Liberty Borough Police Department is actively working on establishing a Crime Watch program.

**LEGISLATION:** Janice Matyasovsky

No Report.

**PARKS & RECREATION:** David Sowa

Mr. Sowa reminded everyone that the Liberty Roadside Market will take place on the fourth Saturday of June, July, August, and September.

**Just on the agenda so not forgotten about:** Liberty Roadside Market June 28, 2025, Movie Night, July 19, 2025; Liberty Roadside 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 Roadside Market August 23, 2025; Fall Clean Up Day September 20, 2025; Liberty Roadside Market September 27, 2025; Halloween, October 31, 2025; Light Up Night December 6, 2025.

**HEALTH & ORDINANCE**: Chris Ponchak

No Report.

**LIGHTS:** Michael Matlos

No Report.

**FINANCE:** Elizabeth Lape

**Motion to Pay:**  Bills for Ratification in the amount of **$ 61,917.09** and List of Bills to Pay **$ 71,189.37.**

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

 **All in favor. Motion carries.**

**PERSONNEL:** Tim Sloss

**Motion to accept** the resignation of Officer Roger Itzel effective May 11, 2025.

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

 **All in favor. Motion carries.**

**STREETS AND SEWERS:** Tim Sloss

No Report.

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

Police Report submitted by Chief Marsico

**SOLICITOR’S REPORT:** Mr. Racunas

No Report.

**ENGINEER’S REPORT:** Lou Corrales

Pump Station Fencing

Martin Matta of Precision Fencing will begin installation of the fencing in the next few days.

CD 51

 Applied to pave the following streets Spring St, Memory Lane, Jeffrey Drive, Short Street. Waiting for a notice from SRCOG.

Paving Glenn Ave to Liberty Way

 This project has been awarded to El Grande Industries in the amount of $195,140.10 The Borough received $100.00.00 in Grant funding. Liberty Borough's cost will be $45,685 Port Vue's cost will be $8,242.50. We have received the signed contracts and issued a Notice to Proceed.

2024 LSA Municipal Building Renovations

 The current application was submitted this would be for the rest of the Borough building and EMS building renovations. The grant amount for the project is $368,550.00.

 2024 GEDTF – 179 Community Building Improvements

The Borough was awarded $50,000. Glenn Engineering has prepared a scope of work, and we will advertise as soon as we receive the county approvals.

A: GTRP Park Grant

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

B: Small Water and Sewer

The current application has been 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

All the above costs are eligible for reimbursement. The project requires a 15% Match; Council has decided to match 20.2% to $100,000.00 to increase the borough’s chances of receiving this grant.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

Mr. Zrenchak advised that while Liberty Borough is not mandating the use of garbage cans, it is strongly encouraging residents to use them due to a significant uptick in animal activity. It's important to note that the garbage collectors are not obligated to pick up trash from bags that animals have torn open.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

Mr. Zrenchak shared that South Allegheny Youth Football is interested in utilizing our field at 2910 Liberty Way for their practice sessions. They are able to provide insurance coverage. The council would like to gather more details before deciding.

**CORRESPONDENCE:**

**Motion to accept** the typed minutes from the May 28, 2025, regular meeting.

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

 **All in favor. Motion carries.**

Next meeting dates/times: Workshop Session Meeting – Wednesday, July 9, 2025 at 6:00 pm, and the Regular Session Meeting -- Wednesday, July 23, 2025, at 6:00 pm.

**Motion to adjourn**.

 **Motion: Mrs. Lape Second: Mrs. Matyasovsky**

 **All in favor. Motion carries.**

**Meeting adjourned at 6:21 p.m.**

Respectfully submitted by:

Rachael Waltonbaugh

Secretary/Treasurer