

**MINUTES OF REGULAR SESSION OF COUNCIL
WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 9, 2019**

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

**PUBLIC COMMENTS.**

**Marcy Cendroski, 3246 Jeffrey Drive**, informed us that she is now reporting the minutes for Liberty Borough Council Meetings for an online newspaper. She said for everyone to let her know whether they do or do not want their name in the article for the online paper. Mrs. Cendroski asked about the house at the end of Jeffrey Drive (3214). She wanted to know if it was sold or if the borough still owned it. Both, Mr. Ponchak and Mr. Racunas agreed that the house was sold. Mr. Racunas explained that in fact the house has been sold but that he was not sure if the closing was happening yet because there is another attorney handling that transaction. He said that he tries to get an update and he anticipates that the closing took place but that he hasn't heard much about the house. Mrs. Cendroski said that she still sees the Borough employees cutting the grass. Mr. Racunas explained that even if we don't own the property, the public works might still have to maintain the property and then lien it. Mrs. Cendroski said that the neighbors and she would like the weeds to overgrow on the house roof and hide it so no one has to look at it.

**Eileen Wall, 3403 Orchard Drive**, said she was confused about the election. She said she was told by the county that the Democratic and Republican parties would pick somebody to run to fill that extra seat but that other people told her the seat would be filled by the write ins. Mrs. Wall was hoping that someone could clarify. Mrs. Morgan explained that this is a write in campaign. Mr. Ponchak agreed that it is going to be a write in campaign. Mrs. Wall was worried about the people putting in fake names for election and the fake name winning. Mr. Racunas explained that there is a time limit where you have to be sworn in after you win and if not then basically Council would appoint someone to fill that position and that seat will be voted on in the next election.

**Dan McClelland, 3300 Oakland Drive**, asked if he could get an update about why the yellow lines have not been painted from the original ordinance. Mr. Ponchak said that he has just completed a map using Google Earth, whereas he is outlining everything from the old ordinance and the new ordinance that needs to be done and he will be submitting it to the Public Works soon. Mr. McClelland wanted to know what the hurry was to get the new yellow lines painted before the ordinance was even approved. Mr. Racunas explained that there is something called the Pending Ordinance Doctrine. As long as that ordinance is in place and being properly approved, it is still valid. It was still enforceable, even if it was not publically adopted at that point. Mr. McClelland wanted to know why Liberty Borough was dragging their feet painting the yellow lines according to the old ordinance, but that they were in a rush to paint the yellow lines for the new

the old ordinance, but that they were in a rush to paint the yellow lines for the new ordinance. Mr. Ponchak said he didn't believe that to be the case and that the project is being completed.

**Cathy Beadling, 2805 A Street**, asked how many open seats are in this upcoming election. Mr. Ponchak told her that there are four open seats. Ms. Beadling wanted to know how we were going to know who to vote for if Jennifer McClelland is the only write in. Mr. Racunas explained to Ms. Beadling that there are three people on the ticket for four seats. Those three people, assuming they don't get beat by other write ins, will most likely be in the winning. The other seat will go to whoever gets the most write ins. Ms. Beadling asked when the flu shots are. Mrs. Morgan told her that it is October 12, 2019, 9:00 am – 11:00 am. Ms. Beadling wanted to know if it was going to be a regular flu shot. Mr. Ponchak informed her that it was most likely will be.

### COMMITTEE REPORTS.

#### PROPERTY.

There was nothing to report.

#### POLICE. Mr. Ponchak reporting.

Mr. Ponchak read Lieutenant Johnson's report on police equipment for the month of September, as follows:

Vehicle mileage:

|               | BEGIN | END   | MILEAGE |
|---------------|-------|-------|---------|
| Unit #130     | 75    | 221   | 146     |
| Unit #131     | 40000 | 46636 | 636     |
| Unit #132     | 72327 | 73936 | 1609    |
| Total mileage |       |       | 2391    |

Vehicle Maintenance:

Unit 130

- None

Unit 131

- None

Unit 132

- None

The new Chevrolet Tahoe has been placed into service.

Mr. Ponchak read Fire Chief Derr's report for the month of September, as follows:

|                     |    |
|---------------------|----|
| Total calls:        | 12 |
| Odor Investigation  | 1  |
| Motor Vehicle Crash | 2  |
| EMS Assist          | 2  |
| Gas Leak            | 1  |
| Structure Fire      | 2  |
| Rescue              | 1  |
| Fire Alarm          | 1  |
| Vehicle Fire        | 1  |
| Other               | 1  |

The EMS responded to calls.

Southeast Regional EMS will be giving free flu shots on Saturday, October 12, 2019 from 9am – 11am at the municipal building. You must be 18 years or older.

**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.

The Presbyterian Church on Elizabeth Street is having a Community Prayer Walk on October 19, 2019 from 11:00 am until 11:30 am, this is where they take a walk around the church block and then they have a light lunch and refreshments from 11:30 am until 12:30pm in the chapel. The pastor said that anyone that would like to attend is welcome.

Mrs. Morgan called for a motion to award Original Tree Service to trim the trees at the Memorial in the total of \$2,475.00. The motion was made by Mrs. Matyasovsky, seconded by Mr. Matlos, and passed unanimously.

**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 [October]                              | \$ 40.60            |
| American Legal Services – police insurance [October]                 | 50.68               |
| Artman Equipment, Inc. – 2 tires for tractor                         | 298.07              |
| Building Inspection Underwriters (BIU) – building inspection [Sept.] | 110.00              |
| Comm of PA – PennVest loan payment [interest only]                   | 874.01              |
| Comm of PA – PennVest loan payment [principal only]                  | 4,769.21            |
| Dept of the Auditor General – overpaid state aid for 2019            | 2,594.32            |
| First Commonwealth Bank – loan payment [PW truck]                    | 1,301.99            |
| First Commonwealth Bank – loan payment [2015 street paving]          | 3,686.14            |
| Glenn Engineering – PennVest                                         | 3,491.38            |
| Glenn Engineering - PennVest                                         | 4,117.11            |
| Liberty Boro Auto Sales – inspection [Colorado]                      | 71.03               |
| MCI – long distance                                                  | 29.35               |
| McKeesport Police Department – prisoner detainment (2)               | 50.00               |
| Mr. John – 1 @ Latrobe Park [9/16/19 – 10/13/19]                     | 120.00              |
| Mr. John – 2 @ Manor Park [9/16/19 – 10/13/19]                       | 240.00              |
| Orkin – sewers                                                       | 207.92              |
| PA American Water – shutoffs/reconnects                              | 210.00              |
| PA American Water – EMS                                              | 16.86               |
| PA American Water – garage                                           | 63.59               |
| PA American Water – Municipal Building                               | 61.14               |
| Petty Cash                                                           | 227.80              |
| Postmaster – 2 rolls of stamps                                       | 110.00              |
| Ricoh                                                                | 114.95              |
| Ricoh – copier maintenance                                           | 38.22               |
| Sprint – mobile laptop                                               | 40.24               |
| State Pipe Services, Inc. – PennVest                                 | 53,124.00           |
| State Pipe Services, Inc. – PennVest                                 | 45,050.00           |
| UPMC Health Plan – health insurance [October]                        | 2,262.45            |
| Verizon – garage                                                     | 54.05               |
| Volunteer Fireman’s Assoc. – 2019 Fire relief                        | 10,694.50           |
| Volunteer Fireman’s Assoc. – donation for stage for fall festival    | 700.00              |
| WestComm Wireless – radio maintenance [10/1/19 – 11/1/19]            | 55.00               |
| <b>TOTAL RATIFIED BILLS</b>                                          | <b>\$134,874.61</b> |

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

|                                                                   |             |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------|
| AmTrust – Worker’s Comp installment                               | \$ 3,449.00 |
| Aqua Filter Fresh – bottled water                                 | 35.62       |
| Center Independent Oil (Double Car Wash) – police vehicles [Sept] | 75.00       |
| Cher-Ban Tire Service – tires for Colorado                        | 658.36      |
| Collura, Dave – wildlife control [September]                      | 175.00      |
| Comcast – police Internet                                         | 163.81      |

|                                                                              |           |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------|
| DeCarlo Fruit Market – fall decorations                                      | 373.02    |
| Deluxe Business Checks                                                       | 456.26    |
| Duquesne Light – street lights                                               | 3,179.67  |
| Duquesne Light – EMS                                                         | 24.02     |
| Duquesne Light – garage                                                      | 46.47     |
| Duquesne Light – Municipal Building                                          | 139.61    |
| Duquesne Light – pump station                                                | 70.56     |
| EJ Lowery – replace siren/switchbox for 2012 Tahoe                           | 160.00    |
| Elizabeth Electric – parts                                                   | 34.40     |
| Glenn Engineering – general engineering                                      | 1,711.25  |
| Glenn Engineering – sewage                                                   | 45.00     |
| Home Depot –                                                                 | 80.47     |
| Jack Lafferty’s Truck Parts, Inc – parts/lights [2019 Tahoe]                 | 19,990.00 |
| Liberty Boro Auto Sales – battery [marked car]                               | 68.00     |
| Liberty Boro Auto Sales – oil change [2012 Tahoe]                            | 55.11     |
| Mon Valley Independent – ad [handicap parking ordinance]                     | 367.00    |
| O’Reilly – parts                                                             | 14.98     |
| Office Depot – office supplies                                               | 36.26     |
| Office Depot – ink for police printer                                        | 120.91    |
| PA American Water – consumption data                                         | 67.42     |
| PA American Water – fire hydrants                                            | 1,097.18  |
| PA Municipal Retirement System – Police Pension [4 <sup>th</sup> qtr]        | 1,040.00  |
| PA Municipal Retirement System – Non-Uniformed Pension [4 <sup>th</sup> qtr] | 1,560.00  |
| PA Municipal Service Co                                                      | 50.00     |
| PA One Call – notices                                                        | 5.10      |
| Peoples Gas – EMS                                                            | 20.62     |
| Peoples Gas – garage                                                         | 19.94     |
| Peoples Gas – Municipal Building                                             | 20.62     |
| PSAB U/C Plan – [3 <sup>rd</sup> qtr]                                        | 852.37    |
| RA Foster & Son – janitor supplies                                           | 89.50     |
| Racunas Law Group, LLC – Solicitor fees [August]                             | 2,562.00  |
| RC Walters – maintenance supplies                                            | 101.51    |
| S & D Calibration Service – Accutrak certification/battery                   | 26.00     |
| Sprint – cell phones                                                         | 69.48     |
| TEC Benefits – benefits admin [November]                                     | 20.00     |

**TOTAL BILLS** **\$39,131.52**

Mrs. Matyasovsky called for a motion to accept the ratified bills and to pay the list of bills. The motion was made by Mr. Matlos, seconded by Mrs. Morgan, and passed unanimously.

The receipts for the month of September are as follows:

**GENERAL FUND**

|                             |           |
|-----------------------------|-----------|
| Real Estate Tax – Aquilante | 18,982.57 |
|-----------------------------|-----------|

|                                              |           |
|----------------------------------------------|-----------|
| Fire Tax – Aquilante                         | 2,711.79  |
| Delinquent Real Estate Tax – Keystone        | 1,882.11  |
| Act 77 Tax Refund                            | 7,255.52  |
| Real Estate Transfer Tax                     | 2,837.86  |
| Earned Income Tax – Keystone                 | 30,522.04 |
| Local Services Tax                           | 26.00     |
| Zoning/Building Permits                      | 52.00     |
| Zoning/Occupancy Permits                     | 180.00    |
| Solicitor's Permits                          | 0.00      |
| Dye Test Permits                             | 250.00    |
| Police Fines                                 | 1,796.11  |
| Liquor License                               | 450.00    |
| State Pension Aid – Comm of PA               | 14,632.32 |
| Fire Relief – Comm of PA                     | 10,694.50 |
| No Lien Letters                              | 160.00    |
| Employee Contribution – Health Insurance     | 20.00     |
| COBRA – TEC Benefits                         | 156.25    |
| Police Report                                | 30.00     |
| Reimburse of removal of fence – (2813 F St.) | 400.00    |

**TOTAL RECEIPTS FOR THE MONTH** **\$ 93,039.07**

**GENERAL FUND**

**REGISTER BALANCE** **\$ 67,212.57**

**GENERAL FUND SAVINGS**

Interest 185.68

**REGISTER BALANCE** **695,310.35**

**SEWER FUND**

Customer Payments 21,326.33

**REGISTER BALANCE** **45,499.90**

**HIGHWAY AID FUND**

Interest 15.64

**REGISTER BALANCE** **\$ 56,636.96**

**SINKING FUND [2018 NOTE]**

Surcharge 2,311.54  
**REGISTER BALANCE \$ 111,777.91**

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

There was nothing to report.

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

Mr. Zrenchak mentioned that he reported about what he was looking at for the pump station in the workshop meeting and also the pricing for it. He wanted everyone to be aware of the leaves at this time of year. Mr. Zrenchak said that if people are raking leaves, they should not put them in the inlets. He said if it rains and the catch basins are filled with leaves, it may cause flooding. Mr. Zrenchak said we need to keep an eye out so that we don't have issues later on.

**MAYOR SIKORSKI'S REPORT.**

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

|                             |    |     |
|-----------------------------|----|-----|
| Total Call Activity         |    | 125 |
| Calls for Service           |    | 15  |
| Domestic Complaints         | 3  |     |
| Suspicious Person/Vehicles  | 4  |     |
| Alarms                      | 3  |     |
| Missing Persons             | 1  |     |
| Animal Complaints           | 2  |     |
| Disturbances                | 2  |     |
| Local Ordinance Complaint   | 8  |     |
| Assaults                    | 5  |     |
| Weapons                     | 1  |     |
| Narcotics                   | 1  |     |
| Harassments                 | 7  |     |
| Criminal Mischief Complaint | 1  |     |
| Theft Reports               | 1  |     |
| Traffic Accidents           | 5  |     |
| Traffic Stops               | 20 |     |
| Adult Arrests               |    | 2   |

|                              |    |
|------------------------------|----|
| Traffic Citations Issued     | 8  |
| Non-Traffic Citations Issued | 2  |
| Assist Fire                  | 2  |
| Assist Other Departments     | 9  |
| Assist By Other Department   | 7  |
| Assist EMS                   | 20 |
| Junk/Abandoned Vehicles      | 3  |

The fines for the month were \$1,796.11

Mayor Sikorski expressed his concern with the EMS being so far away that it is necessary for Liberty Borough Police to be in the Borough and available. He said it is very important because in a short time a person could have a lot of problems before the ambulance could get here. Mayor Sikorski said the police are going to have to pick up the slack. He is unsure how we can make this happen, but he wants the police to be there within at least a couple of minutes. He said that getting to a call in 11,12,13 minutes is just uncalled for and is going to need to be faster. Mayor Sikorski will be looking into how he can make this more time efficient.

**SOLICITOR RACUNAS'S REPORT.**

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

Mr. Racunas called for a motion to adopt Ordinance 2019-05, for Pennsylvania Municipal Retirement System, adoption agreement. 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 adopt Resolution 2019-04 for a CDBG grant for B Street Storm Sewer in the amount of \$41,470.00. The motion was made by Mrs. Morgan, seconded by Mr. Matlos, and passed unanimously.

Mr. Racunas called for a motion to adopt Resolution 2019-05 for a CDBG grant for Glenn Avenue Embankment Restoration in the amount of \$30,992.00. The motion was made by Mr. Ponchak, seconded by Mrs. Morgan, and passed unanimously.

**ENGINEER GLENN'S REPORT.**

There was nothing to report.



Mr. Ponchak called for a motion to accept typed minutes from the Regular Session on September 11, 2019. The motion was made by Mr. Matlos, seconded by Mrs. Morgan, and passed unanimously.

The next meeting date is Wednesday, November 13, 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. Zrenchak. All were in favor and the meeting adjourned at 7:45 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Jamie Leber  
Office Assistant