

**MINUTES OF REGULAR SESSION OF COUNCIL  
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 14, 2018**

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Regular session of Borough Council convened at 7:35 pm. Present were Councilors Janice Matyasovsky, Tim Sloss, Mike Zrenchak, Mike Matlos, and Chris Ponchak; Mayor Larry Sikorski; Solicitor Matt Racunas; and Engineer Don Glenn.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS.**

**Sam Holloway, 426 Scene Ridge Road**, is concerned about the sewage system. Mr. Ponchak explained that Council was just discussing the sewage system at the workshop meeting and asked Mr. Zrenchak if he would address this issue. Mr. Zrenchak said that Council applied and was accepted for the Penn Vest Loan. He explained how this is a low interest loan, and they are going to use the loan to make the necessary repairs on the sewage system. Mr. Holloway wanted to know if Council has a plan in action. Mr. Zrenchak and Mr. Glenn explain to him that the state has already looked at our plan and approved it. They informed him of how they are going to proceed with the repairs on the system. Mr. Holloway asked if the dye tests were presently finished on the Liberty Borough homes. Mr. Zrenchak said that they were still in the process of dye testing the homes. Mr. Holloway presented Council with a letter expressing his desire to keep the sewage system in-house. He writes that the sewage system is an asset to the Borough. In the letter, Mr. Holloway wants to know if there is an ordinance that supplies information on the contractors performing work in our Municipality. He wants the companies to register with the Borough to protect the aging population from fraud. Mr. Zrenchak said that the letter had a lot of valid points and that they would be happy to look further into it.

**Gregory Black, 3216 Monaca Drive**, asked Council what has been done or what is planning on being done about the storm sewer situation on Monaca Drive and Glendale Drive. Mr. Ponchak said that he didn't know of anything going on with that. Mr. Black explained that he has Council on record stating that they know there is a problem and that they need to put new pipe in to get rid of all the rain water. He said that this has been going on for six years and should have been taken care of by now. Mr. Zrenchak asked Mr. Black what was going on since Mr. Zrenchak is new to Council and would like to know exactly what was happening when it rains. Mr. Black said that about twice a year he gets flooded. Mr. Zrenchak asked him if the flooding happens every time or just when we get an abundance of rain in a short interval of time. Mr. Black expressed that it doesn't matter what kind of rain storm, and that he should not get flooded any time it rains if the sewers were fixed properly. Again, Mr. Zrenchak wanted to know if it was just during big rain storms like the one that hit Liberty Borough in July or if it happens on regular basis every time it rains. Mr. Black said that this isn't the first time and that he has been here several times for the same reason. He asked about the seven other times that he has been flooded. Mr. Zrenchak explained to Mr. Black that he was new to Council and he just started in January of 2018. He asked Mr. Black for more information so he can figure out what is going on with the situation and he can research it for him. Mr. Black stated that the problem is the rain water coming from Jeffrey Drive is water that was never intended to be over there. He said that Council added several storm sewers(catch basins) and the

pipe is 12 inches, and basically half of Scene Ridge, all of Monaca, and Glendale go down to a storm sewer that does not have the capability to handle all of the water. He said Council now wants to drain all the down spouts into there and that will be more added water to the storm sewers that can't dispose of the rain water their getting now. Mr. Zrenchak said that Mr. Black has a legitimate concern, but he will need a little bit of time to research it. Mr. Glenn said that they have been back there and he has sent over reports on the issue. Mr. Glenn will be giving Mr. Zrenchak all the paperwork he has on the situation. Mr. Black said that basically what he was hearing is that nothing has been done. Mr. Glenn said that the work that needed to be done would cost several hundreds of thousands of dollars. Mr. Zrenchak stated that he is the chairperson of this area, but again that he is new and would need to do a little research to give Mr. Black an honest answer on this situation. Mr. Black said that he was getting tired of waiting and that pretty soon if they are not going to fix it, Liberty Borough should figure on buying that property. Mrs. Matyasovsky asked Mr. Black if he was referring to the drains right in front of the ballfield. Mr. Black said yes.

**John Lewis, 2500 C Street**, said he knew Council was talking about rebuilding some of the ballfields, moving somethings around, and obtaining grants to do so. The Pittsburgh Penguins foundation has a program that gives out grants to build deck hockey rinks, and this grant puts deck hockey rinks all around the Pittsburgh area. Mr. Lewis said that with a little bit of effort and not too much cost, he thinks that we can get one of these. He said wherever they want to put the rink, or whatever needs to be taken out such as one of the basketball courts would be just fine. Mr. Lewis said that he had the paperwork with him and the grant could be filled out online. He offered to make some phone calls if we were having a hard time obtaining the grant. Mr. Ponchak asked Mr. Lewis if they could have the envelope with the grant information in it. Mr. Lewis gave the envelope to Council. Mrs. Matyasovsky explained that Mrs. Morgan wasn't there and that she is in charge of parks and recreation. Mr. Lewis said to give it to Missy to have her look at it. He said the worst the foundation could say is no. Mrs. Matyasovsky asked Mr. Lewis to confirm that he was talking about deck hockey and not ice hockey, which he was. She proceeded with stating that she thought there was a deck hockey rink down at Latrobe. They confirmed that there was, but Mr. Lewis explained that this new rink would be nicer. It would be regular size with the sides and would contain the boards. Council thanked Mr. Lewis.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS.**

**PROPERTY.** There was no report in absence of Mrs. Weigand.

**POLICE.** Mr. Ponchak, Chairman, reporting.

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

Vehicle mileage:

|               | BEGIN | END   | MILEAGE |
|---------------|-------|-------|---------|
| Unit #130     | 75602 | 76602 | 1000    |
| Unit #131     | 21100 | 22320 | 1220    |
| Unit #132     | 53300 | 53600 | 300     |
| Total mileage |       |       | 2520    |

Vehicle Maintenance:

Unit 130

- Oil Change

Unit 131

- Oil Change; replaced rear tail light; thermostat

Unit 132

- Part for the seat

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

Total calls: 14

|                          |   |
|--------------------------|---|
| Fires                    | 5 |
| Rescue and EMS           | 2 |
| Hazardous Condition      | 1 |
| Service Call             | 2 |
| Good Intent Call         | 2 |
| False Alarm & False Call | 2 |

Mr. Ponchak announced that the Liberty Borough Fire Department will be hosting a craft show on March 18, 2018, 10:00 am to 4:00 pm. He said it would be great if everyone could stop down and support the fire department.

Mr. Ponchak commended the fire department on a good job with the fire on Scene Ridge the other day. They did a great job stopping the fire.

Mr. Ponchak also had a copy of the EMS report for February, showing 15 incidents for the month, all of which were handled by South East Regional EMS with no mutual aid.

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

There was nothing to report.

**PARKS & RECREATION.** Mr. Ponchak, reporting in absence of Mrs. Morgan.

The Easter Egg Hunt will take place on Saturday, March 24 at 11:00 am for children ages 10 and under at the Liberty Borough Fire hall.

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

We still have not received the Animal Control contracts back from Gaydos-Behanna Kennel, but she is fulfilling her duties.

The Solicitor's Permit for Comcast is being kept as it is right now. Comcast would need to pay if they want to solicit.

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

There was nothing to report.

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

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

|                                                                  |                    |
|------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------|
| ALOM – Spring Conference [7 attendees]                           | \$ 2,305.00        |
| American Legal Services – police insurance [March]               | 50.68              |
| Deluxe – 1000 General Fund checks                                | 434.05             |
| Derkas Auto Body – repair unmarked Impala [right rear damage]    | 1,299.00           |
| First Commonwealth Bank – loan payment [PW truck]                | 1,301.99           |
| First Commonwealth Bank – loan payment [2015 street paving]      | 3,686.14           |
| Go Daddy – annual email renewal                                  | 64.08              |
| PA American Water – consumption data                             | 64.68              |
| PA American Water – EMS                                          | 16.50              |
| PA American Water – garage                                       | 194.69             |
| PA American Water – Municipal Building                           | 41.56              |
| Ricoh – copier maintenance                                       | 38.22              |
| Slack Overhead Doors – repair EMS garage door / remote control   | 425.00             |
| Seven Springs – ALOM Spring Conference room deposits [7 @ \$100] | \$700.00           |
| Sprint – mobile laptop                                           | 40.24              |
| Symantec – annual anti-virus renewal                             | 96.29              |
| UPMC Health Plan – health insurance [March]                      | 2,485.26           |
| Verizon – garage                                                 | 57.16              |
| WestCom Wireless – police radios maintenance                     | 55.00              |
| <b>TOTAL RATIFIED BILLS</b>                                      | <b>\$13,355.54</b> |

Mr. Matlos made a motion to accept the ratified bills. The motion was seconded by Mr. Sloss and passed unanimously.

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

|                                                    |             |
|----------------------------------------------------|-------------|
| Am Trust North America – Worker's Comp installment | \$ 4,099.00 |
| Aqua Filter Fresh – bottled water                  | 42.07       |

|                                                                      |              |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------|
| Cargill – salt                                                       | 1,664.69     |
| Cargill – salt                                                       | 3,354.49     |
| Cargill – salt                                                       | 1,687.02     |
| Cargill – salt                                                       | 3,291.74     |
| Center Independent Oil (Double Car Wash) – police vehicles [Feb]     | 5.42         |
| Christie & Assoc – bond for Secretary                                | 420.00       |
| Collura, Dave – wildlife control [February]                          | 140.00       |
| Comcast – phones/Internet                                            | 286.81       |
| Comcast – Internet [police office]                                   | 163.81       |
| Direct Energy – EMS                                                  | 64.10        |
| Direct Energy – garage                                               | 91.76        |
| Direct Energy – Municipal Building                                   | 261.29       |
| Direct Energy – pump station                                         | 233.48       |
| Dravosburg Truck Stop – oil change / hose / transmission lines       | 429.29       |
|                                                                      | [Ford truck] |
| Duquesne Light – street lights                                       | 3,228.77     |
| HR Direct (GNeil) – annual Poster Guard fee                          | 83.73        |
| Glenn Engineering – general engineering                              | 2,380.00     |
| Glenn Engineering – PennVest                                         | 145.00       |
| Glenn Engineering – sewage                                           | 1,110.00     |
| Home Depot – items for Memorial and garage                           | 77.84        |
| MCI – long distance                                                  | 29.89        |
| Municipal Authority, City of McKeesport – 4th quarter sewage         | 113,964.48   |
| NAPA Auto Parts – parts for Ford truck (shipping only)               | 9.89         |
| O’Reilly Auto Parts – backhoe and general supplies                   | 315.40       |
| Office Depot – general supplies and copy paper                       | 165.04       |
| Orkin – annual termite inspection [EMS Building]                     | 253.12       |
| Orkin – sewers                                                       | 207.92       |
| PA American Water – fire hydrants                                    | 1,177.11     |
| PA Municipal Retirement System – Police Pension [1st qtr]            | 1,040.00     |
| PA Municipal Retirement System – Non-Uniformed Pension [1st qtr]     | 2,340.00     |
| PA One Call – notices                                                | 16.25        |
| Paul’s Auto Service – police vehicles                                | 1,169.87     |
| Peoples Gas – EMS                                                    | 139.68       |
| Peoples Gas – Municipal Building                                     | 272.12       |
| Peoples Gas – garage                                                 | 159.36       |
| Ponchak, Christopher – reimburse for PW portable radio batteries     | 49.98        |
| Racunas Law Group, LLC – Solicitor fees [January]                    | 2,697.00     |
| Ricoh – copier lease                                                 | 114.95       |
| Russell Standard – cold patch                                        | 209.44       |
| Sprint – cell phones                                                 | 280.99       |
| Steel Rivers COG – dinner [3/1/18 meeting]                           | 20.16        |
| TEC Benefits – benefits admin [April]                                | 30.00        |
| TEC Benefits – deductible reimbursement [Helderlein]                 | 44.07        |
| Zrenchak Environmental Services – pump station inspection [February] | 560.00       |

**TOTAL BILLS**

**\$148,527.03**

Mr. Matlos made a motion to accept the list of bills. The motion was seconded by Mr. Sloss and passed, with Mr. Zrenchak and Mrs. Matyasovsky abstaining on the bill for Zrenchak Environmental Services in the amount of \$ 560.00.

The receipts for the month of February are as follows:

**GENERAL FUND**

|                                                          |                     |
|----------------------------------------------------------|---------------------|
| Real Estate Tax – Aquilante                              | 1,079.92            |
| Fire Tax – Aquilante                                     | 190.58              |
| Delinquent Real Estate Tax – Keystone                    | 3,139.26            |
| Act 77 Tax Refund                                        | 6,919.97            |
| Real Estate Transfer Tax                                 | 1,310.75            |
| Earned Income Tax – Keystone                             | 24,109.42           |
| Local Services Tax                                       | 1,695.31            |
| Zoning/Building Permits                                  | 70.05               |
| Zoning/Occupancy Permits                                 | 180.00              |
| Dye Test Permits                                         | 300.00              |
| Police Fines                                             | 260.04              |
| No Lien Letters                                          | 120.00              |
| Right-of-Way Permit – Duquesne Light                     | 35.00               |
| Insurance Claim (Tahoe Accident) – Allied World National | 1,836.64            |
| Reimburse Electric – Southeast Regional EMS              | 68.25               |
| Cable TV – Comcast                                       | 14,299.25           |
| Insurance Policy Refund – Christie & Assoc               | <u>87.00</u>        |
| <b>TOTAL RECEIPTS FOR THE MONTH</b>                      | <b>\$ 55,701.44</b> |

**GENERAL FUND**

**REGISTER BALANCE** **\$ 13,901.64**

**GENERAL FUND SAVINGS**

Interest 22.17  
**REGISTER BALANCE** **274,286.63**

**SEWER FUND**

Customer Payments 99,834.07  
 Surcharge 11,639.06  
**REGISTER BALANCE** **\$ 113,095.49**

**HIGHWAY AID FUND**

|                                      |                  |
|--------------------------------------|------------------|
| Interest                             | .57              |
| Temporary Transfer from General Fund | 3,500.00         |
| <b>REGISTER BALANCE</b>              | <b>\$ 196.92</b> |

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

There was nothing to report.

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

Mr. Zrenchak explained that when American Natural came to put fuel in the gas tanks at the borough garage, they discovered that we do not have a current DEP Permit for the fuel tanks. DEP is requesting paperwork and an inspection on the fuel tanks. Council is authorizing Mr. Glenn to do background research on the fuel tanks to see when the tanks were installed and that we have everything in order. If we do not have the proper paperwork and inspection, then we will need to have authorized DEP contractors to come in and determine what the materials of the tank are and then determine what we need to do from there.

Mrs. Matyasovsky made a motion to authorize proposals from approved DEP contractors to proceed with determining construction materials of tanks/pipes and other requirements as recommended by DEP. The motion was seconded by Mr. Matlos and passed unanimously.

Mr. Zrenchak spoke about the sink hole at 3310 Liberty Way. He said the storm sewer needs to be fixed. Council received bids to have that repaired and the lowest bidder was Urban Construction for \$3,000.00.

Mr. Matlos made a motion to have Urban Construction, the lowest bidder, to make repairs to that storm sewer. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Matyasovsky and passed unanimously.

Mr. Zrenchak stated that until the fuel tank situation is straightened out that we will have to apply for a gas card so that we have gas for the vehicles.

Mr. Zrenchak made the motion to approve the secretary to apply for fuel cards for the borough vehicles. The motion was seconded by Mr. Matlos and passed unanimously.

**MAYOR SIKORSKI'S REPORT.**

Mayor Sikorski stated that nothing outstanding happened last month. He said there was 20 service calls. From those calls: 3 were domestic complaints, 4 alarms, 1 missing persons, 5 animal complaints, 3 disturbances, 5 local ordinance complaints, and 2 narcotics. There was one crime against person and one theft report. The mayor reported

that we had six accidents, and he doesn't have a breakdown of the traffic reports but that he hopes that they weren't anywhere near the school kids. Mayor Sikorski and Councilman Mr. Sloss agree that it is dark in the morning and we definitely need the police on call. Mr. Sloss said the police should be watching out for the middle/high school kids from 6:45 am to 7:30 am. Officer Johnson agreed. The traffic citations issued was 14 and we assisted other departments on the ratio of 2:1, which means that they must have more problems than we do. We tagged 30 vehicles this month, residents removed five and the police removed one. We don't have the status on the other vehicles because our code enforcement officer is in the hospital.

### **SOLICITOR RACUNAS'S REPORT.**

Mr. Racunas presented Resolution 2018-07, for the destruction of sewage billing records for 2009 and 2010. Mr. Matlos made a motion to adopt the resolution. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Matyasovsky and passed unanimously.

Mr. Racunas called for a motion to give McGauley Subdivision a 30-day extension as discussed previously. Mr. Matlos made the motion. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Matyasovsky and passed unanimously.

### **ENGINEER GLENN'S REPORT.**

All items were covered at the Work Session. Mr. Glenn would like to meet within the next two weeks with the committee, concerning the recreation grant, and to keep the process moving; it is due in April.

Mr. Glenn called for a motion to ratify the action of adopting Resolution 2018-05, dated February 14, 2018, requesting a PA Small Water & Sewer Grant in the amount of \$500,000. Mrs. Matyasovsky made the motion. The motion was seconded by Mr. Matlos and passed unanimously.

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

Mr. Matlos made a motion to accept the typed minutes from the Regular Session on February 14, 2018. The motion was seconded by Mr. Sloss and passed unanimously.

The next meeting date is Wednesday, April 11, 2018, with the Work Session at 6:00 pm and the Regular Session at 7:30 pm.

A motion to adjourn was made by Mrs. Matyasovsky, seconded by Mr. Matlos. All were in favor and the meeting adjourned at 7:55 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Jamie Leber  
Office Assistant