MINUTES OF REGULAR SESSION OF COUNCIL

March 26, 2025

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

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

**LINDA SURGEON 605 RIVER RIDGE ROAD:** The storm outlet near the building, where the stormwater is directed, is not fully graded down. Linda is worried about its proximity to the playground and the fire hall that people rent. Mr. Zrenchak explained that the grading was lowered at one point because debris kept getting trapped, causing the storm drain to back up. He mentioned that the design in that area is problematic due to the flat terrain, which affects the flow of water. Mr. Zrenchak offered to take a look at the situation further for Mrs. Surgeon.

**RODNEY NACCARATO 823 ELIZABETH STREET:** Mr. Naccarato expressed concerns about the hillside, which date back a few years. He mentioned that a plan was supposed to be created to secure the hillside after excavation work was done. Mr. Zrenchak stated that Public Works had not worked on the ditch, but Mr. Naccarato countered by saying that work was conducted on March 15, when Bruce was seen removing vegetation from the area. Mr. Zrenchak indicated that he would need to investigate further, noting that the issue involves the hillside created by tires and questions about who built it. Mr. Naccarato clarified that he was not responsible for it, as it likely dates back 50 or 80 years, though it is clear that excavation has occurred on his hillside. Mr. Zrenchak pointed out that there is a Verizon right-of-way in that vicinity, which is where the digging took place. Mr. Naccarato claimed the digging encroached on his property and mentioned that he had a survey conducted, with pins marking the boundaries. He requested that the ditch be filled back in to prevent water from pooling in the area. Mr. Zrenchak agreed to follow up with Mr. Naccarato regarding these concerns.

**BLIGHT COMMITTEE**: Amanda Rausch

No Report.

**PROPERTY:** Chris Ponchak

No Report.

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

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

Alarm System Activation – no fire, unintentional 3

Building Fire 7

Cover Assignment, standby, move up 1

Dispatched and cancelled in route 3

Motor Vehicle Accident - no injuries 2

Power Line Down 1

Total Incidents 17

Mr. Ponchak read the EMS Report for February 2025. There were 17 EMS Calls, and the average response time was 9.2 minutes.

Chief Ralph Marsico read the Police Report for February 2025.

911 Hang Up 2

Accident – Non reportable 1

Aggravated Assault 1

Alarm 2

Animal Complaint 3

Animal Complaint – Injured/deceased deer 2

Assist Other Agency 9

Business Check 1

Civil Dispute 1

Destructive Damage 1

Disorderly Conduct 4

Domestic Disturbance 4

EMS Call 2

Fighting 1

Fire Alarm Business 1

Follow Up Report 1

Harassment 1

Hazardous Conditions 2

Local Ordinance Violations – All Other 1

Local Ordinance Violations – Noise Complaint 1

Missing Juvenile 1

Parking Complaint 3

Repossessed Vehicle 1

Road Hazard 2

School Walkthrough 1

Simple Assault 1

Suspicious Incident 1

Suspicious Person 1

Suspicious Vehicle 2

Theft 2

Traffic Stops 16

Warrant Service 3

Welfare Check 2

Weapon Law Violations 1

Total Incidents 78

**LEGISLATION:** Janice Matyasovsky

No Report.

**PARKS & RECREATION:** David Sowa

Mr. Sowa reported The Senior Citizen Dinner was a great success and probably the best one yet. He thanked everyone who participated in helping.

Mr. Sowa mentioned we are still looking for vendors for the Farmers Market to be held in Liberty Borough. Mrs. Rausch said we currently have 8 vendors signed up so far.

**Just on the agenda so not forgotten about:** Easter Egg Hunt April 12, 2025; Spring Clean Up Day May 17, 2025; 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

No Report.

**LIGHTS:** Michael Matlos (not in attendance)

No Report.

**FINANCE:** Mr. Zrenchak Elizabeth Lape (not in attendance)

**Motion to Pay:**  Bills for Ratification in the amount of **$ 90,266.28** and List of Bills to Pay **$ 168,944.42.**

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

**All in favor. Motion carries.**

**Bills for Ratification:**

**Payroll**

02/28/2025 EFT ADP[INVOICE] - 111.48

03/07/2025 EFT ADP[CHECKS] - 17,048.46

03/07/2025 EFT ADP[TAXES] - 5,724.24

03/14/2025 EFT ADP[INVOICE] - 92.61

03/21/2025 EFT ADP[CHECKS] - 19,779.56

03/21/2025 EFT ADP[TAXES] - 6,072.09

**TOTAL - 48,828.44**

**Sewer Fund**

02/24/2025 12583 PA AMERICAN WATER - 82.10

03/11/2025 12584 PA AMERICAN WATER - 1,348.74

03/11/2025 12585 PA MUNICIPAL SERVICE - 1,060.62

03/12/2025 12586 PA AMERICAN WATER - 84.70

**TOTAL - 2,576.16**

**Highway Fund**

03/11/2025 4611 DUQUESNE LIGHT COMPANY - 3,752.07

03/11/2025 4612 CARGILL INC - 8,244.51

**TOTAL - 11,996.58**

**General Fund**

03/07/2025 EFT PA SCDU - 184.62

03/21/2025 EFT PA SCDU - 184.62

03/14/2025 EFT UPMC HEALTHPLAN - 8,570.28

03/11/2025 24474 TURNLEY ROBERTSON & ASSOCIATES, LLC - 3,250.00

03/11/2025 24475 RUSSELL STANDARD CORP - 334.10

03/11/2025 24476 HOME DEPOT - 207.50

03/11/2025 24477 RACUNAS LAW GROUP LLC - 1,419.00

03/11/2025 24478 AMERICAN LEGAL SERVICE - 101.36

03/11/2025 24479 SHAUN M FINNERAN - 300.00

03/11/2025 24480 AQUA FILTER FRESH INC - 34.00

03/11/2025 24481 AFLAC - 125.84

03/11/2025 24482 DUQUESNE LIGHT CO - 790.60

03/11/2025 24483 LEAF - 196.96

03/11/2025 24484 ONE DIGITAL - 100.00

03/11/2025 24485 FIRST COMMONWEALTH BANK - 1,489.27

03/11/2025 24486 T-MOBILE - 176.73

03/11/2025 24487 PEOPLES NATURAL GAS - 975.97

03/11/2025 24488 SAFSECUR LLC - 948.75

03/11/2025 24489 SATTERLEE RESOURCES - 1,841.96

03/11/2025 24490 COMCAST - 359.65

03/11/2025 24491 STEEL RIVERS COG - 607.44

03/11/2025 24493 DON ZOMBEK - 252.45

03/11/2025 24494 AMTRUST NORTH AMERICA - 4,314.00

03/11/2025 24495 STEEL RIVERS COG - 100.00

**TOTAL - 26,865.10**

**List of Bills to Pay:**

**Sewer Fund**

02/24/2025 12583 PA AMERICAN WATER - 82.10

**TOTAL - 82.10**

**Highway Fund**

**TOTAL - 0.00**

**General Fund**

03/25/2025 24496 RACUNAS LAW GROUP - 1,545.00

03/25/2025 24497 RC WALTERS - 46.50

03/25/2025 24498 STEEL RIVERS COG - 1,629.86

03/25/2025 24499 LBAA (DONATION) - 200.00

03/25/2025 24500 AMERICAN LEGAL SERVICES - 101.36

03/25/2025 24501 JAMIE LEBER - 38.66

03/25/2025 24502 CITY OF MCKEESPORT - 50.00

03/25/2025 24503 VERIZON - 61.44

03/25/2025 24504 WESTCOMM WIRELESS - 55.00

03/25/2025 24505 PA MUNICIPAL RETIREMENT SYSTEM - 132.96

03/25/2025 24506 SHERWIN WILLIAMS - 246.24

03/25/2025 24507 TEAMSTERS LOCAL #205 - 364.00

02/24/2025 24508 GOLDBERG LEGAL SERVICES - 40.00

03/25/2025 24509 PA AMERICAN WATER - 337.39

03/25/2025 24510 MCI - 32.15

03/25/2025 24511 GLENN ENGINEERING & ASSOCIATES - 17,106.30

03/25/2025 24512 SATTERLEE RESOURCES - 352.84

03/26/2025 24513 GROFF TRACTOR & EQUIPMENT - 145,550.00

03/26/2025 24514 ORKIN EXTERMINATING - 207.92

03/26/2025 24515 W.B. MASON - 86.80

**TOTAL - 168,184.42**

**PERSONNEL:** Tim Sloss

No Report.

**STREETS AND SEWERS:** Tim Sloss

No Report

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

Mayor Sikorsksi voiced concern regarding the Studebaker parked outside of Linda Ginther’s house. Mr. Bogdan let everyone know Ms. Ginther had an online auction and needed to remove the vehicle from the garage and place it outside so the forklift could be removed from the garage and then she would park it back inside of the garage.

**SOLICITOR’S REPORT:** Mr. Racunas

No Report.

**ENGINEER’S REPORT:** Lou Corrales

Liberty Way Slide – Phase I & Phase II

The Borough has received Reimbursement of $150,000 for the Liberty Way slides. This will Conclude the project.

Pump Station

Mark Ford expects to have the cover delivered by mid-April. Installation is expected to be completed in May.

Pump Station Fencing

When the cover is installed by Mark Ford, the fencing will follow. The contract has been awarded to Martin Matta of Precision Fencing.

LSA Grant Backhoe

Upon receipt of the excavator, the Borough shall pay for same and then I shall seek reimbursement from Harrisburg. Please advise when the excavator is delivered. I shall need a copy of the cancelled check, both sides.

CD 51

We submitted an application to pave the following streets.

Spring

Memory Lane

Jeffrey Drive

Short Street

Waiting for a notice from SRCOG.

Paving Glenn Ave to Liberty Way

Port Vue Council voted to include the intersection of Liberty Way & Glenn Ave. The Bid Books Have been prepared Advertisements will start tomorrow. Bids will be opened on April 21, 2025 at 10:00 am. The contractors will invoice Port Vue directly. The Borough did receive 100,000.00 LSA Grant for the project.

2024 GEDTF – 179 Council Chambers & Garage Door Rehab

The Borough was awarded $50,000. Glenn engineering Has prepared a Scope of work and we are waiting on the County for approval.

CD 49

A letter was sent to Steel Rivers COG to award the Glenn Avenue embankment project to Tedesco in the amount of $70,919.

The CD Grant is in the amount of $60,744. Steel Rivers COG has issued a Notice to Proceed we are waiting for a start date from Tedesco.

A: GTRP Park Grant

This grant is geared toward parks and recreation or trails. Glenn engineering Has started the grant application process for the Lou Wunderly Park. This project requires a 15% match and is due at the end of May.

B: Small Water and Sewer

Request can be directed at sanitary or storm sewer projects and applications are due at the end of April.

Projects must be at least $30,000 and cannot exceed $500,000.

Matching funds require 15%, however, the more the Borough agrees to, the better are the chances of receiving a grant.

The Borough is in dire need of storm sewers which is an eligible item.

Please advise ASAP if you wish to have an application submitted, since considerable time is required to prepare an application.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

No Report.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

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

**Motion: Mr. Sloss Second: Mr. Sowa**

**All in favor. Motion carries.**

**CORRESPONDENCE:**

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

**Motion: Mr. Ponchak Second: Mr. Sowa**

**All in favor. Motion carries.**

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

**Motion to adjourn**.

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

**All in favor. Motion carries.**

**Meeting adjourned at 6:23 p.m.**

Respectfully submitted by:

Rachael Waltonbaugh

Secretary/Treasurer