MINUTES OF REGULAR SESSION OF COUNCIL

February 26, 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, Solicitor Matt Racunas, David Sowa, Janice Matyasovsky, Mayor Larry Sikorski and Borough Engineer Lou Corrales.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

None.

**BLIGHT COMMITTEE**: Amanda Rausch

Mrs. Rausch informed everyone that the Blight Committee met on February 19th, 2025. They are still looking for two Liberty Borough residents to become part of the Blight Committee. There was a call made to Senator Pisciottano’s office regarding some alternate ways to have properties torn down that the Blight Committee has been working on for years so they don’t have to solely rely on receiving money from ACT 152 that we may or may not get. Clean up day for the Spring will be May 17th, 2025, and the Blight Committee will be participating.

**PROPERTY:** Chris Ponchak (not in attendance)

**Motion to move** Pro Waste LLC garbage pickup day to Tuesdays.

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

**Roll Call Vote:**

**Mr. Matlos Yes**

**Mr. Sowa Yes**

**Mrs. Lape Yes**

 **Mr. Sloss Yes**

 **Mrs. Matyasovsky Yes**

 **Mr. Zrenchak No**

**Motion Carries.**

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

Mr. Zrenchak read the Fire Department Report for January 2025 submitted by Fire Chief Corey Derr:

 Alarm System Activation – no fire, unintentional 2

Arcing, shorted electrical equipment 1

 Building Fire 5

 Cover Assignment, standby, move up 1

Dispatched and cancelled in route 3

 Fire - Other 1

 Gas leak 1

 Medical Assist - assist EMS crew 1

Motor Vehicle Accident - no injuries 2

Power Line Down 1

Search for person on land 1

 Total Incidents 19

Mrs. Matyasovsky read the EMS Report for January 2025. There were 18 EMS Calls, and the average response time was 9.8 minutes.

Chief Ralph Marsico read the Police Report for January 2025.

 911 Hang Up 1

Accident – Non reportable 1

Aggravated Assault 1

 Alarm 2

 Animal Complaint 5

 Assist Other Agency 9

 Business Check 1

 Civil Dispute 1

 Destructive Damage 1

 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

Misc Disturbance 1

 Missing Juvenile 1

 Parking Complaint 3

 Repossessed Vehicle 1

 School Walkthrough 1

 Suspicious Incident 1

 Suspicious Person 1

 Suspicious Vehicle 1

 Theft 2

 Traffic Complaint 3

 Traffic Stops 22

 Unauthorized Use of a Motor VehicleHealth/Safety 1

 Warrant Service 3

 Welfare Check 2

 Total Incidents 79

**LEGISLATION:** Janice Matyasovsky

No Report.

**PARKS & RECREATION:** David Sowa

The Senior Citizen Dinner will be March 19, 2025, @ 6:00 pm @ Liberty Borough Volunteer Fire Department Social Hall. Please RSVP, the Deadline is March 14. Olive Garden will be served.

Mr. Sowa made a list of the activities for the year. They can be picked up at the Liberty Borough building if anyone would like them.

**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.

Mr. Zrenchak added that for clean up day we had people abuse the use of the dumpsters provided and the Borough was charged for it. Going forward, if it continues, we will be charging a fee to residents for clean-up day. We currently provide it as a courtesy to our residents.

**HEALTH & ORDINANCE**: Chris Ponchak (not in attendance)

No Report.

**LIGHTS:** Michael Matlos

Mr. Matlos said the streetlight is still out on Woodrow Street and has been reported several times to Duquesne Light.

**FINANCE:** Elizabeth Lape

**Motion to Pay:**  Bills for Ratification in the amount of **$ 117,741.49** and List of Bills to Pay **$ 218,660.41.**

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

 **All in favor. Motion carries.**

**Mr. Zrenchak abstains from the invoice for Zrenchak Environmental Services.**

**Bills for Ratification:**

**Payroll**

01/29/2025 EFT ADP[INVOICE] - 356.10

02/03/2025 EFT ADP[CHECKS] - 16,784.31

02/07/2025 EFT ADP[TAXES] - 5,678.79

01/31/2025 EFT ADP[INVOICE] - 116.19

02/20/2025 EFT ADP[CHECKS] - 16,794.97

02/20/2025 EFT ADP[TAXES] - 5,602.85

02/14/2025 EFT ADP[INVOICE] - 97.33

**TOTAL - 45,430.54**

**Sewer Fund**

01/06/2025 12578 PA MUNICIPAL SERVICE - 1,182.14

02/10/2025 12579 PA AMERICAN WATER - 1,348.74

02/10/2025 12580 GLENN ENGINEERING & ASSOC - 357.50

02/11/2025 12581 ROBINSON PIPE - 3,500.00

02/12/2025 12582 ZRENCHAK ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES INC - 945.00

**TOTAL - 7,333.38**

**Highway Fund**

02/10/2025 4609 CARGILL INC - 28,002.27

02/10/2025 4610 DUQUESNE LIGHT COMPANY - 3,753.67

 **TOTAL - 31,755.94**

**General Fund**

01/22/2025 24430 ORKIN EXTERMINATING - 207.92

01/27/2025 24431 AMERICAN LEGAL SERVICES - 188.24

01/30/2025 24432 C.A.S.E. DISCOUNT FLOORING - 501.60

02/05/2025 24433 I & C AUTOMOTIVE LLC (POLICE CAR REPAIRS - 3,667.00

02/10/2025 24434 RACUNAS LAW GROUP LLC - 1,455.00

02/10/2025 24435 NAPA AUTO PARTS - 425.51

02/10/2025 24436 HOME DEPOT - 225.93

02/10/2025 24437 PEST B GONE - 300.00

02/10/2025 24438 FAYETTE PARTS SERVICE, INC - 199.52

02/10/2025 24439 RC WALTERS & SONS - 9.74

02/10/2025 24440 O’REILLY AUTO PARTS - 55.16

02/10/2025 24441 TRUMPE AUTO - 108.01

02/10/2025 24442 PUSH N PULL INC - 44.00

02/10/2025 24443 SHERWIN WILLIAMS - 268.02

02/10/2025 24444 MCI - 32.15

02/10/2025 24445 LINCOLN BOROUGH - 99.42

02/10/2025 24446 PRECISION - 126.50

02/10/2025 24447 AFLAC - 125.84

02/10/2025 24448 AQUA FILTER FRESH INC - 40.50

02/10/2025 24449 PEOPLES NATURAL GAS - 1,048.41

02/10/2025 24450 T-MOBILE - 176.73

02/10/2025 24451 ONE DIGITAL - 100.00

02/10/2025 24452 FIRST COMMONWEALTH BANK (CREDIT CARD) - 1,297.94

02/10/2025 24453 AMTRUST NORTH AMERICA - 4,329.00

02/10/2025 24454 GENERAL CODE - 995.00

02/10/2025 24455 SAFSECURE LLC - 948.75

02/10/2025 24456 DUQUESNE LIGHT CO - 833.73

02/10/2025 24457 GLENN ENGINEERING & ASSOC - 5,722.50

02/10/2025 24458 CHRISTIE & ASSOC - 378.00

02/10/2025 24459 COMCAST - 359.65

02/10/2025 24460 LEAF - 196.96

02/20/2025 EFT UPMC HEALTH PLAN - 8,570.28

02/21/2025 EFT PA SCDU - 184.62

 **TOTAL - 33,221.63**

**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**

02/24/2025 24461 ORKIN EXTERMINATING - 207.92

02/24/2025 24462 PA MUNICIPAL RETIREMENT SYSTEM - 132.96

02/24/2025 24463 TEAMSTERS LOCAL #205 - 205.00

02/24/2025 24464 WESTCOMM WIRELESS - 55.00

02/24/2025 24465 W.B. MASON - 54.38

02/24/2025 24466 BIG’S TRICKING - 100.00

02/24/2025 24467 CARMEN PALIOTTA CONTRACTING CO - 217,000.00

02/24/2025 24468 ACTIVE 911 - 157.50

02/24/2025 24469 VERIZON GARAGE - 62.78

02/24/2025 24470 PEST B GONE - 300.00

02/24/2025 24471 ZACH CAIN - 125.00

02/24/2025 24472 PA AMERICAN WATER - 145.62

02/24/2025 24473 MCI - 32.15

 **TOTAL - 218,578.31**

**PERSONNEL:** Tim Sloss

**Motion to ratify** hiring part time police officer David Clouse effective January 10, 2025.

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

 **All in favor. Motion carries.**

**STREETS AND SEWERS:** Tim Sloss

**Motion to purchase** and replace the diesel/gasoline pump from McRo Tank Division in the amount of $38,200.

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

 **All in favor. Motion carries.**

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

No Report.

**SOLICITOR’S REPORT:** Mr. Racunas

Petition for exoneration was signed in court for 2910 Liberty Way. The property is cleared of all taxes and exonerated of all back taxes.

**ENGINEER’S REPORT:** Lou Corrales

**Motion to ratify** awarding Tedesco Construction in the amount of $70,919 for the Glenn Avenue Embankment project.

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

 **All in favor. Motion carries.**

**Motion to pay** Carmen Paliotta Contracting Invoice #1 in the amount of $202,000.00 for the Liberty Way Slide Phase II.

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

 **All in favor. Motion carries.**

**Motion to pay** Carmen Paliotta Contracting in the amount of $15,000.00 for completion of the Liberty Way Slide Phase II.

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

 **All in favor. Motion carries.**

LSA Grant Backhoe

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

Paving Glenn Ave to Liberty Way

Now that the Liberty Way Phase II Slide is completed the paving of Liberty Way from Glenn Avenue to the bend can commence. Bids shall be opened in March. The Borough was awarded $100,000 toward this project. The intersection in Port Vue Borough shall be included. If Port Vue elects not to pay, the intersection can be eliminated.

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The Borough was awarded $50,000. Council needs to define the project and scope of work, please advise.

Grants

Please advise if you wish to have Glenn Engineering apply an application for any or both of the following Grants.

A: GTRP

This grant is geared toward parks and recreation or trails. This project requires a 15% match and is due at the end of May

B: Small Water and Sewer

Requests 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 requires 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:**

Mr. Zrenchak and all of Council recognized Officer Roger Itzel for going above and beyond for donating to a family in need in Liberty Borough at Christmas time. It is greatly appreciated by all.

Boy Scout Troop leader Michael Dalton and son were in attendance to work on his Citizenship and Community Merit Badge.

**CORRESPONDENCE:**

**Motion to accept** the typed minutes from the January 22, 2025, regular meeting.

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

 **All in favor. Motion carries.**

Next meeting dates/times: Workshop Session Meeting – Wednesday, March 12, 2025 at 6:00 pm, and the Regular Session Meeting -- Wednesday, March 26, 2025, at 6:00 pm.

**Motion to adjourn**.

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

 **All in favor. Motion carries.**

**Meeting adjourned at 6:20 p.m.**

Respectfully submitted by:

Rachael Waltonbaugh

Secretary/Treasurer