

Borough Council October Workshop
Minutes – October 11, 2023

Call to Order – Mr. Gillette called the meeting to order at 5:30pm.

Roll Call – The following members of the Borough Council were present; Cori Belles, Jessie Dekar, Gabriel Felt, Jessica Meyer, Irene Slocum, James Daly, and Patrick Gillette. Also present; Henry Farley, Mayor; Gil Crossett, Assistant Fire Chief; Jonathan Foster, Jr., Solicitor; Blane Lathrop, DPW Foreman; Robert Repasky; Fire Chief; and David Jarrett, Borough Manager.

Welcome – Mr. Gillette welcomed the members of Webelos and Arrow of Light Scouts from Pack 4018 which included his son Patrick to the Borough Council meeting, and the Scouts led the Pledge of Allegiance. Mayor Farley presented the scouts with Certificates of Recognition and thanked them for their interest in local government.

Citizens to be Heard – There were none.

Correspondence Summary – There were no questions or comments.

Approval of Bills List – A motion was made by Mr. Daly and seconded by Mrs. Dekar to approve the bills list dated for September 28 – October 11, 2023. Under the question: There were none. Roll Call: Mrs. Belles, Mrs. Dekar, Mr. Felt, Miss Meyer, Mrs. Slocum, and Mr. Daly, and Mr. Gillette; YES.

Amato Zoning Change Request Public Hearing Schedule - Attorney Foster explained that he will be scheduling a Public Hearing for Mr. Amato's request on November 15, 2023 at 5:30pm. Attorney Foster stated that he will be sending out letters to the property owners in that neighborhood and will provide a copy of the letter to the Borough Council for their review.

Howard Elmer Park Bandstand Roof Replacement Project - Mr. Jarrett explained that Stiffler, McGraw Associates submitted a proposal for the Borough to provide bidding and contract documents for the project. Mr. Jarrett stated that proposal is for \$8,900 and that the Borough has received a \$10,000.00 grant from the Endless Mountains Heritage Region for the project and that other grants and donations will be sought to offset the cost of the project.

Police Vehicle Purchase – Mr. Jarrett explained that the Department is scheduled for a new vehicle in 2024 and that selection will be limited. He stated that he and Chief Reynolds discussed purchasing a Chevrolet Silverado Police Pursuit Vehicle (PPV) which is set up very similar to a Chevrolet Tahoe PPV and that many Police Departments including the Village of Waverly are purchasing pick-up trucks because of their versatility. Mr. Jarrett stated that he and Chief Reynolds went to look at the vehicle at a dealership in Lancaster County last week and that the Chevrolet Silverado is approximately \$5,000 less than the Chevrolet Tahoe and the Ford F-150 Police Interceptor model. Mrs. Belles asked if

consideration is given to purchasing electric vehicles or hybrid vehicles, and Mr. Jarrett stated that those types of vehicles are not considered due to the fact that the new police vehicles have the ability to operate at reduced horsepower when necessary which helps reduce the amount of fuel the vehicle uses. A motion was made by Miss Meyer and seconded by Mr. Felt to approve the purchase of 2024 Chevrolet Silverado PPV from Whitmoyer Auto Group of Mount Joy, Pennsylvania for \$48,474.00. Under the question: Mr. Jarrett stated Chief Reynold is working with a vendor on the up-fitting equipment for the vehicle and that the equipment will be purchase separately. Roll Call: Mrs. Belles, Mrs. Dekar, Mr. Felt, Miss Meyer, Mrs. Slocum, and Mr. Daly, and Mr. Gillette; YES.

Downtown Streetscape Project Pay Application Request #1 – Mr. Jarrett explained that the first pay application for the Desmond Street phase of the project is \$198,563.30 and that grant funds will be used to pay the invoice. Mr. Gillette asked if the business owners where the bump outs were constructed supported the project, and Mr. Jarrett stated that the owners of Yanuzzi’s Restaurant and 1882 on Desmond were both consulted and given the opportunity to reject the construction of the bump-outs in front of their businesses. Both business have invested their own funds to place outdoor seating on the bump outs and they were used throughout the summer months. Mrs. Dekar recommended approval of the pay request.

Hayden Street Pump Station Project Pay Application Request #2 – Mr. Jarrett explained that the second pay application for the project is \$314,301.19. The original project cost was \$694,000.00 however a change order was approved last month reducing the project cost by \$84,265.00. The project is funded by a \$150,000.00 grant and American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds. The project should be completed by the end of this month and final payment request will be submitted in November. Mrs. Slocum recommended approval of the pay request.

Athens Township Trash Collection Proposal – Mr. Jarrett asked for authorization to send a letter to Athens Township residents living on the streets designated as the “hybrid zone” informing them of the Borough’s interest to provide trash collection services to determine if there is interest in the program from the residents. Mr. Daly recommended that Mr. Jarrett be authorized to send out letters to the Athens Township residents.

Firefighter Incentive and Retention Program – Mr. Gillette stated that Chief Repasky has requested a meeting with him, Mrs. Belles, and Mr. Jarrett to discuss the proposed program further. Mr. Gillette asked Mr. Jarrett to provide Chief Repasky with updated year to date budget amounts for the Fire Department.

Approval of Funds Transfer – A motion was made by Miss Meyer and seconded by Mrs. Dekar to approve the transfer of \$390.00 from General Fund to Capital Reserve Police (SWAT). Under the question: There were none. Roll Call: Mrs. Belles, Mrs. Dekar, Mr. Felt, Miss Meyer, Mrs. Slocum, and Mr. Daly, and Mr. Gillette; YES.

2023 Paving Project Change Order #1 – A motion was made by Miss Meyer and seconded by Mrs. Dekar to approve Change Order #1 for the Borough's 2023 Paving Project in the amount of \$18,621.00. Under the question: Mr. Jarrett explained that change order is to mill and pave the intersection of West Lockhart Street and Desmond Street and that Aqua PA has provided a portion of the project cost. Roll Call: Mrs. Belles, Mrs. Dekar, Mr. Felt, Miss Meyer, Mrs. Slocum, and Mr. Daly, and Mr. Gillette; YES.

2023 Paving Project Change Order #2 – A motion was made by Miss Meyer and seconded by Mrs. Dekar to approve Change Order #2 in the amount of \$16,663.50 for the Borough's 2023 Paving Project. Under the Question: Mr. Jarrett explained that the change order is to mill and pave North Lehigh Avenue between Desmond Street and the alleyway. Roll Call: Mrs. Belles, Mrs. Dekar, Mr. Felt, Miss Meyer, Mrs. Slocum, and Mr. Daly, and Mr. Gillette; YES.

Department & Committee Reports – The following reports were discussed;

Borough Manager – Mr. Jarrett reported that the Peer Consultant Report for the review of the Borough's Department of Public Works and Township Road Department was distributed and he asked the Borough Council to forward him any questions that they may have about the Peer Consultant Report. Mr. Jarrett also reported that the first draft of the 2024 budget will be presented to the Borough Council at the budget meeting scheduled on November 1st. Mrs. Dekar asked if there was an update on the tax credit opportunity for installing a solar power system. Mr. Jarrett stated that he has not heard anything but will get an answer prior to the Council meeting.

Borough Solicitor – Attorney Foster reported that he is waiting on the Bradford County Judge to approve the distribution of funds from the sale of the Chandler property on Perkins Street. Attorney Foster also stated that he is waiting for a response from CAMCO on the sales agreement that he provided to them.

Code Enforcement – There were no questions or comments.

Emergency Management – Mr. Daly reported that he attended a quarterly training session hosted by Bradford County that included a demonstration on Active Shooter Training.

Fire Department – There were no questions or comments.

Planning Commission – Mr. Daly reported that the Commission will need to meet later this month to discuss a proposed mural project for the West Lockhart Street side of Celebrations Café.

Police Department – There were no questions or comments.

Public Works Department – Mr. Lathrop reported that the PA 199 project is currently in the last stage of the project located within the Borough. Mr. Lathrop also reported that the equipment has been moving in for the North Thomas Avenue bridge replacement project in Athens Township and that the Department

will be conducting a closure exercise with PA-DEP Bureau of Flood Protection on the East Lockhart Street bridge. Mrs. Dekar asked when the crosswalk on North Keystone Avenue will be repainted by PennDOT and Mrs. Belles asked about the sidewalk at the Grille' Restaurant. Mr. Lathrop stated that he has brought both items to the attention of PennDOT will follow up with them.

Elected Officials Questions & Comments - The following items were discussed;

Disk Golf Project – Mr. Gillette explained that a member of Pack 4018 is pursuing their Eagle Scout Rank and is interested in constructing a disk golf project. Mr. Gillette explained that the proposed project would be developed along the Diahoga Trail between Riverfront Park and the Lockhart Street Bridge.

Sayre Historical Society – Mayor Farley announced that Historical Society's Museum has had more than 580 visitors so far this year and that the visitors came from eighteen states and four countries which included England, Italy, Canada, and Australia.

Adjourn – A motion was made by Mrs. Dekar to adjourn the meeting at 6:25pm, and there were no objections.