

# Borough Council

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## Minutes – April 20, 2020

**Call to Order** - Mr. Daly called the meeting to order at 5:32pm and read a statement regarding the unexpected passing of Bradford County Commissioner and Sayre Borough resident Ed Bustin. Mr. Daly stated that this day began with the shocking news that Sayre resident and Bradford County Commissioner Ed Bustin passed away yesterday. He joined the Commissioners in 2015 upon the resignation of Commissioner Mark Smith. Ed and I met in the late 1990s during a Valley wide program sponsored by FEMA called Project Impact and our interaction has been mostly within the emergency management area. Sadly, Ed was in the early days of his second full term as a County Commissioner. On behalf of our community and the Borough Council and employees, I offer our condolences to his wife Terry, his three sons and his grandson. He will be sorely missed.

**Roll Call** – The following members of the Borough Council were present via Zoom; Cori Belles, Jessie Dekar, Patrick Gillette, Jessica Meyer, Jason Serfas, and James Daly. **The following member of the Borough Council was present in-person;** Council Vice-President Irene Slocum. **Also attending the meeting in person were;** Henry Farley, Mayor; Christopher Kaiden, Code Enforcement Director; and David Jarrett, Borough Manager. **Also attending the meeting via Zoom were;** Gil Crossett, Assistant Fire Chief; Blane Lathrop, DPW Foreman; Robert Repasky, Fire Chief; Daniel Reynolds, Police Chief; Matt Hicks, Editor in Chief of The Daily Review; and Pat MacDonald, Morning Times Editor.

**Citizens to be Heard** –There were none.

**Approval of Minutes** – Borough Council Meeting – March 25, 2020 – The minutes of the Borough Council meeting held on March 25, 2020 were approved as presented and placed on file.

**Approval of Bills List** – A motion was made by Mr. Gillette and seconded by Mrs. Slocum to approve the bills list. Under the question: There were no questions or comments. **Roll Call: Mrs. Belles, Mrs. Dekar, Mr. Gillette, Miss Meyer, Mr. Serfas, Mrs. Slocum, and Mr. Daly; YES.**

**Department Reports** - There were no questions or comments.

**Elected Officials – Questions & Comments -**

**Recess** – Mr. Daly recessed the meeting at 5:37pm.

**Executive Session** – The Borough Council went into executive session at 5:39pm to discuss personnel issues. The session ended at 6:55pm.

**Vote to Terminate Public Works Employee** - A motion was made by Mrs. Dekar and seconded by Miss Meyer to terminate Craig McCutcheon as a Public Works Department

Laborer effective immediately. Under the question: There were no questions or comments. **Roll Call: Mrs. Belles, Mrs. Dekar, Mr. Gillette, Miss Meyer, Mr. Serfas, Mrs. Slocum, and Mr. Daly; YES.**

**Vote to Authorize the Furlough of Ronald Cole, Administration Department Employee and Kathleen Joyce, Code Enforcement Employee effective April 24, 2020.** A motion was made by Mrs. Slocum and seconded by Mr. Serfas to furlough Ronald Cole and Kathleen Joyce effective April 24, 2020. **Under the question:** There were no questions or comments. **Roll Call: Mrs. Belles, Mrs. Dekar, Mr. Gillette, Miss Meyer, Mr. Serfas, Mrs. Slocum, and Mr. Daly; YES.**

**Vote to continue to provide full health insurance coverage to furloughed employees until December 31, 2020.** A motion was made by Mr. Gillette and seconded by Mrs. Belles to continue to provide full health insurance coverage to furloughed employees until December 31, 2020. **Under the question:** There were no questions or comments. **Roll Call: Mrs. Belles, Mrs. Dekar, Mr. Gillette, Miss Meyer, Mr. Serfas, Mrs. Slocum, and Mr. Daly; YES.**

**2020 Budget** – A motion was made by Mrs. Slocum and seconded by Mr. Gillette to freeze the 2020 budget until further notice. **Under the question:** Mr. Jarrett stated that the budget freeze will not include payroll, vehicle repairs, vehicle fuel, utility bills, and projects already in process such as the equipment storage building and the Diahoga Trail Project. **Roll Call: Mrs. Belles, Mrs. Dekar, Mr. Gillette, Miss Meyer, Mr. Serfas, Mrs. Slocum, and Mr. Daly; YES.**

**High School Graduation Ceremony** – Mr. Gillette asked if it would be possible for the School District to use Riverfront Park and the Borough's portable stage to hold this year's high school graduation ceremony to promote and ensure social distancing. Several members of the Borough Council and Mayor Farley each stated that it is important to support the School District in their effort to hold the graduation ceremony. Mr. Jarrett stated that he would work with Mr. Gillette and District Administration to discuss the issue.

**Diahoga Trail** – Mrs. Belles stated that use of the trail has increased as residents practice social distancing but that there has been illegal dumping along the trail. Mr. Kaiden stated that he would look into the issue.

**Adjourn** - A motion was made by Mr. Gillette and seconded by Mrs. Dekar to adjourn the meeting at 7:01pm.

Respectfully Submitted,



David M. Jarrett  
Borough Manager/Secretary