

Borough Council Meeting Minutes – November 30, 2022

Call to Order – The meeting was called to order at 5:30pm and Mrs. Dekar offered the meeting prayer and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll Call – The following members of the Borough Council were present; Cori Belles, Jessie Dekar, Gabriel Felt, Jessica Meyer (5:35pm), Irene Slocum, James Daly, and Patrick Gillette (via Zoom). Also present; Henry Farley, Mayor; Jonathan Foster, Jr., Borough Solicitor; Gil Crossett, Fire Chief, Christopher Kaiden, Code Enforcement Director; Blane Lathrop, DPW Foreman, Daniel Reynolds, Police Chief; and David Jarrett, Borough Manager.

Citizens to be Heard – There were none.

Approval of Minutes – The minutes of the Borough Council Workshop meetings held on October 17, 2022, November 7, 2022, and November 14, 2022 were placed on file.

Approval of Bills List – A motion was made by Mrs. Slocum and seconded by Mr. Felt to approve the bills list for October and November 2022. Under the question: There were none. **Roll Call: Mrs. Belles, Mrs. Dekar, Mr. Felt, Mrs. Slocum, Mr. Daly, and Mr. Gillette; YES.**

Correspondence Report – There were no questions.

Finance Report – October 31, 2022 – There were no questions.

Elected & Appointed Officials - The following items were discussed;

- Dedication of Meeting Room – Cyril "Cy" Morris Meeting Room – Mr. Daly read the dedication of the third floor meeting room as the Cyril "Cy" Morris Meeting Room.
- Certificate of Recognition – Ella Chilson Girl Scout Gold Award – Mayor Farley presented Ella Chilson with a Certificate of Recognition who attained the Gold Award which is the highest awarded a member of the Girl Scouts can achieve.
- Community Service Awards – Mr. Daly presented Bob Flick and Suzanne Jarrett with a Community Service Award for their efforts to host the Wall That Heals in Sayre in October.
- Partner In Progress Award – Mr. Daly presented Stiffler, McGraw, & Associates and Eric Casanave, P.E. with the Borough's Partner In Progress Award for their service to the Borough during the completion of multiple infrastructure improvement projects and building construction projects.

- Presentation of Streetscape Bids – Mr. Jarrett presented the bids for the downtown streetscape project that were opened prior to the meeting. Mr. Jarrett explained that G.O. Hawbaker submitted the lowest base bid in the amount of \$1,205,521.00 and Bishop Brothers Inc. presented a base bid in the amount of \$1,445,112.00 and that he, Mr. Kaiden, and Mr. Casanave will review the bids and a final recommendation will be made to the Borough Council in December.

Consent Agenda – Mr. Daly explained that items of business and matters listed under the Consent Agenda are considered to be routine and non-controversial and will be enacted by one motion and one roll call vote. A motion was made by Mrs. Slocum and seconded by Miss Meyer to approve the following items listed on the Consent Agenda. Under the question: Mr. Jarrett explained that \$2,500.00 fee to be paid to C&N Bank to modify the Borough’s loan. Mr. Jarrett stated that loan is currently structured for two (2) payments each year and that the terms will be modified to include four (4) quarterly payments.

- a. Approve advertisement of amendment to Chapter 137 - Sewer Rental Fees
- b. Approve advertisement of amendment to Chapter 149 – Taxation
- c. Approve the addition of Jessie Dekar as signature for the Borough’s bank accounts
- d. Approve \$2,500.00 fee to C&N Bank to modify the debt service payments of General Obligation – Series A 2020

Roll Call: Mrs. Belles, Mrs. Dekar, Mr. Felt, Miss Meyer, Mrs. Slocum, Mr. Daly, and Mr. Gillette; YES.

Vote to adopt Ordinance 969 - 2023 Tax Ordinance – A motion was made by Mrs. Slocum and seconded by Mr. Felt to adopt Ordinance 969 – 2023 Tax Ordinance. Under the question: There were none. **Roll Call: Mrs. Belles, Mrs. Dekar, Mr. Felt, Miss Meyer, Mrs. Slocum, Mr. Daly, and Mr. Gillette; YES.**

Vote to approve the 2023 Budget – A motion was made by Mrs. Belles and seconded by Mrs. Dekar to approve the 2023 budget. Under the question: There were none. **Roll Call: Mrs. Belles, Mrs. Dekar, Mr. Felt, Miss Meyer, Mrs. Slocum, Mr. Daly, and Mr. Gillette; YES.**

Vote to approve the 2023 Cost of Living Allowance (COLA) Increase for Police Department Retirees as recommended by the Borough’s Pension Advisor. A motion was made by Mrs. Dekar and seconded by Mr. Felt to approve the 2023 Cost of Living Allowance (COLA) Increase. Under the question: There were none. **Roll Call: Mrs. Belles, Mrs. Dekar, Mr. Felt, Miss Meyer, Mrs. Slocum, Mr. Daly, and Mr. Gillette; YES.**

Recess – Mr. Daly recessed the meeting at 5:47pm prior to going into executive session to discuss a personnel issue.

Executive Session – The Borough Council went into executive session at 5:52pm to discuss a personnel issue. Mr. Gillette was excused from the session. The session ended at 6:18pm.

Approval of Forensic Audit Proposal – A motion was made by Miss Meyer and seconded by Mrs. Dekar to approve the proposal for EFRP Group to complete a forensic audit of the Borough’s expenses in 2021 and 2022. Under the question: There were none. **Roll Call: Mrs. Belles, Mrs. Dekar, Mr. Felt, Miss Meyer, Mrs. Slocum, and Mr. Daly; YES.**

Adjourn – A motion was made by Mrs. Belles and seconded by Miss Meyer to adjourn the meeting at 6:20pm.

14.	Recess	
15.	Executive Session – If Needed	
16.	Adjourn	