

## **Borough Council Meeting Minutes – April 26, 2023**

**Call to Order** – Mr. Gillette called the meeting to order at 5:30pm. 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, Irene Slocum, Jessica Meyer, James Daly and Patrick Gillette. Also present; Henry Farley, Mayor; Gil Crossett, Assistant Fire Chief; Attorney Jonathan Foster, Jr., Borough Solicitor, Cristopher Kaiden, Code Enforcement Director; and David Jarrett Borough Manager.

**Citizens to be Heard** – William Stephenson, 410 Mohawk Street addressed the Borough Council regarding his concern with the intersection of Mohawk Street and North Lehigh Avenue. Mr. Stephenson explained that southbound traffic is crossing into the northbound lane due since the roadway (PA 199) has been reconstructed and he is concerned that the issue will lead to an increase in accidents at the intersection. Mr. Jarrett stated that the same concern was shared with representatives from PennDOT at a meeting in January and that PennDOT informed the Borough recently that they will be looking at the intersection and making an adjustment to the intersection later this year. Mr. Stephenson also asked the Borough Council if the rumor is true that three (3) members of the Fire Department recently resigned. Mr. Jarrett stated that he was not aware of any recent resignations from the Fire Department.

Mayor Henry Farley presented Olivia Homer with a Certificate of Recognition at the April Borough Council meeting in recognition of her achievement of the Girl Scout Silver Award. Miss Homer's project was the construction of horse obstacle course that will be utilized to help young riders increase their confidence and become more comfortable when horseback riding.

**Approval of Minutes** – The minutes of the Borough Council meeting held on March 22, 2023 and Borough Council Workshop meeting held on April 12, 2023 were placed on file.

**Approval of Bills List** – Mr. Jarrett explained that three (3) additional bills totaling \$12,338.96 were added to the bills list that was included in the meeting distribution packet. A motion was made by Miss Meyer and seconded by Mrs. Dekar to approve the bills list. **Under the question:** There were none. **Roll Call: Mrs. Belles, Mrs. Dekar, Mr. Felt, Miss Meyer, Mrs. Slocum, Mr. Daly, and Mr. Gillette; YES.**

**Correspondence Report** – There were no questions or comments.

**Finance Report** – March 31, 2023 – There were no questions or comments.

**Elected & Appointed Officials** – The following items were discussed;

- Mrs. Belles asked when the park survey will be distributed to the School District students and Mr. Jarrett stated that it would be done within the next two weeks.
- Mrs. Dekar asked if the public hearing for the Dandy Mini Mart liquor license transfer request was scheduled and Mr. Jarrett stated that the public hearing will be held on May 17, 2023 during the Borough Council meeting. Mr. Jarrett further stated that the Borough had to hold the hearing prior to May 2<sup>nd</sup> but that was not possible so the transfer request will be approved by the Pennsylvania Liquor Control Board by default. Mr. Jarrett stated that representatives of Dandy Mini Mart will be attending the public hearing and will address any concerns that the Borough Council or the public may have about the request.
- Mayor Farley announced that the Sayre Business Association will be hosting a Touch A Truck event on Saturday, April 29<sup>th</sup> and that 30 participants have registered to display their vehicles. Mayor Farley also announced that the Association's Farmers Market will kick-off on Friday, May 12<sup>th</sup> and that 40 vendors have already registered.
- Mr. Gillette asked if the downtown business owners were informed about the proposed parking change, and Mr. Jarrett stated that they will be informed next week.

**Consent Agenda** - Mr. Gillette 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. Conference Attendance Request – PSAB Annual Conference – June 4 – 7, 2023
- b. Park Use Request – Journey Fitness – Riverfront Park Pavilion - June 17<sup>th</sup> 9am-3pm
- c. Park Use Request – Mt. Zion Church – Howard Elmer Park – July 16<sup>th</sup> 4pm – 5:30pm
- d. Park Use Request – Guthrie – Howard Elmer Park – May 11<sup>th</sup> 10am-
- e. West Lockhart Street Paving Project – Advertisement for Bids
- f. Downtown Streetscape Project – Desmond Street Phase – Advertisement for Bids
- g. Sale of Old Aerial Truck – Advertisement for Bids
- h. Street Closure Request – Downtown Block Parties – June 23 & July 28, 2023
- i. Advertisement of Historic District Ordinance Amendment
- j. Approval of Temporary/Seasonal Downtown Parking Restrictions – 4am-7am on Fridays

A motion was made by Mrs. Dekar and seconded by Miss Meyer to approve the items listed on the Consent Agenda **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 submit a Letter of Intent to the Pennsylvania Department of Community & Economic Development to request a Peer Consultant to complete a feasibility study for consolidation of the Borough's and Athens Township's Public Works Department.** A motion was made by Mrs. Belles and seconded by Mr. Daly to submit a Letter of Intent to the Pennsylvania Department of Community & Economic Development to request a Peer Consultant to complete a feasibility study for consolidation of the Borough's and Athens Township's Public Works Department. **Under the question:** Mr. Jarrett explained that PA-DCED will provide the municipalities with a Peer Consultant free of charge and that the scope of the project is to determine if it is financially feasible and operationally practical to consolidate the two departments. Mr. Jarrett stated that the Athens Township Supervisors will be voting on the issue at their meeting Thursday night. **Roll Call: Mrs. Belles, Mrs. Dekar, Mr. Felt, Miss Meyer, Mrs. Slocum, Mr. Daly, and Mr. Gillette; YES.**

**Vote to approve Pay Request #1 for the Downtown Streetscape Project – Lockhart Street Phase submitted by Mayo & Son Masonry in the amount of \$115,728.46 pending final review by the project engineer.** A motion was made by Mrs. Dekar and seconded by Mr. Daly to approve Pay Request #1 for the Downtown Streetscape Project – West Lockhart Street Phase. **Under the question:** Mrs. Belles asked if the project is on budget, and Mr. Jarrett stated that it is on budget. **Roll Call: Mrs. Belles, Mrs. Dekar, Mr. Felt, Miss Meyer, Mrs. Slocum, Mr. Daly, and Mr. Gillette; YES.**

**Recess** – Mr. Gillette recessed the meeting at 5:50pm prior to the Borough Council going into executive session to discuss a real estate issue.

**Executive Session** – The Borough Council went into executive session at 5:50pm and discussed a real estate issue regarding Borough property located behind Camco Industries on South Thomas Avenue. The session ended at 6:00pm.

**Adjourn** – A motion was made by Miss Meyer and seconded by Mrs. Dekar and to adjourn the meeting at 6:00pm.

Respectfully submitted,



David M Jarrett  
Borough Manager/Secretary