

## **Borough Council Meeting Minutes – March 27, 2024**

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

**Roll Call** – The following members of the Borough Council were present; Cori Belles, James Daly, Derrick Hall, Dan Wayman, Jessica Meyer, and Jessie Dekar. Also present; Henry Farley, Mayor; Gil Crossett, Assistant Fire Chief; Jonathan Foster, Jr., Borough Solicitor; Christopher Kaiden, Code Enforcement Director; Blane Lathrop, DPW Foreman; Robert Repasky, Fire Chief; Daniel Reynolds, Police Chief; and David Jarrett, Borough Manager.

**Citizens To Be Heard** – There were none.

**Approval of Minutes** – A motion was made by Mr. Daly and seconded by Miss Meyer to approve the minutes of the February Workshop meeting held on February 21, 2024 and March Workshop meeting held on March 20, 2024. Under the question: There were none. AYES-6.

**Approval of Bills List and Supplemental Bills List – March 16 – March 27, 2024** – A motion was made by Miss Meyer and seconded by Mr. Daly to approve the bills list and supplemental bills list. **Under the question:** Mr. Wayman asked about the invoice from Stiffler-McGraw for the bandstand project. Mr. Jarrett explained that the invoice is for work associated with preparing the bid documents for the project and the cost will be covered by grant funds provided by the Endless Mountains Heritage Region. **Roll Call: Mrs. Belles, Mr. Daly, Mr. Hall, Mr. Wayman, Miss Meyer, and Mrs. Dekar; YES.**

**Correspondence Summary** - There were no questions or comments.

**Elected & Appointed Officials** – Mayor Farley commented on an article about the downtown mural project that was featured in the latest issue of the Borough's Magazine. Mrs. Belles asked about the status of the site visit from the Pennsylvania Historic and Museum Commission representative to discuss the historic designation for the Borough. Mayor Farley stated that he had recently contacted the PHMC and is waiting for them to schedule their visit.

**Consent Agenda** – Mrs. Dekar 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. There will be no separate discussion of these items. If discussion is desired by a Council Member, that item is to be identified and removed from the Consent Agenda, and will be considered separately at the appropriate place on the Agenda.

- a. Park Use Request – 2024 Pound the Ground for Ultrasound 5K – Riverfront Park / Trail
- b. Park Use Request - Guthrie ICU Staff Family Easter Egg Hunt – Howard Elmer Park
- c. Park Use Request - Mt. Zion Church Request – Howard Elmer Park

- d. Park Use Request - 2024 Guthrie Gallop – Howard Elmer Park
- e. Park Use Request - Epiphany Church Event – Howard Elmer Park
- f. Street Closure Request - Pat McDonald Wrestling Event – Desmond Street
- g. Advertisement of Floodplain Ordinance Amendment
- h. Advertisement of Request for Proposals – Employee Health Insurance
- i. Advertisement of Request for Proposals – Payroll Services
- j. 2024 Traffic Signal Maintenance Agreement – Kuharchik Electric
- k. Conference Request – PSAB Annual Conference
- l. Earth Day Clean-Up Project – April 20, 2024
- m. Advertisement of 2024 Paving Project
- n. Request Letters of Interest – Zoning Hearing Vacancy
- o. Request Letters of Interest – Planning Commission Vacancy
- p. Request Letters of Interest – Assistant Emergency Management Coordinator

A motion was made by Miss Meyer and seconded by Mr. Daly to approve the item listed on the Consent Agenda. **Under the question:** There were none. **Roll Call: Mrs. Belles, Mr. Daly, Mr. Hall, Mr. Wayman, Miss Meyer, and Mrs. Dekar; YES.**

**Vote to approve hiring of Nathan Simons | Clair Pierce | Karl Bowers as Per Diem Aerial Truck Driver(s) as recommended by Chief Repasky, Assistant Chief Crossett, and Interview Committee.** A motion was made by Mrs. Belles and seconded by Mr. Wayman to approve hiring of Nathan Simons, Clair Pierce, and Karl Bowers as Per Diem Aerial Truck drivers. **Under the question:** Mrs. Belles stated that she was impressed by the candidates and the efforts taken by the Department’s leadership to promote the employment opportunities. **Roll Call: Mrs. Belles, Mr. Daly, Mr. Hall, Mr. Wayman, Miss Meyer, and Mrs. Dekar; YES.**

**Vote to accept the certified list of qualified candidates for the Patrol Officer - Probationary positions as presented by the Civil Service Commission.** A motion was made by Mr. Daly and seconded by Mr. Hall to Vote to accept the certified list of qualified candidates for the Patrol Officer -Probationary positions as presented by the Civil Service Commission. **Under the question:** There were none. **Roll Call: Mrs. Belles, Mr. Daly, Mr. Hall, Mr. Wayman, Miss Meyer, and Mrs. Dekar; YES.**

**Vote to promote Carter Pries from Per Diem Patrol Officer to full-time Patrol Officer- Probationary effective April 1, 2024 as recommended by Chief Reynolds.** A motion was made by Mr. Daly and seconded by Miss Meyer to promote Carter Pries from Per Diem Patrol Officer to full-time Patrol Officer-Probationary effective April 1, 2024. **Under the question:** Mr. Jarrett stated that Officer Pries is number one candidate on the list of qualified candidates. Chief Reynolds introduced Officer Pries to the Borough Council. **Roll Call: Mrs. Belles, Mr. Daly, Mr. Hall, Mr. Wayman, Miss Meyer, and Mrs. Dekar; YES.**

**Vote to extend an offer of employment to Briar Jenkins of Sayre, Pennsylvania for the position of full-time Patrol Officer-Probationary pending successful completion of all background checks as recommended by Chief Reynolds.** A motion was made by Mr. Daly and seconded by Miss Meyer to extend an offer of employment to Briar Jenkins of Sayre, Pennsylvania for the position of full-time Patrol Officer-Probationary pending successful completion of all background checks as recommended by Chief Reynolds. **Under the question:** Mr. Jarrett explained that Mr. Jenkins is the number three candidate on the list of qualified candidates. **Roll Call: Mrs. Belles, Mr. Daly, Mr. Hall, Mr. Wayman, Miss Meyer, and Mrs. Dekar; YES.**

**Chicken Ordinance** – Attorney Foster provided the Borough Council with an updated on the proposed zoning ordinance amendment to address chickens in the Borough. Attorney Foster explained that the ordinance amendment would permit residents to have chickens in the Borough’s Rural Residential Zoning District which is the Milltown Neighborhood, and that there would be limit to six (6) hens but no rosters. Attorney Foster stated that all other residents who currently have chickens would be able to keep them for two (2) years after receiving notification from the Code Enforcement Officer.

**Pending House Legislation** – Mayor Farley stated that there is currently legislation being considered by the Pennsylvania House of Representatives to allow the sale of marijuana in Pennsylvania similar to the law in New York State. Mayor Farley asked the Borough Council to stay ahead of the issue and designate one of the Borough’s zoning districts for future stores such as the Highway Commercial District. The issue will be discussed further at an upcoming Administration Committee meeting.

**Recess** – 5:48pm.

**Executive Session** – The Borough Council went into executive session at 5:50pm at the request of Attorney Foster to discuss a Real Estate issue regarding the sale of property to Camco Industries. The session ended at 5:55pm.

**Adjourn** – A motion was made by Miss Meyer and seconded by Mr. Daly to adjourn the meeting at 5:55pm. There were no objections.