

**Borough Council Workshop Meeting
August 20, 2025**

Call to Order – Mrs. Dekar called the meeting to order at 5:30pm.

Roll Call – The following members of the Borough Council were present; Cori Belles, James Daly, Derrick Hall, Dan Wayman, Jessica Meyer, Council Vice President; and Jessie Dekar, Council President. Also present; Henry Farley, Mayor; Gil Crossett, Fire Chief; Bruce Hoffman, Assistant Police Chief; Blane Lathrop, DPW Foreman; Robert Repasky, Assistant Fire Chief; Daniel Reynolds, Police Chief; and David Jarrett, Borough Manager.

Citizens To Be Heard – There were none.

Presentation – Guthrie Zoning Request – Attorney Maryanne Garber addressed the Borough Council on behalf of Guthrie to request that the properties located on Hospital Place and on South Wilbur Avenue between Hospital Place and West Lockhart Street be rezoned from Single/Double Family Residential to Medical Campus. Ms. Garber explained that Guthrie current owns all but five (5) of the parcels and those parcels are privately owned.

Mrs. Dekar asked what the end use of the properties would be, and Mrs. Garber state that there is not a specific project and that the rezoning would provide Guthrie with more opportunities to develop the property. Mrs. Dekar stated that she was concerned with parking in the area, and Ms. Garber stated that the end use of the property will determine how much parking is needed.

Mrs. Dekar stated that she is supportive of advancing development in the Borough but that it be without negatively impacting the neighborhood.

Mr. Wayman asked what the uses are for Medical Campus and Mr. Daly reviewed the list of permitted uses in the zoning district.

Donald Zaycosky, Chief Legal Officer at Guthrie explained that there are internal discussions ongoing for the final use of the properties and that more information would be available by the Planning Commission meeting in September. Mr. Daly asked for a summary of the project prior to the Planning Commission meeting on September 16th so that Commission members have an opportunity to review the proposal.

Approval of Bills List and Supplemental Bills List – A motion was made by Mrs. Daly and seconded by Mrs. Belles to approve the Bills List and Supplemental Bills List – July 24 thru August 20, 2025. **Under the question:** There were none. **Roll Call: Mrs. Belles, Mr. Daly, Mr. Hall, Mr. Wayman, Miss Meyer, and Mrs. Dekar; YES.**

Finance Report – July 31, 2025 – There were no questions or comments.

Workshop Correspondence Summary – August 2025 – There were no questions or comments.

Department and Committee Reports – The following reports were presented to the Borough Council;

Fire Department – Assistant Chief Repasky presented the recommendation of the Fire Truck Committee to the Borough Council and explained that the Committee's recommendation is to purchase a new fire engine to replace 12 Engine 2 from Pierce. Chief Repasky explained that the Committee evaluated proposals submitted by Marion and Sutphen and that the proposal submitted by Pierce was selected.

Mrs. Belles asked what the Committee's key considerations were, and Chief Repasky explained that they were that the new engine fit in Howard Elmer's building, pump capacity, ability to cover more hose and tools. Mrs. Belles asked if the building was capable of storing the truck and Chief Repasky stated that the basement in the floor was reinforced in 2011.

Mrs. Dekar asked if the current engine had any issues, and Chief Repasky stated that the current engine has all original equipment and that it is becoming difficult to get replacement parts. Mrs. Dekar asked if the current engine could be refurbished, and Chief Repasky stated that the Committee did not consider refurbishment.

Mrs. Belles asked what the resale value of the current engine would be, and Chief Repasky stated that there are other fire departments interested in purchasing the current engine. Mr. Jarrett stated that the Borough could have the current engine appraised to get an approximate value. Mrs. Belles stated that refurbishment should be given consideration and that grant opportunities should be looked at.

Mrs. Belles asked if the Committee looked at potential opportunities to cost share with other Fire Departments and Chief Repasky stated that the Committee did not look into cost sharing opportunities.

Mrs. Dekar asked about mutual aid opportunities, and Mrs. Belles asked what the benchmark number of fire apparatus needed. Chief Repasky stated that the number of apparatus that responds to an emergency call has an impact on ISO ratings for properties in the Borough. Mrs. Belles asked if the current Department stats support the ISO rating, and Chief Repasky stated that the Borough's current ISO rating is based on a response including an aerial truck and two (2) fire engines responding and a second aerial and a third engine responding which is met by mutual aid response. Mr. Lathrop who is also a Captain in the Fire Department explained that a standard mutual plan is required to meet ISO standards.

Police Department – Chief Reynolds reported that the license plate readers installed on one of the patrol vehicles, North Keystone Avenue, and on Spring Street have already helped in the investigation of several criminal cases. Chief Reynolds also reported that Officer Hatch and Officer Stone have officially started

and are currently participating in a modified field training program. Chief Reynolds asked for a brief executive session to discuss a personnel issue.

Borough Manager – Mr. Jarrett reviewed the items on his report and stated that he needs to discuss the non-uniform employee contract negotiations in executive session. Mrs. Dekar asked for an updated report on the solar panel project. Mr. Jarrett stated that the report will be included in the September distribution.

Code Enforcement – Mr. Jarrett reported that Mr. Kaiden is currently working partial days following knee replacement surgery. Mr. Jarrett explained that other Administration Department staff is assisting Mr. Kaiden with Code Enforcement issues and inspections are being completed by a third party inspections.

Public Works Department – Mr. Lathrop provided an update on the street paving project.

Emergency Management- Mr. Daly reported that he attended a training session hosted by Bradford County regarding flood mitigation.

Planning Commission – Mr. Daly reported that the Commission will meet in September.

Items for Discussion – Mrs. Dekar asked if there were any questions with Items A-D and Mr. Jarrett stated that an additional park use request (Item E) was submitted earlier today for the Valley Suicide Prevention Association which is an event that is held annually in Riverfront Park.

- a. Park Use Request - Boy Scout Troop 4018 - Fishing Derby at Island Pond 8/23/2025
- b. Road Closure Request - Michael Wayman, Sayre Homecoming Parade Committee Homecoming Parade 10/18/2025
- c. Park Use Request – Sayre Business Association - Halloween Event in Howard Elmer Park 10/31/2025
- d. Park Use Request - Sayre Business Association - 2026 Farmer’s Market Request (May thru September)
- e. Park Use Request – Valley Suicide Prevention Association – Riverfront Park – September 2025.

A motion was made by Mrs. Belles and seconded by Mrs. Dekar to approve items A-E.

Under the question: Mr. Wayman stated that he will abstain on Item B. **Roll Call: Mrs. Belles, Mr. Daly, Mr. Hall, Mr. Wayman, Miss Meyer, and Mrs. Dekar; YES.**

Purchase of Flashing Stop Signs – Mr. Jarrett explained that he is waiting for an estimate from a local vendor for LED flashing Stop Signs to be installed at the intersection of North Elmer Avenue and Mohawk Street, North Wilbur Avenue and Mohawk Street, and North Wilbur Avenue and Stevenson Street.

Purchase of New Public Works Vehicles & Equipment – Mr. Jarrett explained that he and Mr. Lathrop are continuing to finalize pricing for the purchase of a new dump truck, a new cab & chassis to be used for recycling collection, new body for PW 2, and

repurposing an existing cab & chassis. Mr. Jarrett reviewed the upgrade plan for new refuse collection equipment that included the replacement of the Borough's 2002 Mack, refuse packer on a 2009 Mack, and remounting an existing refuse packer on a 2016 Mack. Mr. Jarrett stated that he would like the Borough Council to consider donating the refuse packer on the 2009 Mack cab & chassis to Northern Tier Solid Waste Authority if they are interested. Mr. Jarrett stated that a proposal will be presented at the September Workshop meeting.

Vote to approve the purchase of a new refuse truck from Bradco Supply Co. in the amount of \$272,000.00 through the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania COSTARS Cooperative Purchasing Program. A motion was made by Mrs. Belles and seconded by Mr. Daly to approve the purchase of a new refuse truck from Bradco Supply Co. in the amount of \$272,000.00 through the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania COSTARS Cooperative Purchasing Program. **Under the question:** Mr. Jarrett explained that the new truck will replace the Borough's 2002 Mack and the refuse packer will be remounted on the 2016 Mack cab & chassis. **Roll Call: Mrs. Belles, Mr. Daly, Mr. Hall, Mr. Wayman, Miss Meyer, and Mrs. Dekar; YES.**

Vote to approve the cooperative purchasing agreement between Sayre Borough and Buy Board Purchasing Cooperative. A motion was made by Miss Meyer and seconded by Mr. Daly to approve the cooperative purchasing agreement between Sayre Borough and Buy Board Purchasing Cooperative. **Under the question:** Mr. Jarrett explained that participating in the purchasing cooperative will enable the Borough to purchase playground equipment from Playground Boss without going through a competitive bidding process. Mr. Jarrett stated that the agreement was reviewed by Attorney Foster and that the program is similar to other cooperative programs like Sourcewell and the Harrisburg City purchasing cooperative that the Borough has utilized for other purchases. **Roll Call: Mrs. Belles, Mr. Daly, Mr. Hall, Mr. Wayman, Miss Meyer, and Mrs. Dekar; YES.**

Vote to approve the purchase and installation of new playground equipment from Playground Boss of Allen, Texas in the amount of \$72,947.00. A motion was made by Miss Meyer and seconded by Mr. Hall to approve the purchase and installation of new playground equipment from Playground Boss of Allen, Texas in the amount of \$72,947.00. **Under the question:** There were none. **Roll Call: Mrs. Belles, Mr. Daly, Mr. Hall, Mr. Wayman, Miss Meyer, and Mrs. Dekar; YES.**

Recess – Mrs. Dekar recessed the meeting at 6:45pm prior to going into executive session to discuss a personnel issue in the Police Department and to discuss the Non-Uniform Employee Collective Bargaining Agreement negotiation process.

Executive Session – The Borough Council went into executive session at 6:50pm. The session ended at 7:40pm.

Adjourn – A motion was made by Mrs. Belles and seconded by Miss Meyer to adjourn the meeting at 7:40pm. There were no objections.