

Pen Argyl Borough Council held their Meeting for July on Tuesday, August 6, 2024 at 7:00 P. M. in the Borough Social Hall.

Pledge of Allegiance:

Council President Joe LeDonne opened the Council Meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Executive Session:

Council President LeDonne announced there was an executive session held on Wednesday, July 31, 2024 for a personnel matter.

Roll Call:

Council Members present and responding to roll call: Joseph LeDonne, Tammy Kemp, Stephanie Cooper, John Apgar, Joann Anderson, Josephine Hildabrant, Scott Brumbaugh and Steven Goffredo.

Also present were Borough Manager Robin Zmoda, Borough Solicitor Peter Layman, and Mayor Stephen Male and Borough Secretary Juli Lemak.

Visitors:

Larry Feller, Green Knight Economic Development Corporation, presented Council with two (2) grant awards for Weona Park; \$5,000 for an infield grooming machine and \$5,000 for the Summer Sounds and other park programming.

Tom Carlo, 306 S. Robinson Avenue, inquired about the status of paving S. Robinson Avenue, President LeDonne informed him five (5) bids were received and a contract will be awarded later in the meeting. Tom Carlo also requested additional storm drains, and Manager Zmoda clarified that this project is strictly for paving and handicapped ramps, funded by PennDOT through their Turnback Program.

Public Works Report:

All Council Members were given a copy of Public Works Director Steven Bender's July report to review.

All Council Members received an email update about line striping on Pennsylvania Avenue for crosswalks and standard markings, from Public Works Director, Steve Bender, he requested a price quote for pavement marking services from Guidemark, Inc. President LeDonne reminded Council the previous discussion included Borough Public Works Department doing the striping, with Lookout Fire Department's Fire Police handling traffic control, but was waiting on this quote for a final decision.

Public Works Report con't:

All Council Members received a copy of an email from Met-Ed, with changes to the FirstEnergy Pennsylvania Electric Company's (FEPA) unmetered streetlight tariff, effective January 1, 2024. Met-Ed will only supply unmetered Company owned LED streetlights, and any new Customer-owned and installed streetlights must now be metered.

Councilwoman Joann Anderson made a motion for Manager Zmoda to apply for an additional streetlight on Pen Argyl Street at the Savercool Avenue intersection, seconded by Councilman Steven Goffredo. Unanimous by roll call.

All Council Members received a summary of bids for the S. Robinson Avenue turnback project with five (5) bids submitted. Councilwoman Tammy Kemp made a motion to accept the bid from Kobalt Construction, Inc., not to exceed \$239,030.00, contingent upon insurance and bond approval by Solicitor Layman, seconded by Councilwoman Stephanie Cooper. Unanimous by roll call.

All Council Members received a copy of a radar quote from Ground Penetrating Radar Systems, LLC (GPRS), for inspecting the storm sewers on N. Westbrook Avenue. Councilwoman Tammy Kemp made a motion to conditionally approve the \$13,200.00 quote, contingent upon Councilman Steven Goffredo and Mark Bahnik agreeing that the work is necessary, seconded by Councilman Scott Brumbaugh. Unanimous by roll call.

All Council Members received a copy of the invitation to bid for the Weona Park bathhouse renovation, to be in the paper on August 7 & 11, 2024.

Zoning Report:

All Council Members were given a copy of Zoning/Codes Office's July report and property maintenance log to review.

Councilwoman Tammy Kemp made a motion to accept with regret Troy Prutzman's resignation from the Zoning Board, effective August 9, 2024, seconded by Councilman Scott Brumbaugh. Unanimous by roll call.

All Council Members received a copy of the July 11, 2024 Zoning Hearing Board Minutes, a variance request to construct a single-family house with a non-commercial pool on a separate lot behind 920 E. Main Street.

All Council Members received a copy of the fire pit survey results, a follow-up Zoning Committee meeting will be scheduled to discuss.

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Police Report:

All Council Members received a copy of the Slate Belt Regional Police Department's agenda from July 2, 2024 and June 20, 2024 minutes. President LeDonne reviewed some of the highlights of the meeting. The National Night Out is cancelled for today due to inclement weather and may be rescheduled for October.

Special Note: Councilman John Apgar left the meeting at 7:27 P.M.

Fire Chief's Report:

Fire Chief Dean Parsons reported in July the fire company responded to 14 calls, spent 238 hours on drills and 228 hours on calls.

Councilman Steven Goffredo made a motion to approve the Kressler, Wolff & Miller insurance renewal for the Lookout Fire Company in the amount of \$29,372.00, seconded by Councilwoman Stephanie Cooper. Unanimous by roll call.

Minutes:

Councilwoman Joann Anderson made a motion to approve the Minutes for the Regular Council Meeting of Tuesday, July 2, 2024, seconded by Councilwoman Stephanie Cooper. Unanimous by roll call.

All Council Members received a copy of the Park Board's July 10, 2024 agenda and June 12, 2024 minutes.

All Council Members received one (1) letter of interest for the Park Board from Sarah Barnett, 321 E. Reservoir Avenue. Councilman Steven Goffredo made a motion to appoint Sarah Barnett to the Park Board, seconded by Councilwoman Stephanie Cooper. Unanimous by roll call.

All Council Members received a copy of the Slate Belt Chamber of Commerce Economic Development Committee Minutes from June 28, 2024.

Correspondence:

All Council Members received a copy of donation requests from Families First and the Pen Argyl School District Athletic Partnership Program. No motion was taken on these matters.

All Council Members received a copy of an email from Gina Ardo, Heads Up Salon, 22 E. Pennsylvania Avenue, complaining about the garbage in the roadway, requesting the street sweeper to clean. Council President LeDonne stated all streets in the Borough are swept a few times a year.

Correspondence con't:

All Council Members received a copy of correspondence from Geoffrey S. Worthington, Esq., announcing that Slate Hills Enterprises would like to attend the August 27, 2024 Workshop to discuss the conversion of 412 W. Applegate Avenue into apartments.

Mayor's Report:

The Slate Belt Council of Government's (COG) hired a grant writer to request 6 grants for equipment. A human trafficking seminar will be held on September 12, 2024 at the Lookout Fire Company.

Planning Commission:

All Council Members received a copy correspondence from Paige Stefanelli, Plainfield Township Manager, a notification that Plainfield Township is withdrawing from The Plan Slate Belt Comprehensive Plan.

All Council Members received a copy of the Planning Commission July 18, 2024 agenda and May 16, 2024 minutes.

Solicitor's Report:

Nothing for open session.

Sanitation, Solid Waste & Recycling:

All Council Members received a copy of the Wastewater Treatment Plant's July report.

All Council Members received a copy of correspondence from Plainfield Township, a request for Pen Argyl to provide manhole risers in the Dotta Development, and email correspondence from Solicitor Layman about the maintenance obligations for the risers. No action was taken on this issue.

All Council Members received a copy of the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection sewage inspection report. Manager Zmoda told Council that Ron Madison said this was a wonderful report from the DEP, thanks to Dave Mondello's hard work.

Special Note: Councilman John Apgar returned to the meeting at 7:50 P.M.

Sanitation, Solid Waste & Recycling con't:

All Council Members received email correspondence from Solicitor Layman and Ron Madison agreeing the sewer repair on E. Main Street qualifies as an emergency under the competitive bidding rules exception. Council also received a copy of an estimate from George's plumbing for \$88,678.00 for the repairs. Councilwoman Tammy Kemp made the motion to declare the E. Main Street repairs an emergency repair and to request additional quotes, seconded by Councilwoman Joann Anderson. Unanimous by roll call.

All Council Members received a revised quote from Colliers Engineering & Design for the Wastewater Treatment Plant's influent & effluent pump control panel design, to review the drawings. Manager Zmoda informed Council that \$7,500.00 was previously paid, and the quote is for additional services. Councilwoman Tammy Kemp made a motion to complete the design of the pump control panels, not to exceed an additional \$12,000, seconded by Councilman Steven Goffredo. Unanimous by roll call.

Finance, Tax Exoneration, Insurance & Personnel:

All Council Members were given a copy of the July Treasury Report as prepared and submitted by Borough Manager/Treasurer Zmoda. Councilwoman Tammy Kemp made a motion to accept the report, seconded by Councilwoman Joann Anderson. Unanimous by roll call.

All Council Members received a copy of the 2nd Quarter budget review and a draft telephone, voice mail, email, internet, employee blogging, and social media personnel policy.

Property & Utilities:

Nothing to report.

Community Outreach:

Borough Secretary Juli Lemak provided Council with the July feral cat report.

Borough Manager's Report:

Borough Manager Zmoda provided Council with her July monthly report.

Payment of Bills:

The following bills were presented for payment: General Fund, \$19,046.53; Sewer, \$99,107.99, and Reserve Money Market Fund, \$28,980.85. Councilwoman Tammy Kemp made a motion to pay the bills as presented, seconded by Councilwoman Josephine Hildabrant. Unanimous by roll call.

Executive Session:

Councilwoman Tammy Kemp made a motion to go into Executive Session to discuss potential litigation, seconded by Councilwoman Josephine Hildabrant. Unanimous by voice vote.

Council went into Executive Session at 8:00 P.M. and reconvened at 8:29 P.M.

Special Note: Borough Secretary Juli Lemak left the meeting at 8:00 P.M. and the rest of the minutes were taken by Borough Manager Zmoda.

Adjournment:

Councilwoman Tammy Kemp made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Councilwoman Josephine Hildabrant. Unanimous by voice vote. The council meeting adjourned at 8:30 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted,

Juli Lemak
Borough Secretary

Workshop – Tuesday, August 27th - 7:00 P. M.

Regular Council Meeting – Tuesday, September 3rd - 7:00 P. M.