

Saturday 21st of January 2023 - 1/21/2023 Council Minutes



Pen Argyl Borough Council held their Meeting for January on Tuesday, January 3, 2023
at 7:00 P. M. in the Borough Social Hall.

Pledge of Allegiance:

Mayor Stephen Male opened the Council Meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll Call:

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Council Members present and responding to roll call: Joseph LeDonne, Stephanie Cooper, Tammy Kemp, Janell Connolly, John Apgar, Charles Kandl Jr., Janell Connolly and Josephine Hildabrant. Council Member Scott Brumbaugh was absent.

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

Re-Appointments and Appointments:

Councilwoman Janell Connolly made a motion and seconded by Councilman John Apgar to make the following re-appointments and appointments:

Planning Commission – Craig Reduzzi, five (5) year term, expires 12/31/27

Municipal Sewer Authority – Craig Ealey, five (5) year term, expires 12/31/27

Zoning Board – Chris Brumbaugh, five (5) year term, expires 12/31/27

Bureau of Fire Prevention - Dean Parsons, Carl Melixell Jr., Shawn Campanaro, Matthew Vantage, and Matt Kolb- yearly appointment

Civil Service Commission - Vacancy for six (6) year term, 12/31/26

Disruptive Conduct Board of Appeals – Councilwoman Josephine Hildabrant – 1 year

Vacancy Board - John Cuono and Council - yearly appointment

Sewage Enforcement Officer- Van Cleef, yearly appointment

The nomination passed unanimous vote by roll call.

Appointments of Borough Representatives:

Councilwoman Tammy Kemp made a motion and seconded by Councilman John Apgar to make the following appointments of Brough Representatives:

LVPC General Assembly - Janell Connelly, Delegate and Mayor Stephen Male, Alternate

Northampton County Tax Collection Committee - Robin Zmoda, Delegate and

Charles Kandl Jr., Alternate

Slate Belt COG – Mayor Stephen Male, Delegate and Scott Brumbaugh- Alternate

Multi Municipal Comp Plan Steering Committee - Janell Connolly, Robin Zmoda and

Jeffrey Fox

Slate Belt Regional Police Commission – Council President Joseph LeDonne as delegate and Mayor Stephen Male as alternate

The nomination passed unanimous vote by roll call.

Open Records Officer:

Councilman Charles Kandl made a motion to appoint Borough Manager Robin Zmoda as Open Records Officer and Borough Secretary Juli Lemak as alternate, seconded by Councilwoman Tammy Kemp. The nomination passed unanimous vote by roll call.

Council Liaison to Borough Municipal Sewer Authority:

Councilwoman Tammy Kemp made a motion to appoint Councilman Scott Brumbaugh as the Council liaison to the Borough Municipal Sewer Authority, seconded by Councilwoman Josephine Hildabrant. Unanimous by roll call.

Advertise for Vacancies:

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Councilman Charles Kandl Jr. made a motion to advertise the vacancies on the Boards and Committees, seconded by Councilwoman Tammy Kemp. Unanimous by voice vote.

Resolution No. 2021-01:

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Council President LeDonne announced he is tabling Resolution 2023-01, fixing the fees for applications and permits for the establishment, repair, alteration abandonment of on-lot septic systems, pursuant to the provisions of Section 103.5 of the PA Sewage Facilities Act 35, pending the fee schedule.

Visitors:

Ethan Habrial, 100 A Street, expressed his frustration with the permitting requirement for his solar panel permit application. Council President LeDonne reminded him the law states he needs a contractor to put the solar panels on his roof. He offered to give the name of a company that would be willing to work with him and Ethan stated the designs are free on the internet and he does not need to hire anyone.

Public Works Report:

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

Zoning Report:

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

President LeDonne announced a zoning hearing will be held on January 19, 2023 for an application of a bed and breakfast at 312 N Robinson Avenue.

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Police Report:

All Council Members received a copy of the Slate Belt Regional Police Department's agenda from December 15, 2022 and minutes from November 17, 2022.

Fire Chief's Report:

All Council Members were provided with a copy of the elected officers and position roster for 2023.

Fire Chief Dean Parsons reported in December the fire company responded to 12 calls, spent 217 hours on drills and 225 hours on calls.

Minutes:

Councilwoman Tammy Kemp made a motion to approve the Minutes for Regular Council Meeting of Tuesday, December 13, 2022, seconded by Councilwoman Josephine Hildabrant. Unanimous vote by roll call.

Correspondence:

All Council Members received correspondence from the Slate Belt Veterans Association of Bangor requesting a donation. No action was taken on this matter.

All Council Members received correspondence from the Blue Mountain Community Library and the Slate Belt Heritage Center, thanking them for their yearly contribution.

All Council Members received an invitation from the Greater Lehigh Valley Chamber of Commerce to their Annual Mayors' and Municipal officials reception on Thursday, March 30, 2023.

All Council Members received a copy of a notice from Slate Belt Printers that they are passing their accounts to Vivid Impressions in Bethlehem.

All Council Members received correspondence from Pocono Wildlife Rehabilitation and Education Center requesting donations. Councilwoman Tammy Kemp made a motion to donate \$100.00 to Pocono Wildlife Rehabilitation and Education Center, seconded by Councilwoman Stephanie Cooper. Unanimous by roll call.

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Mayor's Report:

Mayor Stephen Male reported the area where the Community Center was located will be seeded this weekend and the Pride in Pen Argyl contest will resume in February.

Planning Commission:

Council President LeDonne reported the next Planning Commission meeting will be held on January 12, 2023 at the Lookout Fire Station.

All Council Members received a copy of the agenda for the Plan Slate Belt Multi-Municipal Comprehensive Plan Virtual Steering Committee Meeting from December 7, 2022 and minutes from October 5, 2022 and November 2, 2022.

Solicitor's Report:

Nothing to report.

Sanitation, Solid Waste & Recycling:

All Council Members received a copy of an unexecuted agreement with Pennsylvania American Water to shut off a property's water during the winter moratorium. Councilwoman Josephine Hildabrant made a motion to recommend the Sewer Authority sign the agreement with Pennsylvania American Water to shut off the water at 214 N. Schanck, and to begin the process of sending notices of intent to shut off water for nonpayment of sewer bills to 214 N. Schanck Avenue, seconded by Councilwoman Stephanie Cooper. Unanimous by roll call.

Council Members were given a copy of the Wastewater Treatment Plant December report.

Finance, Tax Exoneration, Insurance & Personnel:

All Council Members were given a copy of the December Treasury Report as prepared and submitted by Borough Manager/Treasurer Zmoda. Councilman Charles Kandl Jr. made a motion to accept the Treasury, seconded by Councilman John Apgar. Unanimous by roll call.

Manager Zmoda informed all Council Members Bryan Kostishoin started work on January 3, 2023 for the Public Works Department and has a probation period of sixty (60) days.

Property & Utilities:

Councilman Charles Kandl Jr. made the motion to approve the proposal from Altronics Security Systems to replace the DVR at Borough Hall for \$2,423.25, seconded by Councilman John Apgar. Unanimous by roll call.

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Community Outreach:

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

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Borough Manager's Report:

Borough Manager Zmoda provided Council with her December monthly report.

All Council Members received notification from Northampton County Executive, Lamont G. McClure, the Borough was awarded the 2022 Grow NORCO grant award of \$10,000.00 for a new Weona Park Sign.

Payment of Bills:

The following bills were presented for payment: General Fund, \$194,832.90; Sewer, \$52,779.40; and Reserve Money Market Fund, \$156,276.76. Councilman Charles Kandl Jr. made a motion to pay the bills as presented, seconded by Councilman Jon Apgar. Unanimous vote by voice vote.

Executive Session:

Councilwoman Tammy Kemp made a motion to go into Executive Session to discuss potential litigation, seconded by Councilman John Apgar. The motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

Council went into Executive Session at 7:52 P.M. and reconvened at 8:35 P.M.

Special Note: Borough Secretary Juli Lemak left the meeting at 7:52 P.M. and the rest of the minutes were taken by Borough Manager Zmoda.

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Adjournment:

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Councilwoman Tammy Kemp made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Councilwoman Stephanie Cooper. Unanimous by voice vote. Council meeting adjourned at 8:37 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted,

Juli Lemak
Borough Secretary

Regular Council Meeting – Monday, February 7th – 7:00 P. M.