

Pen Argyl Borough Council held their Meeting for January on Tuesday, January 7, 2025 at 7:00 P. M. in the Borough Social Hall.

Pledge of Allegiance:

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

Roll Call:

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

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

Re-Appointments and Appointments:

Councilwoman Tammy Kemp made a motion and seconded by Councilman Joann Anderson to make the following re-appointments and appointments:

Planning Commission – Stephen Marhevka, five (5) year term, expires 12/31/29

Municipal Sewer Authority – Matt Kolb, five (5) year term, expires 12/31/29

Zoning Board – Lisa Kandl, five (5) year term, expires 12/31/29

Bureau of Fire Prevention - Dean Parsons, Carl Meixsell Jr., Shawn Campanaro, Matthew Vantage, and Christopher Fiducia - yearly appointment

Civil Service Commission – 3 vacancies, need to advertise.

Vacancy Board - Council and community member, need to advertise vacancy for community member - yearly appointment

Disruptive Conduct Board of Appeals – Vacancies for two (2) community members, owner/manager, and occupant of rental, need to advertise, and Councilwoman Josephine Hildabrant – 1 year

The nominations passed unanimous by roll call.

Appointments of Borough Representatives:

Councilwoman Tammy Kemp made a motion and seconded by Councilwoman Stephanie Cooper to make the following appointments of Borough Representatives:

LVPC General Assembly – Mayor Stephen Male, Delegate and Joann Anderson, Alternate
Northampton County Tax Collection Committee - Robin Zmoda, Delegate and Stephanie Cooper, Alternate

Slate Belt COG – Mayor Stephen Male, Delegate and Scott Brumbaugh, Alternate
Multi Municipal Comp Plan Steering Committee – Joseph LeDonne, Tyker Kemp and Robin Zmoda

Municipal Authority-Scott Brumbaugh, Council Liaison

The nominations passed unanimous by roll call.

Open Records Officer:

Councilwoman Tammy Kemp made a motion to appoint Borough Manager Robin Zmoda as Open Records Officer and Borough Secretary Juli Lemak as Alternate, seconded by Councilwoman Joann Anderson. The nomination passed unanimous by roll call.

Resolution No. 2025-01:

Councilman Scott Brumbaugh made a motion to approve Resolution No. 2025-01, 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, seconded by Councilwoman Tammy Kemp. Unanimous by roll call.

Resolution No. 2025-02:

Councilman John Apgar made a motion to approve Resolution No. 2025-02 for the destruction of specific records, seconded by Councilwoman Tammy Kemp. Unanimous by roll call.

Visitors:

None.

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.

President LeDonne announced a zoning hearing will be held on January 9, 2025 for an application for a special exception application for the conversion of an existing building at 507 E. Main St into apartments.

Police Report:

All Council Members received a copy of the Slate Belt Regional Police Department's agenda from December 19, 2024 and minutes from December 3, 2024.

Fire Chief's Report:

All Council Members were provided with a copy of the elected officers and position roster for 2025.

Fire Chief's Report con't:

Fire Chief Dean Parsons reported in December the fire company responded to 26 calls, spent 455 hours on drills and 836 hours on calls.

Minutes:

Councilwoman Josephine Hildabrant made a motion to approve the Minutes for Regular Council Meeting of Tuesday, December 10 2024, seconded by Councilwoman Tammy Kemp. Unanimous vote by roll call.

Correspondence:

All Council Members received a copy of correspondence from Plainfield Township, notice of a Zoning Hearing for a special exception application from 1035 Blue Valley Drive to add a fast-food restaurant component.

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 email from John Birmingham, Councilman from Upper Mount Bethel, with an update on the Cetronia ambulance service and an Upper Mount Bethel holiday event.

All Council Members received a copy of correspondence from the Northampton County Emergency Management Services, notification of an upcoming orientation class for the Incident Command System on March 24, 2025.

Mayor's Report:

Mayor Stephen Male thanked everyone that helped during the employee luncheon including Councilwoman Tammy Kemp and President LeDonne. He also commented the Borough was nicely lit-up for the holidays.

Planning Commission:

President LeDonne reported the next Planning Commission meeting will be held on January 16, 2025 to discuss the application of a preliminary and final lot development plan for 412 W. Applegate Avenue.

Planning Commission con't:

All Council Members received a copy of an email from Justin Huratiak, decayed trees were removed from 410 S. Main Street. He also expressed his concerns from his arborist report that noted many of the trees along the perimeter within the buffer zone have the same decay and are potentially hazardous. After a thorough discussion about the decaying trees on property, Council requested Manager Zmoda to write a letter to Justin Huratiak giving him permission to remove the dying trees, provided, prior to construction he conducts another arborist report and to remind him that he must replace as per the conditional approval.

Solicitor's Report:

Nothing to report.

Sanitation, Solid Waste & Recycling:

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

All Council Members received a copy of correspondence from the Lehigh Valley Planning Commission to Earthres Group, Inc., review of the sewage facilities planning module for the proposed Grand Central Station Material Recycling Facility.

All Council Members received a copy of a landfill report for January from Adrienne Fors, Waste Management representative.

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. Councilwoman Josephine Hildabrant made a motion to accept the Treasury report, seconded by Councilwoman Joanne Anderson. Unanimous by roll call.

Manager Zmoda informed all Council Members Darren Yeisley started work on January 6, 2025 for the Wastewater Treatment Plant as a seasonal employee.

Property & Utilities:

Nothing to report.

Community Outreach:

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

Borough Manager's Report:

Borough Manager Zmoda provided Council with her December monthly report.

Payment of Bills:

The following bills were presented for payment: General Fund, \$207,599.02; Sewer, \$77,710.75; and Reserve Money Market Fund, \$138,069.72. Councilwoman Josephine Hildabrant made a motion to pay the bills as presented, seconded by Councilman Steven Goffredo. Unanimous vote by voice vote.

Executive Session:

Councilwoman Joann Anderson made a motion to go into Executive Session to discuss potential litigation, seconded by Councilwoman Tammy Kemp. The motion passed unanimous by voice vote.

Council went into Executive Session at 7:52 P.M. and reconvened at 8:55 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.

Vandalism Incident at Weona Park:

Councilwoman Tammy Kemp made a motion to approve and send the repayment plan agreement drafted by Attorney Layman to the parent of the minor involved in a vandalism incident at Weona Park, seconded by Councilwoman Stephanie Cooper. Unanimous by voice vote.

Adjournment

Councilman John Apgar made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Councilwoman Tammy Kemp. Unanimous by voice vote. The council meeting adjourned at 9:00 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted,

Juli Lemak
Borough Secretary

Workshop – Tuesday, January 28th - 7:00 P. M.

Regular Council Meeting – Monday, February 4th - 7:00 P. M.