

LUZERNE BOROUGH
Monthly Council Meeting
December 8, 2021 6:00PM

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER – The December 8, 2021 meeting was called to order @ 6:00PM at the Luzerne Volunteer Fire Department by Chairman Michael Jancuska

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ROLL CALL

Officials Present

Council – Mary Ellen Schell, Susan Kalinay, Tony Perzia, Jason Tarreto and Michael Jancuska
Also present – Mayor James Keller and Solicitor Jonathan Spohrer

APPROVAL OF PRIOR MEETINGS

❖ **APPROVAL COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**

- ✓ Council Meeting October 13, 2021 – Tabled till January Meeting
- ✓ Council Meeting November 10, 2021
Motion to accept the minutes as written by Susan Kalinay 2nd by Mary Ellen Schell
All In Favor – None Opposed – Motion Carried

AUTHORIZATION TO PAY BILLS – as of December 8, 2021

Expense Report read by Chairman Michael Jancuska
Administration \$14,558.84 Police Department \$4,332.10 Highway Aid \$7761.25
Sanitation \$8,510.00 Street Department \$191.60 Park Fund \$0.00
Total Expenses \$35,353.79
Motion by Jason Tarreto 2nd by Tony Perzia to accept the December 8, 2021 Expense Report as written.
All in Favor – None Opposed – Motion Carried

AUTHORIZATION TO DEPOSIT FUNDS – as of December 8, 2021

Income Report read by Chairman Michael Jancuska
General Funds \$123,302.99 Garbage Fund \$.93 Total Income \$123,303.92
Motion by Tony Perzia 2nd by Susan Kalinay to accept the December 8, 2021 Income Report as written.
All in Favor – None Opposed – Motion Carried

TREASURERS REPORT – as of November 30, 2021

Report read by Chairman Michael Jancuska
General Fund \$86,161.40, Garbage Fund \$83,430.80, Payroll Account \$8193.54,
Luzerne Borough Park Fund \$1,677.69, Fire Escrow Account \$13,725.00,
Debit Card Fund \$455.00, Highway Aid Fund \$44,767.44 Certificate of Deposit \$55,847.82
Covid-19 Relief Funds \$73,288.77 Total \$367,547.46
Motion by Tony Perzia 2nd b Jason Tarreto to accept the November 30, 2021 Treasurers Report as written.
All In Favor – None Opposed – Motion Carried

3 YEAR POLICE CONTRACT – Motion to accept the three year police contract as written by Tony Perzia 2nd by Mary Ellen Schell. All In Favor – None Opposed – Motion Carried

REPORTS

Police Department – Mayor James Keller

Hiring of Part Time Police Officers for the month of January 2022 at the rate of \$21.00 hour: Greg Johnson, Greg Johnson Jr., Jennifer Alexander, Melville Tomeo, Chris Prescott and John Piezala Motion by Mary Ellen Schell 2nd by Susan Kalinay All in Favor – None Opposed – Motion Carried

Handicap Application – 444 Miller – Motion to approve handicap parking at 444 Miller Street by Tony Perzia 2nd by Susan Kalinay

Handicap Application – 489 Vaughn Street – Tabled until January 2022 meeting. Council to check out the parking situation at the address

Police Report – Mary Ellen Schell – For the month of November 2021, police reported 118 calls and 3 arrests calls.

Back Mountain Trail Run – December 31, 2021

Atty Spohrer advised Council it's a private event on public property; Luzerne Borough has no liability in the matter.

Public Works Department – Jason Tarreto – Santa will be going thru the town on Saturday, December 17th at 5 pm.

Finance Report – Mr. Perzia – nothing to report

Parks & Recreation – Susan Kalinay - requested clarification for a resident regarding reporting any suspicious activity in town and remaining anonymous. Ms. Kalinay was advised a call could be made directly to the police or 911 with confidentiality

Chairmans Report – Michael Jancuska

November 2021 Code Enforcement -4 prohibited growth notices, 4 sanitation letters, 2 citations and hearing for property management; guilty

REPORT BY SOLICITOR

Newly purchased property at corner of Bennett Street – filed of tax exemption on behalf of Luzerne Borough completed.

Luzerne Borough Sewer Authority has 3 members up for renewal as of January 2022; Jason Tarreto & John Lohman. Mr. Lohman has stepped down. One opening to be filled

REPORT BY ENGINEER – Miller Street Phase one Project underway and supposedly to be completed in 8 days.

CORRESPONDENCE – none

OLD BUSINESS/NEW BUSINESS

Custom Computers 2022 Maintenance Contract – Total cost for year \$1650.00 Motion to accept the contract by Mary Ellen Schell 2nd by Jason Tarreto. All In Favor – None Opposed – Motion Carried

Bill Balavage Engagement Letter at new cost of \$330.00 per month for the year 2022 – Motion to continue the services of Mr. Balavage at the new rate by Tony Perzia 2nd by Mary Ellen Schell. All In Favor – None Opposed – Motion Carried

Jack Varaly Zoning Officer at the new cost of \$1,000 per month – Motion to accept Mr. Varalys new rate for the year 2022 by Tony Perzia 2nd Mary Ellen Schell. All In Favor – None Opposed – Motion Carried

462 Bennett Street – Owner offered to gift to the Borough – Solicitor to research taxes owed and whether it would be better to let it go up for tax sale to the public.

Main Street Parking Lot Sign – Jason Tarreto suggested posting LUZERNE PUBLIC PARKING – Park at your own Risk. Jason to get a quote on a reflective sign.

Police Department Addition – Motion by Mary Ellen Schell 2nd by Tony Perzia to hire the firm of C. Allen Mullens Architects at the cost of \$23,130.00 to head the Police Department addition.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Natalie Goodman – requested Luzerne Lions sign be removed due to its deplorable condition and requested a Luzerne Borough Christmas Greeting Sign for next year.


John Yarmel – would like to see the budget posted to the website

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Tony Perzia 2nd by Jason Tarreto to adjourn.

All in Favor – None Opposed – Motion Carried

Meeting Adjourned



Linda Booth
Secretary



Tony Perzia
Chairman

James Keller
Mayor