

LUZERNE BOROUGH
Monthly Council Meeting
January 11, 2023 6:30PM

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER – The January 11, 2023 meeting was called to order @ 6:30PM 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, and Jason Tarreto and Michael Jancuska
Also present – Mayor James Keller & Solicitor Jonathan Spohrer.

APPROVAL TO ACCEPT MEETING MINUTES AS WRITTEN

November 9, 2022 – Motion by Susan Kalinay 2nd by Tony Perzia
November 16, 2022 – Motion by Jason Tarreto 2nd by Susan Kalinay
December 12, 2022 – Motion by Jason Tarreto 2nd by Tony Perzia
December 14, 2022 – Motion by Jason Tarreto 2nd by Tony Perzia with correction showing meeting was called to order by Michael Jancuska not Jason Tarreto
December 28, 2022 – Motion by Jason Tarreto 2nd by Tony Perzia with the correction showing Tony Perzia voted NO for the 2023 Budget

AUTHORIZATION TO PAY BILLS – as of January 11, 2023

Expense Report read by Chairman Michael Jancuska
Administration \$183,932.94 Police Department \$4,993.92 Highway Aid \$7,376.18
Sanitation \$11,864.90 Street Department \$700.89
Total Expenses \$208,868.83
Motion by Tony Perzia 2nd by Jason Tarreto to pay the expenses as of January 11, 2023
All in Favor – None Opposed – Motion Carried

AUTHORIZATION TO DEPOSIT FUNDS – as of January 11, 2023

Income Report read by Chairman Michael Jancuska
General Funds \$188,802.52 Garbage Fund \$16,051.39 Total Income \$204,853.91
Motion by Tony Perzia 2nd by Susan Kalinay to deposit the funds as of January 11, 2023
All in Favor – None Opposed – Motion Carried

TREASURERS REPORT – as of December 31, 2022

Report read by Chairman Michael Jancuska
General Fund \$232,011.03 Garbage Fund \$112,817.60, Payroll Account \$100.00
Luzerne Borough Park Fund \$316.83, Fire Escrow Account \$13,725.00,
Debit Card Fund \$372.02, Highway Aid Fund \$14,031.73 Certificate of Deposit \$55,847.82
Covid-19 Relief Funds \$198,229.02 Total \$627,451.05
Motion by Tony Perzia 2nd by Susan Kalinay to accept the December 31, 2022 Treasurers Report as written. All In Favor – None Opposed – Motion Carried

REPORTS

Police Department Mayor Keller – Hiring of Part Time Officers for the month of February 2023 at the following rates:
Greg Johnson Sr at \$22.50 hr,
Melville Tomeo at \$24.50 hr
Jeremy Moyer at \$22.50 hr
Darren Bidwell at \$22.50 hr
All In Favor – None Opposed – Motion Carried

Police Report – Mary Ellen Schell reported 113 calls for the month of December 2022
117 Calls

Mary Ellen Schell asked Council to approve a \$2.00 hr. raise to the 4 Crossing Guards Taking then from \$10.00 to \$12.00 hr. with WWV reimbursing the Borough 60% of the cost. Motion by Mary Ellen Schell 2nd by Tony Perzia.
All In Favor – None Opposed – Motion Carried.

Public Works Department

Jason Tarreto asked Council to approve the Dept. of Publics works rate of pay for 2023 for 2 employees to \$22.50 hr. and 1 employee to \$17.00 hr. Motion by Tony Perzia 2nd by Susan Kalinay. All In Favor – None Opposed – Motion Carried

PUC Fine – Umbriac Construction Miller Street – hit gas line and did not notify PUC

Discussed the purchase of 2 dump trucks – year out for orders 2024 prices will be held at the 2023 price. Will purchase through Costars Dealer - Interested in a 5yr Loan.

Motion to order 2 vehicles by Tony Perzia 2nd by Susan Kalinay

All In Favor – None Opposed – Motion Carried

Susan Kalinay to look into loan rates

Finance Report – Tony Perzia

Police Pension Plan Report as of December 31, 2022 is on for inspection.

2 Paper Shredding Event dates for 2023 April and September; awaiting approval by Luzerne County.

Parks & Recreation – Susan Kalinay – reported on the Back Mountain Trail race was a successful event with 550 people and \$20,000 for local charities.

Chairman's Report – Michael Jancuska

Code Enforcement Report for December 2022

1 UGI Notice

4 Sanitation Violations

Garbage Stickers are on sale at Gerritys for January thru June 2023 at the same rate as 2022. People are asked to purchase their stickers no later than January 31, 2023 The stub must be returned to the Borough Building in order for the sticker to be valid. Carts will be removed at every address that does not return the stub.

REPORT BY SOLICITOR – Atty. Jonathan Spohrer reported the Luzerne Borough Authority is down 2 members. A resolution will be presented to Council at the next meeting to change from seven members to 5 members and change the name to Luzerne Borough Sewer Authority along with extending its existence.

REPORT BY ENGINEER – nothing to report

CORRESPONDENCE – West Side Little League \$90.00 Advertising Sponsorship

Motion by Tony Perzia 2nd by Susan Kalinay

All In Favor – None Opposed – Motion Carried

OLD BUSINESS/NEW BUSINESS

2023 Council Meetings – 2nd Wednesday of each month at 6:30 p.m. at the Luzerne Fire Hall

2023 Council Work Session - 3rd Wednesday of each month at 6:30 p.m. at the Luzerne Fire Hall

Motion by Susan Kalinay 2nd by Jason Tarreto to place Legal ad announcing the meeting dates along with 2023 Rate of Taxation

All In Favor – None Opposed – Motion Carried

Consideration to Adopt a Resolution “Urging of the Pa State Legislature to Revise Pa election Laws. Deborah Jordan spoke on behalf of supporting the Resolution. Council to read the Ordinance and consider for a vote at the February 8th, 2023 meeting

Garbage Bids – tabled until February 8, 2023 meeting

J.P. Mascaro 3yr \$1,244,808, 5 year \$2,233,804

County Waste 1yr \$355,680, 3 years \$126,803.13; 5 years \$985082.64

Forty Fort Borough 1yr \$391,870, 3 years \$1,246,146.60, 5 years \$2,201,525.60

Tetra Tech Application #3 Stell Enterprises \$67,205.23 for the 2022 CDBG Grant

Motion by Jason Tarreto 2nd by Tony Perzia to apply for the funds.

All In Favor – None Opposed – Motion Carried

Jason Tarreto asked funds by held until project is satisfactory.

Jack Varaly – Zoning Officer – rate increase from \$1,000.—per month to \$1,300.00 per month

Motion by Tony Perzia 2nd Mary Ellen Schell

All In Favor – None Opposed – Motion Carried

STMP Program Professional Service Agreement

Motion by tony Perzia 2nd by Mary Ellen Schell to sign the agreement with Pa Economy League

All In Favor – None Opposed – Motion Carried

Police Station Update – Nothing to report

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Natalie Goodman – Memorial Park Spot Lights not working – asked for help maintaining The Memorial Park, received no reply from any residents.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Mary Ellen Schell 2nd by Susan Kalinay to adjourn.

All in Favor – None Opposed – Motion Carried



Linda Booth
Secretary



Michael Jancuska
Chairman



James Keller
Mayor