

LUZERNE BOROUGH  
Monthly Council Meeting  
September 13, 2023 6:30PM

**MEETING CALLED TO ORDER** – The September 13, 2023 meeting was called to order @ 6:30PM at the Luzerne Volunteer Fire Department by Chairman Michael Jancuska

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**ROLL CALL** Jason Tarreto, Susan Kalinay, John Yarmel, Mike Jancuska. Also present: Mayor James Keller and Solicitor Jonathan Spohrer. Absent: Councilman Tony Periza

Presentation by the Pa Economy League with regard to their final report regarding the Strategic Management Plan prepared for Luzerne Borough – Present from the Pa Economy League were Gerald Cross, Lynne Shedlock, Patty Moorehead and Jane Billings. Recommendations were compiled by reviewing the following: financials, operations of all departments, 5 years historical review, projections for 5 years. Report is available for viewing at the Luzerne Borough Building.

**APPROVAL TO ACCEPT MEETING MINUTES AS WRITTEN** – August 9, 2023 – Minutes not available due to circumstances beyond Councils control.

**AUTHORIZATION TO PAY BILLS** – as of September 13, 2023

Expense Report read by Chairman Michael Jancuska

Motion by Jason Tarreto 2nd Susan Kalinay to accept the report as written

All in Favor – None Opposed – Motion Carried

**AUTHORIZATION TO DEPOSIT FUNDS** – as of September 13, 2023

Income Report read by Chairman Michael Jancuska

Motion by Jason Tarreto 2nd by Susan Kalinay to accept the Income Report & deposit the funds

All in Favor – None Opposed – Motion Carried

**TREASURERS REPORT** – as of August 31, 2023

Treasurers Report Read by Chairman Michael Jancuska

Motion by Jason Tarreto 2<sup>nd</sup> by Susan Kalinay to accept the report as written

All In Favor – None Opposed – Motion Carried

**REPORTS**

***Police Department*** – Mayor James Keller

Immediate hiring of Part Time Officer Christopher Vecchi at \$22.50 hr. for September 2023

Motion by Jason Tarreto 2<sup>nd</sup> by Susan Kalinay. All in Favor – None Opposed – Motion Carried

Hiring of Part Time Officers for the month of October 2023

Melville Tomeo at \$24.50 hr., Greg Johnson Sr. at \$22.50 hr., Jeremy Moyer at \$22.50 hr., Darren Bidwell at \$22.50 hr., Danyelle Rodrigues at 22.50 hr. and Christopher Vecchi at 22.50 hr. Motion by Jason Tarreto 2<sup>nd</sup> by John Yarmel. All In favor – None Opposed – motion carried

Police Chief Prescott read a Letter of Accommodation given to Full Time Officer Michael Fuller given for a job well done while assisting Kingston PD.

***Police Report*** – Jason Tarreto reported 120 various calls to service for the month of August 2023

***Public Works Department*** – Jason Tarreto – new garage doors are currently being installed and should finish up by Friday.

***Finance Report*** – Tony Perzia – absent

***Parks & Recreation*** – Susan Kalinay – Veterans Park – see below

***John Yarmel*** – request looking into qualifications for Luzerne County Blight Program.

**Chairman's Report** – Michael Jancuska announced an Executive Sessions took place on August 25, 2023 regarding personnel matters. Mr. Jancuska let it be known that contrary to social media posts, Executive Sessions do not have to be advertised in advance, just announced at the following Council Meeting along with reason for the meeting. Anyone who wants more details should run for Council. A disruptive attendee proceeded to argue with Council Chairman. After several back and forth words, Chairman asked the woman to refrain from speaking, when that did not occur, she was then asked to either leave or be removed by the attending Chief of Police. Person left the meeting voluntarily.

**REPORT BY SOLICITOR** – nothing

**REPORT BY ENGINEER** – nothing to report

**CORRESPONDENCE** – nothing to report

**OLD BUSINESS/NEW BUSINESS**

Tree Removal – 320 Miller Street – tree is dead and will be replaced with the same species. Motion to approve by Jason Tarreto 2<sup>nd</sup> by Susan Kalinay. All in Favor – None Opposed – Motion Carried.

Tetra Tech – request for payment #1 in the amount of \$112,476.09 to Stafursky Paving for completion of Sly Street. 2% retainage being held. Motion by Jason Tarreto 2<sup>nd</sup> by Susan Kalinay to release the funds.

Veterans Park – Susan Kalinay to obtain landscaping quotes. Current conditions are less than desirable. Looking for possible volunteers for maintenance.

Police Station Update – still in the hands of the Engineer and Architects. Seeking approval from the Zoning Board regarding the set back. Discussions on sewer lateral install before completion of paving.

LSA Grant – submitting grant in the amount of \$540,375.00 for paving of Carpenter Street, new dump truck, upgrade park equipment, addition to bay at garage, and salt shed. Motion to file LSA Grant Resolution by Jason Tarreto 2<sup>nd</sup> by Susan Kalinay. All in Favor – None Opposed – Motion Carried.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

David Steele – questioned progress with regard to the multiple complaints he filed.

Alyssa Fussaro – Thanked everyone involved with their time and cooperation regarding the Fall Festival. Trunk or Treat, Creepy Creek Walk, Dancers, Halloween Parade – DJ, Saturday October 14<sup>th</sup>, 2023 on Main Street, Luzerne Bank Parking Lot and the Creek

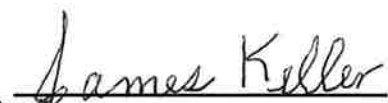
Susan Kalinay requested an Executive Session following the meeting with regard to personnel matters.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Motion by Jason Tarreto 2<sup>nd</sup> by Susan Kalinay to adjourn.  
All in Favor – None Opposed – Motion Carried

  
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Linda Booth  
Secretary

  
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Michael Jancuska  
Chairman

  
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James Keller  
Mayor