

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

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

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ROLL CALL

Officials Present

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

APPROVAL OF PRIOR MEETINGS

- ❖ **APPROVAL COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES** - Council Meeting – August 11, 2021
Motion to accept the minutes as written by Tony Perzia 2nd by Susan Kalinay
All In Favor – None Opposed – Motion Carried

AUTHORIZATION TO PAY BILLS – as of September 8, 2021

Expense Report read by Chairman Michael Jancuska

Administration \$17,274.15 Police Department \$1,902.38 Highway Aid \$5,581.44

Sanitation \$8,510.00 Street Department \$409.75 Park Fund \$105.00

Total Expenses \$33,782.72

Motion by Jason Tarreto 2nd by Mary Ellen Schell to accept the September 8, 2021 Expense Report as written.

All in Favor – None Opposed – Motion Carried

AUTHORIZATION TO DEPOSIT FUNDS – as of September 8, 2021

Income Report read by Chairman Michael Jancuska

General Funds \$63,564.89 Garbage Fund \$1.18 Total Income \$63,566.07

Motion by Tony Perzia 2nd by Jason Tarreto to accept the September 8, 2021 Income Report as written.

All in Favor –None Opposed – Motion Carried

TREASURERS REPORT – as of August 31, 2021

Report read by Chairman Jancuska

General Fund \$108,375.96 Garbage Fund \$149,689.40 Payroll Account \$8,803.96

Luzerne Borough Park Fund \$2,705.95 Fire Escrow Account \$13,725.00

Debit Card Fund \$187.00 Highway Aid Fund \$68,118.61 Certificate of Deposit \$55,847.82

Covid-19 Relief Funds \$147,162.91 Total \$554,616.61

Motion by Tony Perzia 2nd by Susan Kalinay to accept the August 31, 2021 Treasurers Report as written.

All In Favor – None Opposed – Motion Carried

REPORTS

Police Department – Mayor James Keller

Mayor Keller ask Council for consideration to hire John Piezala at \$17.50 hr. for immediate start. Motion by Tony Perzia 2nd by Mary Ellen Schell to hire Mr. Piezala. All In Favor – None Opposed – Motion Carried

Hiring of Part Time Police Officers for the month of October 2021 at the rate of \$17.50 hour: Greg Johnson, Greg Johnson Jr., Jennifer Alexander, Melville Tomeo, Chris Prescott and John Piezala Motion by Mary Ellen Schell 2nd by Tony Perzia All in Favor – None Opposed – Motion Carried

Shade Tree Application – 305 Miller – tree destroying sewer and home

Handicap Application – 444 Miller – double block – no driveway

Mayor Keller asked Council to stop by the properties and will ask Council to vote at the October 13, 2021 Council Meeting.

Police Report – Mary Ellen Schell

150 Calls - 3 arrests (harassment, theft and disorderly conduct & retail theft and receiving stolen property. 2 criminal investigations (theft, unauthorized use of motor vehicle and overdose.

Public Works Department – Jason Tarreto

Truck Tires –2 trucks are in need of tires –already figured into the 2021 budget

Tire Recycling Event – Saturday, October 9, 2021. Street Department will collect tires placed curbside on Thursday and Friday, October 7 & 8.

Leaf Vac Replacement –already figured into the 2021 budget

Main Street Gas Line – Removal of cast iron gas lines on Main Street. Motion by Mary Ellen Schell 2nd by Jason Tarreto submit letter of approval as long as the Borough Engineer, Tim Connolly, Tetra Tech agrees.

Finance Report – Mr. Perzia

Paper Shredding Event – Mr. Perzia ask Council to consider hosting a paper shredding event for Luzerne Borough Residents at the cost of \$300.00 per hour by Purple Paper Eaters. Event could be held in the Borough Garage Parking Lot. Luzerne County will reimburse up to \$2,000.00 after the Borough shows proof of payment. Motion by Jason Tarreto 2nd by Mary Ellen Schell to move forward with the paper shredding event.

Luzerne Bank CD Renewal – Motion by Jason Tarreto 2nd by Mary Ellen Schell to renew the CD at the best rate possible but not to exceed 5 years. All In Favor – None Opposed – Motion Carried

Parks & Recreation – Susan Kalinay – Memorial Park Fence Repair – Waiting for prices from companies.

Chairman Report – Michael Jancuska

August 2021 Code Enforcement reported 21 prohibited growths, 3 sanitation reports, 2 door hangers for blowing grass in streets, 3 UGI Notices, 4 property maintenance, 1 citation for property maintenance violation, 1 illegal parked trailer and 2 pest infestations.

Garbage Notice – Garbage carts will be collected from anyone that failed to renew their June through December 2021 sticker and drop it off at the Borough Building.

REPORT BY SOLICITOR – absent

REPORT BY ENGINEER - absent

CORRESPONDENCE – none

OLD BUSINESS/NEW BUSINESS

Covid -19 Local Fiscal Recovery Funds. Motion by Tony Perzia 2nd by Susan Kalinay to pay Luzerne Borough Essential Workers \$2.50 per hour from the time period of April 1, 2020 to April 1, 2021 up to a minimum of \$50,000.00 along with \$250.00 for each of the four (4) Luzerne Borough Crossing Guards. A \$15,000.00 donation will be made to the Volunteer Fire Department of Luzerne Borough.

All In Favor – None Opposed- Motion Carried.

Mr. Tarreto suggested the remaining balance of the monies should be used for a Stormwater Project in town.

LSA Grant – discussion on various projects.

Police Department Addition – waiting on Engineers costs

PUBLIC COMMENTS


Walter Banicky – Bennett Street, Luzerne – late night burning

Joe Hannel – North Street, Luzerne – fentanyl problems in town & complaint regarding obtaining a police report.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Susan Kalinay 2nd by Jason Tarreto to adjourn.

All in Favor – None Opposed – Motion Carried


Linda Booth
Secretary


Michael Jancuska
Chairman


James Keller
Mayor