

## 2024 REGULAR MEETING

A regular meeting of the Duryea Borough Council was held at 315 Main Street, Duryea on August 13th, 2024, at 6:56 p.m. with Council President, Stephanie Shupp presiding. After a pledge to the flag, a roll call was taken: (5) council members present. Gromelski and Zinkavich were absent. Mayor Bauman was in attendance. With a quorum present, the meeting continued. Council met in executive session to discuss personnel matters and matters of the police department. Please be advised that this public meeting was advertised in the Times leader legal section. A copy of the legal ad is attached. All minutes, correspondence, bills, and reports were made available for inspection.

### **Department Head reports**

- Street Supervisor stated that comparisons were made on each backhoe and his choice for the upcoming purchase (John Deere). Keith Moss questioned how comparisons were made – physical comparison on vehicles of the same size.
- Borough Manager requested dates for the first budget meeting; notified of an upcoming meeting for the Stephenson Street bridge decision; Swamp Road will need an NPDES permit if allowing clean fill to be dumped (engineer would need to file); survey being performed on Stephenson Street for the CDBG funding.

Mr. McGlynn requested the specs for the grant for the Heritage Trail. Mrs. Shupp discussed the project and costs associated with it; thanks to Johnny Soy for repairs to the clock in front of the borough building; thanks to Danny for training the crew on the flood gates; requested that the Guarilia sign be replaced; discussed the second phase of Healey Playground – basketball/pickleball courts, sidewalks, handicap parking, fence; since the Lowe’s grant was denied, suggested the borough apply for and LSA.

Mr. Marriggi questioned where the Main Street sidewalk project stands – engineer still working on Penn DOT permitting; requested the guidelines for the STMP Grant.

Mayor Bauman stated that the Chief is seeking revenue for projects in the upcoming budget – possible firing range on new land, vehicles, staffing, UTV for new property; received commendation for Sergeant Swisher from a resident for help during an ambulance call; possible grant – Wildcats/Greater Pittston Little League requested a discussion on the potential to take over the property; regarding the STMP program, consider funding for a grant writer.

**Old Business** - A discussion was had about an upcoming meeting for the Stephenson Street Bridge; CDBG roads – Mr. McGlynn requested to rescind last motion for all roads going out to bid and only put certain streets (get cost on Stephenson); Community Park repair – waiting on installer and pavilion.

### **New Business** –

- A discussion was had about the Fire Police vehicle that is out of service, needs to be looked at by a frame welder;
- Local Share Grant Accounts – Healey Playground; Germania Roof – Mr. McGlynn suggests they come up with funds to complete the roof rather than sponsoring an LSA grant, Robert Webb suggested funding for a new roof for the borough building

- Small Water and Sewer Grant for Mitchell Street drainage – Nick Radle state that the plan is 75% complete, getting 3 estimates for work, 10% match from the borough
- cleanup of Swamp Road on October 24<sup>th</sup>.
- Mr. Marriggi questioned what the annual conference involves; Mr. McGlynn asked about the cost; Mayor Bauman suggested council attend as well.
- Mrs. Shupp explained the trail project in more detail to include a road and parking area. A bio blitz in spring could open up the possibility of more grant funding.

Motion by Brudzinski, second by Marriggi to accept the minutes as posted. Roll call (5) yes.

Motion by McGlynn, second by Tonte that all correspondence be accepted, action be taken where necessary and placed on file. Roll call (5) yes.

Motion by Tonte, second by Marriggi that all bills, wages, salaries, and commissions be paid when funds are available. Roll call (5) yes.

Motion by Marriggi, second by Brudzinski to approve payment of bills that were paid after the previous meeting, but before approval of bills for the current meeting. Roll call (5) yes.

Motion by Brudzinski, second by Marriggi that all reports be accepted, action be taken where necessary and placed on file. Roll call (5) yes.

Motion by McGlynn, second by Tonte to appoint following part-time police officers for the month of September 2024, as necessary for the general welfare, health, and safety to the public: Giles, Wall. Roll call (5) yes.

Motion by McGlynn, second by Marriggi to purchase the John Deere backhoe in the amount of \$134,000 with funding from a Local Share Account grant. Roll call (5) yes.

Motion by Brudzinski, second by Marriggi to authorize the Borough Manager's attendance at the annual PSAB Fall Leadership Conference, October 11-13, in Lancaster, PA. Roll call (5) yes.

Motion was tabled to apply for Small Water and Sewer Grant for Mitchell Street drainage until estimates are received.

Motion by Brudzinski, second by Tonte to sponsor a Local Share Account Grant through Lackawanna Heritage Valley to apply for consultant fees and planning and design fees for Swamp Road Wildlife Sanctuary & Recreation Area. Roll Call 3 – yes (Brudzinski/Tonte/Shupp), 2 no (McGlynn/Marriggi).

Motion by McGlynn, second by Brudzinski to hire both Bruce Moleski and Brian Wnenta as a part – time Laborers at the rate of \$18.50 per hour to start, as per the current Collective Bargaining Agreement with no guarantee hours. Roll call (5) yes.

Motion by McGlynn, second by Tonte to award the Dike Erosion Project to James T. O'Hara partially funded by FEMA/PEMA from Hurricane Ida (\$43,725). Roll call (5) yes.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

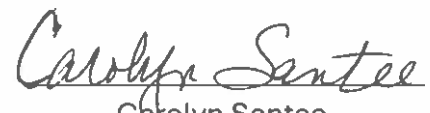
- Keith Moss questioned the hiring of Sarah Hailstone back in July – council looking into this; Yuhas property - Bill Watt replied he will follow up. Mike McGlynn stated that we were close to closing.
- Mary Margavage suggested to hold off on sidewalks until the Yuhas building is gone. She questioned when the Healey playground will be finished, and why the pavilion was removed - Mike McGlynn replied that pavilion is being replaced and they are working on it as fast as they can; questioned if the cell tower near Swamp Road is receiving funds.
- Ellen Scatena, a tenant at Crossin towers spoke to Amanda Brudzinski about having a light put at the entrance to Brown Street/stated brought up a dangerous situation where cars are going through

the stop sign on Brown Street/cops could be ticketing; thanked the hose company for continuous support during alarms at the highrise.

**CLOSING COMMENTS:**

- Jeff Bauman met with Cartwright - funds available as new budgets are passed and suggested putting a project together for review; suggested utilizing the PA Municipal League; will have Brown Street policed; stated Lackawanna recycling is coming in @ \$40/ton which is much higher than here in Luzerne County; requested Grants committee compile grant info; volunteered to help with codification.

With no further business to discuss, council entertained a motion to adjourn. First by Marriggi, second by McGlynn. Meeting ended at 8:26 p.m.

  
Carolyn Santee  
Borough Manager

