

2023 REGULAR MEETING

A regular meeting of the Duryea Borough Council was held at 315 Main Street on December 12, 2023, at 6:45 p.m. with Council President, Justin Tonte presiding. After a pledge to the flag, a roll call was taken: (7) council members present. Mayor Bauman was in attendance. With a quorum present, the meeting continued. Council met in executive session to discuss legal matters pertaining to land acquisition. 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.

Motion by Zinkavich, second by Rowlands to accept minutes as posted. Roll call (7) yes.

Motion by Rowlands, second by Ameika that all correspondence be accepted, action be taken where necessary and placed on file. Roll call (7) yes.

Motion by Brudzinski, second by Shupp that all bills, wages, salaries, and commissions be paid when funds are available. Roll call (7) yes.

Motion by Shupp, second by Zinkavich to approve payment of bills that were paid after the previous meeting, but before approval of bills for the current meeting. Roll call (7) yes.

Motion by Rowlands, second by Zinkavich that all reports be accepted, action be taken where necessary and placed on file. Roll call (7) yes.

Motion by Ameika, second by Gromelski to accept the resignation of Officer Joseph Sauer from the Duryea Police Department as of November 24, 2023. Roll call (7) yes.

Motion by Gromelski, second by Shupp to appoint the following part-time police officers for the month of January 2024, as necessary for the general welfare, health, and safety of the public: Giles, Wall Roll call (7) yes.

Motion by Rowlands, second by Zinkavich to enter into a 2-year agreement with Municipal Recovery, Inc., which replaces the November 2023 decision on a 3-year agreement. Roll call (7) yes.

Motion by Ameika, second by Brudzinski to accept the resignation of Thomas Brody from the Duryea Street Department as of November 16, 2023. Roll call (7) yes.

Motion by Zinkavich, second by Tonte to adopt the proposed 2024 budget. Roll call (6) yes, (1) no - Rowlands.

Motion by Gromelski, second by Rowlands to accept that all council meetings are to be held on the second Tuesday of each month in 2024. Work session begins at 6:30 p.m., immediately followed by the council meeting. Roll call (7) yes.

Motion by Ameika, second by Shupp to adopt ordinance 2023-1 which sets the taxation rate to 2.7 mils for the calendar year 2024. Roll call (6) yes, (1) no- Rowlands.

Motion by Gromelski, second by Zinkavich to adopt Ordinance 2023-2 which sets the regulations for the collection of garbage and recycling in the borough. Roll call (7) yes.

Motion by Ameika, second by Rowlands to re-appoint Willard Yates to the Duryea Borough Sewer Authority. Term to expire December 31, 2028. Roll call (7) yes.

Motion by Zinkavich, second by Brudzinski to accept the three (3) year Collective Bargaining Agreement between Duryea Borough and the Duryea Street Department. Roll call (7) yes.

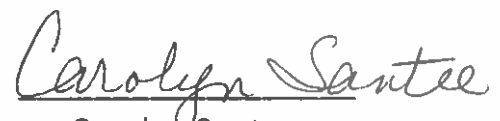
PUBLIC COMMENT:

- Keith Moss gave a special thanks to Rowlands and Ameika for serving council. He suggested to add on to the street department building and move salt shed to the ambulance building.
- Sangoldolce stated that the water in the back of her house from Copart is getting higher the more it rains.
- Paul Stevensen thanked council, the Police department, Street Department, Bobby Webb and Mayor Bauman for making NEPA Day Downtown a successful event. He presented a check to Mrs. Clancy for the food dignity program.
- Jude Coldwell asked if there were any questions or concerns from residents about Modern Gas purchasing the two small properties. Justin Tonte and the Borough Secretary, Carina Fortini replied that there were none. Jude asked for council to reach out to the Land acquisition.

CLOSING COMMENTS:

- Robert Webb complimented the Street Department on their hard work painting the snowflakes on the roads and preparing/helping with the Christmas stroll.
- Jim Gromelski sent a special thank you out to John Rowlands and Ed Ameika for being on council and for all they have done.
- Allison Brudzinski stated that it has been an honor to serve next to John Rowlands and Ed Ameika for the last 2 years. She thanked all who was involved in the Christmas Stroll, next year will be the 10th year so any ideas are welcome. Congrats to Paul Stevenson on his success with the event and Congrats to the Malvizzi family.
- Stephanie Shupp stated that she has enjoyed working with John Rowlands and Ed Ameika while on council. She appreciates all the volunteers that helped with The Christmas Stroll. Hope everyone has a great Holiday.
- John Rowlands thanked everyone for the support for the last 8 years while on council, he thanked Keith Moss for helping him find interest in council. Thanks for all involved in the Christmas Stroll.
- Ed Ameika expressed his gratitude to the Police Department, Chief Lohman and Mayor Bauman for all they do for our town, Danny Nichaporchek as supervisor of the Street Department, Bill Watt for the expert advice, the Borough manager and all fellow councilmen and women. God Bless you all.
- Jeanne Zinkavich stated that it has been a pleasure serving with John Rowlands and Ed Ameika. Thanks to the Police Department, Fire Department, and the Street Department for making the Christmas Stroll a great success. Great Job to Paul Stevenson. Have a safe and Happy Holiday Season.
- Mayor Bauman announced the children's coloring contest deadline is Friday, December 15th and the winner will be announced on Thursday, Dec 21st. Thank you to Trina Moss and the Duryea Betterment Committee on the success of the Christmas Stroll. Congrats to the Malvizzi family. Thanks to John Rowlands and Ed Ameika for all they did on council.
- Justin Tonte announced the reorganization meeting will be held on January 2, 2023, new council members and tax collector will be sworn in. Thank you to Trina and the Duryea Betterment Committee on the success of the Christmas Stroll. Thanks to John Rowlands and Ed Ameika for all they did on council you both will be truly missed.

With no further business to discuss, Council entertains a motion to adjourn. First by Gromelski, second by Zinkavich. Meeting ended at 7:11 p.m.


Carolyn Santee
Borough Manager