

2021 REGULAR MEETING

A regular meeting of the Duryea Borough Council was held remotely on the Zoom platform on February 9, 2021 at 7:04 p.m. with Council President Jeffrey Bauman, presiding.

After a pledge to the flag, a roll call was taken: (6) council members present- Hanczyc absent. Mayor Moss was in attendance. With a quorum present, the meeting continued.

Discussion regarding the scope of the LSA Grant for the Street Department - Jef Bauman discussed that an addition to the current building is not feasible and that a new piece of land, along with a new construction would be necessary. A notice would be in order if the scope were to be changed.

Discussion regarding Skytop Drainage – Jef Bauman discussed that there are funds available to start the project and that the project needs to be taken care of this year. A meeting needs to be had with Avoca Borough to discuss Avoca and Duryea boundaries.

Motion by Rowlands, second by Tonte to accept the minutes as posted. Roll call (6) yes.

Motion by Gromelski, second by Rowlands that all correspondence be accepted, action be taken where necessary and placed on file. Roll Call (6) yes.

Motion by Ameika, second by Gromelski that all bills, wages, salaries, and commissions be paid when funds are available. Roll Call (6) yes.

Motion by Tonte, second by Ameika to approve payment of bills that were paid after the previous two meetings, but before approval of bills for the current meeting. Roll call (6) yes.

Motion by Gromelski, second by Ameika that all reports be accepted, action be taken where necessary and placed on file. Roll Call (6) yes.

Motion by Rowlands, second by Ameika to appoint the following part-time police officers for the month of March 2021, as necessary for the general welfare, health, and safety of the public:

Fredmonski, Dunn, Giles, Wall, Martinez. Roll Call (6) yes.

Motion by Rowlands, second by Ameika to change the scope of the LSA Grant C000067276 to purchasing property and building a new construction to house the Street Department. Roll call (6) yes.

Motion by Ameika, second by Rowlands to begin paying invoices online or by phone to avoid late fees and/or cancellations. Roll call (6) yes.

Motion to authorize the engineer to put the Skytop Drainage project out to bid was tabled after discussion regarding a meeting with Avoca Borough. Solicitor Watt to set a meeting with all involved.

Motion to appoint a representative to the Greater Pittston Land Bank was tabled after discussion turned up no interest from Council. Will revisit next month.

Motion by Gromelski, second by Ameika to approve a grant application from DEP to fund the required video inspection of the conduit pipes along the dike. Roll call (6) yes.

Public Comment:

- Kevin Chromey – thanked the Duryea Borough staff for a job well done with garbage, snow and during COVID times. Questioned if taxes will be delayed (not to borough's knowledge). Voiced opinion against being involved with the Land Bank. Questioned why Dupont and Avoca are not involved with the WWSA Storm Water. Mentioned that Medico was supposed to break ground in 2015 to clean the river and still has not started. How many homes are to be built in the new

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section of Blueberry Hills? Keith Moss – 12. Questioned if the LLVSA building has opened in Old Forge yet. Mike McGlynn - no.

- Jim Gromelski, John Rowlands, and Ed Ameika mentioned that everyone did an outstanding job during the recent snowstorms.
- Ed Ameika mentioned that it is good to have council working together.
- Jef Bauman discussed the impact that COVID has had on local businesses. A letter was received by a business owner requesting a rebate on 2020 garbage fees and to have the ability to pay 2021 fees in installments. Discussed waiving late fees on garbage for all, which will be discussed further in March. Reminder that elections forms are available for anyone who wishes to run for office. Thanks to all during the recent snowstorms.
- Keith Moss – made the public aware that he will not be running for Mayor this time. He urges someone to run who can work well with the Police Department. Offered his help with election. Update on Code Enforcement with Bob Webb – Meyers Street residents cited for having chickens, Donnelly Street resident has cleaned up all trash that was stock piled in 2020 and also purchased the 2021 garbage sticker. Community Calendar:
 - February 2021 7am to 12 pm – Germania Hose Company offers a drive-thru breakfast.
 - Sundays – American Legion will be hosting dinners.

With no further business to transact, the chair entertained a motion to adjourn. First by Ameika, second by McGlynn to adjourn at 7:53 P.M.



Carolyn Santee
Borough Manager