

## **DURYEA BOROUGH WORK SESSION – JANUARY 2025**

Duryea Borough Council met for a work session on January 7, 2025, at 6pm regarding items for an agenda for the upcoming January monthly council meeting, with President Stephanie Shupp presiding. After a pledge to the flag, a roll call was taken (4) council members present: Gromelski, Brudzinski, Tonte, Shupp; (3) council members absent: McGlynn, Marriggi, Zinkavich; Mayor Bauman was in attendance. This public meeting was advertised in the Times Leader.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

- Gene Guarilia sign: Shupp recapped a meeting with the Wilkes Barre CTC, which she attended with Zinkavich and Trina Moss; the sign could be purchased from Jaworski (waiting on an updated quote) and installed by the CTC students.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

- A new resident at 411 New Street requested the handicap remain in place (submitted a handicap application to council).
- Hailstone Economic – Shupp described the proposal from Hailstone.
- Per diem vs seasonal employees – typically used after hours for snowplowing; rates differ for both (\$20/hour vs \$24.50 + overtime after hours).
- Emergency Services Committee – Shupp discussed the need for an Emergency Services Committee with Hazard Mitigation meetings underway; suggested members from fire department/police department/fire police/mayor/two council members; asked for interest from council – Gromelski accepted; next in-person meeting 1/27 @ 11am, virtual meeting 1/30 @ 5pm.
- Fire Police car (2008 Expedition) – question to sell; fair market value is minimal per street department mechanic; needs plenty of work (rotted frame and sitting for at least a year); motion will be added to the next meeting for a decision.
- Resolution needed to appoint a representative to the Greater Pittston Regional Compost, currently James Gromelski, with Gino Marriggi being the alternate; meetings are held the first Thursday of each month, starting in March.
- Campbell's Ledge walk to the reservoir on Friday, January 10<sup>th</sup>; hosted by Ellen Lott of the Trust for Public Land; meet at Marie's Diner @ 10am; Bauman suggested having our engineer attend; Shupp stated that the TPL are doing a study with their group and will look for funding for rehab of the damn if needed.
- Putting a question on the ballot in May for the paid firefighter position; Shupp questions the wording; Bauman suggests a broad question regarding a tax that could cover salary and equipment (up to 3 mils); unionization was brought up as a possibility; Shupp will initiate the first public informational meeting for January 26<sup>th</sup>

at 2pm with the hose companies; Bauman suggested creating an agenda of the main topics.

- Robert Webb questioned if anyone has plans for the 125<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Duryea Borough in 2026. Bauman to contact Cassandra Coleman of PA250 and suggests forming a committee.
- Trina Moss stated that the Civil Service Commission will open up testing for a full-time police officer at Thursday's meeting.
- Bauman
  - questioned the communication process; specifically the Chief's emails; Shupp stated that those topics will need to be discussed during an executive session; Solicitor Watt suggested committee reports at monthly meetings.
  - Solicitation permit approvals – suggested formalizing a process and add to the social media page and website regarding solicitors; Webb stated process in place but will add to pages in the future to make residents aware.
  - Letters to 911 regarding the new ambulance service – signed and sent
  - Fire police need items in their vehicles (cones, caution tape, etc.)
  - Questioned the developer interested in Yuhas building; Watt stated that the closing should be within the week.
- Keith Moss stated that resident Mr. Scarantino requested a stop sign be placed at the intersection of Donnelly and Hallstead; Chief noted the recent accident involving the resident and does not feel a stop sign is necessary.
- Trina Moss requested more street lights on Main Street.
- Bauman would like engineering reports on the highway occupancy permits for the Main Street Sidewalk Project; Shupp suggested making the parking lot next door and entrance from Main Street and exit onto Mayor Keith Moss Way.
- Bauman suggested council bring recent emails from manager/departments to the meeting to discuss.

Meeting adjourned at 7:15 pm, with the next monthly council meeting to be held on January 14<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 pm.

---

Carolyn Santee  
Duryea Borough Manager