

2022 REGULAR MEETING

A regular meeting of the Duryea Borough Council was held at 315 Main Street on June 14, 2022, at 7:11 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 this evening to discuss personnel matters of the Street and Police Departments.

This public meeting was advertised in the Times Leader legal section. All minutes, correspondence, bills, and reports were made available for inspection.

A discussion was had regarding the suggested changes to the existing stormwater ordinance.

A discussion was had regarding using legal funds for the purchase of 404—406 Main Street, with no objections.

A discussion was had regarding an update to the Fire Escrow Ordinance which will be ready to approve for the July meeting.

A discussion was had regarding street paving, so far getting an estimate on the 800 block of Marcy Street and Meade Street. Council will compile a list to obtain a cost estimate for the July meeting.

A discussion was had ideas for the upcoming Local Share Account Grant (7/1/2022-9/30/2022). Grant to be submitted before 9/30/2022.

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

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

Motion by Rowlands, second by Zinkavich that all bills, wages, salaries, and commissions be paid when funds are available. Roll Call (7) yes.

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

Motion by Rowlands, second by Zinkavich to appoint the following part-time police officers for the month of July 2022, 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 promote Amanda Zabrowski from part-time assistant to full-time Borough Secretary at 40 hours per week, at \$16 per hour. Roll call (7) yes.

Motion by Ameika, second by Rowlands to put the damaged dump truck box out to bid (Duramag 9 foot box). Roll call (7) yes, to be sold at market value.

Motion by Ameika, second by Rowlands to enter into an agreement with Astound/RCN for cable and internet services in Duryea Borough. Roll call (7) yes.

Motion by Rowlands, second by Shupp to ratify Resolution 2022-9 regarding a DCNR grant application through the Greenways, Trails and Recreation Program in the amount of \$71,190 for an upgrade to Community Park (app #202205313141). Roll call (7) yes.

Motion by Rowlands, second by Zinkavich to authorize additional payment of \$17,206 for the Peterbilt Packer that was awarded through the DEP Recycling Grant (app #202109241356). Roll call (7) yes.

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Motion by Ameika, second by Brudzinski to authorize an appraisal for the 171-acre property owned by Duryea Realty, located on the other side of the Stepheson Street Bridge. Estimated cost \$2,500. Roll call (7) yes.

Motion by Rowlands, second by Gromelski to approve the Fire Department Radio Maintenance Agreement with Excelsior Hose Company. Roll call (7) yes.

Motion by Rowlands, second by Gromelski to approve the Fire Department Radio Maintenance Agreement with Germania Hose Company. Roll call (7) yes.

Motion by Rowlands, second by Tonte to hire Dylan Winburn as a part-time Street Department Laborer at \$15.50 per hour, with not more than 32 hours per week. Roll call (7) yes.

Motion by Ameika, second by Gromelski to place a handicap placard at 100 Lackawanna Ave (approved by all departments). Roll call (7) yes.

Motion by Rowlands, second by Shupp to adopt the amended Civil Service Commission Regulations. Roll call (7) yes.

Public Comment:

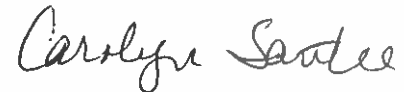
- Keith Moss requested cushions for benches in council chambers. Requested that we have the Stephenson Street sidewalks measured by the engineer since the pitch seems so steep. Requested that a portion of the ARPA funds be used to give a bonus to employees who worked during the pandemic. Mr. Ameika responded that council has discussed this idea.
- Nick Radle discussed WVSA's response to the stormwater project on Mitchell Street. He requests that council move forward with a different plan since this one seems to be stalled. Engineering firm GTA will do an engineering study for \$5,000 which he requests council consider on July's agenda. Solicitor Watt questioned where the \$5,000 came into account, as he contacted GTA and the cost was higher. Mr. Radle requested that council place a deadline on the WVSA project.
- George Jendrey stated that he had come to a meeting two months ago with complaints about the property adjacent to his property on McAlpine Street. He stated that no action has been taken for the construction part of the issue and that there are now weeds overgrown on the property, along with garbage piling up. Requested a date to be added to permit applications so that you could tell when a permit was requested. Questioned if Ordinance 2014-3 was still in effect, which was found online, and address construction issues through the 2006 International Property Maintenance Code. (This was actually replaced with 2017-2 and will be changed online.) Questioned Ordinance 2010-3 regarding a nuisance property and why no citations have been filed to date. Mr. Jendrey quoted other ordinances that were not being followed and Mayor Bauman assured him that he has recently started monitoring the situation. Robert Webb to meet Mr. Jendrey on site at the end of the week. Stated that the county permit will run out in June and the new construction is not nearly complete.
- Mary Margavage questioned how much money was spent on the preparation to purchase the Schott property before they backed out of the deal. Requested that everyone use the microphones during the meeting since most cannot hear what is being discussed. Questioned how long the Land Bank property

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on Kramer Street will decay before demolition. Land Bank is in the process of planning all demolitions. Questioned what the next step is for a new Street Department garage.

- Darlene Jameson made all aware that funds are available from the Luzerne County Redevelopment Authority for projects in the county. Also questioned if pools are permitted on front porches.
- Joseph Neutts questioned if there are any plans for TP Corporation?
- Robert Webb suggested starting a NIT Team with police and code enforcement.
- Mayor Bauman discussed the stop sign that was placed on Marcy Street and removed. Questioned if the HARIE Grant for safety would cover removing the rock wall at the back of Community Park.
- Justin Tonte congratulated Officer Brianne Malvizzi and Amanda Zabrowski on their full-time promotion.

With no further business to transact, the council entertained a motion to adjourn. First by Ameika, second by Zinkavich to adjourn at 8:48 P.M.



Carolyn Santee
Borough Manager