

2024 REGULAR MEETING

A regular meeting of the Duryea Borough Council was held at 315 Main Street on March 12, 2024, at 7:11 p.m. with Council President, Stephanie Shupp 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 regarding land purchases. 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.

Discussion was had regarding DCED's Strategic Management Planning Program. President Shupp explained the process; 50% funded with a comprehensive plan; \$30,000 was added to the 2024 budget. Mr. McGlynn suggested adding a motion to the April meeting and Mayor Bauman suggested that this could lead to a multi modal grant in the future.

Discussion was had regarding the existing ordinance against feeding birds. The ordinance was read aloud and discussed repealing at the next meeting.

President Shupp formed committees as follows:

- Human Resources Committee – Jeanne Zinkavich, Gino Marriggi, Justin Tonte (chair)
- Finance Committee – Stephanie Shupp, Justin Tonte, Michael McGlynn (chair)
- Grants Committee – Jim Gromelski, Michael McGlynn, Allison Brudzinski (chair)

Jim Gromelski suggested that Gino Marriggi join him as an alternate representative for the Regional Compost Facility. Committee meetings will not need to be advertised; the chair for each committee should give a report to council at monthly meetings; committees have no authority to make decisions, per Solicitor Watt; Mr. McGlynn suggested he and Mr. Marriggi be involved with the Street Department Committee, President Shupp will reach out regarding that matter.

Discussion was had regarding the sale of the Civil Defense truck. Mr. McGlynn requests thirty (30) days to review the truck for repairs so that it could go back to being used for parades and events; Mrs. Zinkavich stated that Mr. Herron of Germania Hose Company would do all that if given the truck; Solicitor Watt suggested adding a motion to the upcoming agenda for sale;

Discussion was had regarding a rental registration/inspection ordinance. Solicitor Watt suggested combining the two using the ordinance recently presented; need a discussion on costs and comparison of local ordinances; Mayor Bauman worries about the capacity of the borough handling this ordinance; suggests changing building inspectors. Mr. Joe Neutts asked if a right to know request would allow others to access a database of rental properties – Watt to research.

Discussion was had regarding a change of addresses at the rear of Swetland and Marcy Streets, suggested by a resident. Council felt that the issue at hand was more of a postal issue (incorrect mail to homes) and that the addresses should not be changed at this time.

Motion by Gromelski, second by Zinkavich to accept minutes as posted, with a change suggested by Mayor Bauman (change comments regarding removing the metal slide to removing the center ride). Roll call (7) yes.

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

Motion by Brudzinski, second by Tonte that all bills, wages, salaries, and commissions be paid when funds are available. McGlynn requested to go over Amazon invoices. Roll call (7) yes.

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

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

Motion by Marriggi, second by Zinkavich to remove Mark Berrios from the Duryea Borough Street Department roster. Roll Call (7) yes.

Motion by Tonte, second by Brudzinski to put Cherry and Railroad Street (1/2/3) out to bid using liquid fuels funds. Roll (6) yes (1) no - McGlynn.

Motion by Zinkavich, second by Gromelski to authorize the engineer to put the 2024 Liquid Fuels Paving Project out to bid. Roll call (7) yes.

Motion by Brudzinski, second by Zinkavich to approve Resolution 2024-2 regarding an Intermunicipal Cooperation Agreement between the Borough of Duryea and the City of Pittston to utilize their Appeals board. Roll call (7) yes.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

- Ed Ameika requested sponsorship of LSA for American Legion for a new furnace and newly paved parking lot. The Legion is always in support of the borough and donates all funds back to the community.
- Keith Moss questioned where the borough was at with the \$150,000 grant for Street Department building. Mr. McGlynn responded that they are looking at three properties. Bill Watt said that no specifics can be discussed at the time.
Keith Moss wants to raise sidewalks on main street near Independent Bible church, would need to add 4" pipe under the sidewalk; stated that the crushed sewer line at the corner of Stephenson and New was recently repaired by the water company.
- Darlene Jamison questioned who owns the left side of Hill Street and suggested having the trash cleaned up; President Shupp volunteered to help clean up, if needed.

CLOSING COMMENTS:

- Ms. Brudzinski announced the Spring Market at Germania Hose Company on Sunday, March 24th from 12pm – 5pm hosted by the Betterment Committee; Food Dignity will sponsor a produce stand at the Market.
- Mr. Marriggi thanked committee members; thanked Robert Webb
- President Shupp announced that round one of the Chamber of Commerce Small Business Grants was awarded to fifteen businesses in Duryea; round two is now open.
- Mayor Bauman commended the Street Department for the work done on the code enforcement truck; Excelsior Hose Company will hold a community fundraiser (selling t-shirts) to help with park equipment and sensory rides; questioned if removing an employee vs terminating an employee would be the job of the Human Resources committee; questioned if the appeals board already has published dates – Solicitor Watt verified that they do; VFW will host an event in July to celebrate their 100th anniversary; suggested an emergency services committee among fire departments; questioned if there is a timeline for sidewalks to be put out to bid; Little League opening day is April 13th with a parade from the VFW to the field; car show at Germania Hose Company April 27th 1pm – 6pm.

With no further business to discuss, Council entertains a motion to adjourn. First by McGlynn, second by Gromelski. Meeting ended at 8:19 p.m.



Carolyn Santee
Borough Manager