

2021 REGULAR MEETING

A regular meeting of the Duryea Borough Council was held remotely on the Zoom platform on March 9, 2021 at 8:00 p.m. with Council President Jeffrey Bauman, presiding.

After a pledge to the flag, a roll call was taken: (7) council members present. Mayor Moss was in attendance. With a quorum present, the meeting continued.

Council met in executive session this evening to discuss personnel matters of the Police and Street Departments.

Discussion regarding streets to be paved utilizing the 2021 Liquid Fuel Funds.

Discussion regarding the costs of the garbage stickers in 2021 for Duryea businesses.

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

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

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

Motion tabled until April to approve payment of bills that were paid after the previous two meetings, but before approval of bills for the current meeting.

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

Motion by Hanczyc, second by Gromelski to accept the resignation of part-time Officer Matthew Fredmonski from the Duryea Police Department. Roll call (7) yes.

Motion by Gromelski, second by Tonte to hire Jacob Zbegner as a part-time police officer, to be called as needed, provided he successfully pass the full background check process and all other Borough and M.P.O.E.T.C. requirements for newly hired police officers with no prior police experience. Officer will be subject to the six-month probationary period for part-time officers.

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

Dunn, Giles, Wall, Martinez, Zbegner. Roll Call (7) yes.

Motion by McGlynn, second by Rowlands to hire Tywone Giles as a full-time police officer, provided he successfully pass the full background check process and all other Borough and M.P.O.E.T.C. requirements for newly hired police officers. Officer will be subject to the probationary period as per the current Collective Bargaining Agreement. Roll call (7) yes.

Motion by Ameika, second by Hanczyc to hire Jonathan Martinez as a full-time police officer, provided he successfully pass the full background check process and all other Borough and M.P.O.E.T.C. requirements for newly hired police officers. Officer will be subject to the probationary period as per the current Collective Bargaining Agreement. Roll call (7) yes.

Motion by McGlynn, second by Tonte to ratify the hiring of Jeff Hughes as a part-time Street Department laborer as of January 7, 2021. Roll call (7) yes.

Motion to authorize the Engineer to prepare costs for paving utilizing CDBG funding was removed.

Motion to authorize the Engineer to prepare costs for paving utilizing Liquid Fuels funds was held over until the April meeting.

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Motion by Rowlands, second by Gromelski to authorize the Engineer to put the Skytop Drainage project out to bid. Roll call (7) yes.

Motion by Bauman, second by McGlynn to appoint Robert Webb to the Greater Pittston Land Bank as the representative for Duryea Borough. Roll call (7) yes.

Motion by Gromelski, second by Hanczyc to advertise for a part-time Administrative Assistant at \$12 per hour. Roll call (7) yes.

Motion by McGlynn, second by Rowlands to hire Sandra VanLuvender as a part-time laborer for the Street Department. Roll call (7) yes.

Motion by Rowlands, second by Ameika to ratify the decision to extend the deadline for 2021 annual refuse fees, including late fees, to the next meeting on April 13, 2021. Roll call (7) yes.

Motion to authorize the Civil Service Commission to post and test for the full-time sergeant position was tabled.

Motion by Gromelski, second by McGlynn to apply for loans for Street Department and Police Department vehicles through People's Security Bank and Trust. Roll call (7) yes.

Motion by Rowlands, second by McGlynn to formally engage in discussions and negotiations with the Luzerne County Flood Protection Authority to determine the feasibility of forming a partnership with the Authority. The motion to include an authorization for the Solicitor to engage in discussions/negotiations with the LCFPA to determine the framework of a partnership for Borough Council's consideration. Any partnership agreement between the Borough and the LCFPA would include a commitment on behalf of the Borough for maintenance of the facilities and operations of the LCFPA as it relates to the partnership. Roll call (7) yes.

Motion by Rowlands, second by Gromelski to counteroffer Mr. Glodzik's offer of the 2007 Sterling Packers of \$15,000 (both packers), with an offer by the Borough for \$25,000 (both packers). Roll call (7) yes.

Public Comment:

- Jef Bauman met with Councilman Boone in Avoca regarding the Skytop Drainage project. Avoca is unable to fit a project into their budget in 2021. Duryea will move forward with the project anyway.
- Kevin Chromey thanked the Civil Service Commission members and the Chief for their hard work in hiring two new full-time officers. Congratulations to the officers. During testing, there were six applicants; three passed the written test to move on. There is still one officer on the eligibility list.
- Jim Gromelski thanked all involved with getting the new police officers on board. Thanked Robert Webb for representing Duryea Borough on the Land Bank.
- Gromelski, Ameika, Tonte, McGlynn, Rowlands and Hanczyc congratulations to new full-time police officers.
- Keith Moss thanked council and the Civil Service Commission for their hard work with the new officers. Police Department is now in compliance. Community Calendar: VFW will hold a chicken BBQ sometime in June.
- Jef Bauman thanks everyone for participating. Hybrid meetings are being worked on for the coming months.

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With no further business to transact, the chair entertained a motion to adjourn. First by McGlynn,
second by Rowlands to adjourn at 8:31 P.M.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Carolyn Santee".

Carolyn Santee
Borough Manager