

2023 REGULAR MEETING

A regular meeting of the Duryea Borough Council was held at 315 Main Street on November 14th, 2023, at 6:59 p.m. with Council President, Justin Tonte presiding. After a pledge to the flag, a roll call was taken: (6) council members present. John Rowlands Absent. Mayor Bauman was in attendance. With a quorum present, the meeting continued. Council met in executive session to discuss personal matters of the Street and Police Departments. 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.

Motion by Gromelski, second by Zinkavich to accept minutes as posted. Roll call (6) yes.

Motion by Zinkavich, second by Brudzinski that all correspondence be accepted, action be taken where necessary and placed on file. Roll call (6) yes.

Motion by Zinkavich, second by Brudzinski that all bills, wages, salaries, and commissions be paid when funds are available. Roll call (6) yes.

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

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

Motion by Zinkavich, second by Shupp to appoint the following part-time police officers for the month of November 2023, as necessary for the general welfare, health, and safety of the public: Giles, Wall Roll call (6) yes.

Motion by Ameika, second by Zinkavich to hire Joseph Sauers as a part-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 probationary period as per the current Collective Bargaining Agreement. Roll call (6) yes.

Motion by Gromelski, second by Brudzinski to enter into a 3-year agreement with Municipal Recovery, Inc. Roll call (6) yes.

Snow plow bids were opened and read aloud.

Motion by Tonte, second by Gromelski to accept a snowplow bid from Brian Durkin on an emergency basis at \$50 per hour, with current specs and no guarantee for hours. Motion amended by Tonte to add accepting an additional bid from D & L on an emergency basis at various amount per hour, dependent on equipment used (\$145-200 per hour) with no guarantee for hours. Roll call (6) yes.

Motion by Brudzinski, second by Zinkavich to approve Resolution 2023-12 regarding an intermunicipal Cooperation Agreement between the Borough of Duryea and the city of Pittston and their Joint Code of Appeals Board, Roll call (6) yes.

Motion by Ameika, second by Tonte to hire James Thompson as a full-time laborer/CDL Driver for the Street Department consistent with the current Collective Bargaining Agreement in place. Roll call (6) yes.

Motion by Shupp, second by Tonte to approve Resolution 2023-13 to apply for a Statewide Local Share Account Grant for the paving of Blueberry Drive in the amount of \$872,127. Roll call (6) yes.

Motion by Ameika, second by Brudzinski to approve Resolution 2023-14 to apply for a Statewide Local Share Account Grant for the purchase of 171 acres including, and surrounding, Swamp Road. Roll call (6) yes.

Motion by Ameika, second by Zinkavich to accept the five (5) year Collective Bargaining Agreement between Duryea Borough and the Duryea Police Department. Roll call (6) yes.

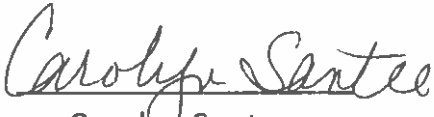
PUBLIC COMMENT:

- Jude Colwell , Engineer from Modern Gas and Bob Kane, legal Council for Modern Gas explained the process of purchasing the two pieces of property to join with current property will help the process by doubling unloading towers. The cul de sac off Boylan Drive will be used for emergency access only, they are not adding more storage containers and will not bring trucks through on a regular basis. Bob Kane stated there will be no hazard to people, no burn off and will be going through zoning and county with their plans. Joann Orloski asked how will residents be sure if Petro will do as they say, Jude assured they will. Nick Radle questioned what product will be stored, Jude responded with Propane. Lois Komensky questioned the difference between Modern Gas and Petro Gas and voiced concerns from Mitchell Street residents.
- Duane Hollister questioned how the resolution for appeals board will affect citizens of Duryea, Bill Watt explained how the appeals board works with Pittston City's Board.

CLOSING COMMENTS:

- Allison Brudzinski announced the Christmas Stroll will be held on Saturday, December 9th. Thanksgiving Dinner at Germania on Saturday, November 18th at 4 p.m. All volunteers welcome.
- Mayor Bauman announced the Thanksgiving Dinner at Germania, thanked council and solicitor for appeals board, thanked Carolyn for working on Budget. Also thanks to Germania, VFW, American Legion and Excelsior and everyone involved in the Trunk or Treat.
- Justin Tonte sent his condolences to John Rowlands. He announced the small business grant Program and announced the Budget meeting for Tuesday, November 21st at 5:30 p.m.

With no further business to discuss, Council entertains a motion to adjourn. First by Gromelski, second by Zinkavich. Meeting ended at 8:03 p.m.


Carolyn Santee
Borough Manager