

2021 REGULAR MEETING

A regular meeting of the Duryea Borough Council was held at 315 Main Street on October 12, 2021, at 7:38 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 on September 30, 2021 and again this evening to discuss legal matters pertaining to acquiring property in the borough and personnel matters in the Street Department.

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

Motion by Ameika, second by Rowlands 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. Roll Call (7) yes.

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

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

Dunn, Wall. Roll Call (7) yes.

Public Comment:

- Nick Radle brought up additional concerns regarding the draining issues going on with Mitchell Street during heavy rains. Areas with heavy mosquito counts were sprayed, however, the issue of West Nile is still a major concern for young children and elderly. Mr. Radle also questioned Mayor Keith Moss if there would be any objection to him trimming up a large overhanging tree near Germania Hose Company. Council Member Jim Gromelski suggested to Mr. Radle that he email Joe Korea from Germania for confirmation.
- Jean Hoover voiced concerns about the feral cat population throughout the Borough, especially near Getty Avenue. The borough does currently have a partnership with the SPCA of Luzerne County where residents can trap the cat(s) and drop off with the SPCA as part of the "TNR" program. This program is strictly for trapping, spay/neuter surgery, and then the animal is placed back in the community. We do not have the resources currently to do this as a borough, so the program is open for the public to utilize if they require the services.
- Michelle Denicola also voiced concerns about the feral cat issue. Her concerns are where do these funds go after the 5-year initiative with the SPCA. At this time, we do not have another program, but we did give out information on a few shelters and rescues in the area.
- Mary Margavage wanted to follow up on the speed signs missing from York Avenue. As per PennDot, all the signs required to be hung are there, but residents are still seeing speeding on street. Mary also questioned why we did not have meeting packets made up for the evening to hand out and that was due to the printer not working properly. She also had questions about the process we are taking, as a

2021 REGULAR MEETING

Borough, to fill the Street Supervisor position. We advised the public that an ad was placed to publicly advertise for this position in the newspaper and to CareerLink.

- Father Carmen asked about the upgrade that was mentioned for Excelsior Hose Company. President Jef Bauman stated that the upgrade is through an LSA Grant that Duryea Borough applied for, on behalf of the Fire Department. The upgrade would include larger bays for the vehicles as well as a bunk area for students to stay. Father Carmen as well as Council Member Jim Gromelski agreed that there may be some liability with this, and who does it fall on if anything happens? President Jef Bauman asked if we should “air more concerns” about the project. Member Jim Gromelski stated “No” and Father Carmen followed with the fact that they do not want the building to turn into an “Animal House”.
- Mayor Keith Moss added the following items to the Community Calendar:
 - 10/13 Crime Watch Meeting at 5:30pm
 - 10/13 Betterment Committee at 7pm
 - 10/20 “Fork Over Love” at Germania Hose Company starting at 5pm (FIRST COME, FIRST SERVE)
 - 10/23 VFW Trunk or Treat – located in rear parking lot of VFW from 1-5pm
 - 10/24 Germania Hose Company Sportman’s Gun Bingo. Doors open at 11:30, Games start at 1pm
 - 11/6 Electronics Recycling – drop off on Foote Ave near Germania Hose Company parking lot. Event runs from 9-12pm; First Come, First Served.
 - President Jef Bauman commented on the progress with our Budget and gave the date for our next meeting which will be Thursday October 21, 2021 at 5:30pm. Also, he confirmed an ad will be placed for the Street Supervisor position and applications are available with Borough Management.

With no further business to transact, the chair entertained a motion to adjourn. First by Rowlands, second by Gromelski to adjourn at 8:01 P.M.



Carolyn Santee
Borough Manager