

Call to Order – At 6:00 p.m. by President Bruce Markovich followed by Pledge of Allegiance and roll call.

Council members attending: Gwyneth Collevecchio, Bruce Markovich, William Chuma, John Turcmanovich, Mayor Michele Bartek Bob Silver, Martin Ditsky and Solicitor Robert Yurchak. Council woman Marie Ondrus was absent.

Executive Session 6:00 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.

Back on the record at 6:30 p.m.

Lack of Police Officers was discussed at Executive Session.

Bill McMullin from Arro Engineering Consultants to discuss the Streetscape Lighting – The supplies for the project could take 3-4 months just for the light poles so it could be 5-6 months till we see any progress on the project.

Bill discussed converting the Majestic Building at the former Silberline Property into a Borough Garage – The preliminary construction cost is \$575,000.00.

Public Courtesy –

Robert Clewell – 229 W. Water St. and his sister Donna were there to discuss a problem they were having with Bob's rental property at 362 W. Snyder Ave. The Code Enforcement Officer issued violations on this property and the problems with this property are there because of the bad disrepair of Brimble's Wall. Bruce Markovich mentioned that there is a grant for the repair of Brimble's Wall and the County oversees the project. Bruce directed Robert to contact David Bodnar at the Office of Planning to see where the County is with the project.

Rose Mary Cannon - of 242 W. Ridge St said there was an estimate from the Service Team about the corner of the building she asked if it was ever fixed. Bruce left Rose Mary know that it was never repaired. Rose Mary also asked if we got a contract signed for someone to clean the Concession Stand at the pool. There is no contract as of, yet the Solicitor will need to prepare one. Is there estimate for the bathrooms? Gwyn left her know that someone came and looked at them but no estimate yet. Another thing she asked was if the part-time borough secretary would have a probationary period. There will be a probationary period for the part-time secretary. The last thing she mentioned was that Music in the Park is a very good thing for the Borough however one of the people running Music in the Park is an elected official who did not do her job when she sat here, and she is not attended meetings at all this year, and she thinks that is a slap in the face to the people who voted for her.

Approval of Meeting Minutes

- July 6, 2021, Committee Meeting Minutes

A Motion was made by William Chuma, second by Gwyneth Collevecchio, to approve the Committee Meeting Minutes from July 6 , 2021. All were in favor. Motion passed.

- July 14, 2021, Meeting Minutes

A Motion was made by John Turcmanovich, second by William Chuma, to approve the July 14, 2021 Council Meeting Minutes. All were in favor. Motion passed.

Martin Ditsky mentioned that it was discussed at committee meetings to hire someone part-time for public works and I see that it is mentioned in the Committee Meeting Minutes. However, I do not

see it in the Council meeting minutes where it was voted on. Never in the minutes to hire Anthony Soberick as a part-time public works worker.

A motion was made by William Chuma, second by Martin Ditsky to hire Anthony Soberick as a part time borough worker not to exceed 400 hrs. All were in favor. Motion passed.

Correspondence:

- Jim Thorpe Borough -The Jim Thorpe and the Jim Thorpe Police Department are looking for assistance from the Fire Police Unit for their October event. **This was tabled because we were not sure whether the Fire Company was aware of it.**
- Special Event Form – Lansford Alive Events Committee – August 21,2021 for a Magic Show in Kennedy Park from Noon – 1:00 p.m.

A Motion was made by William Chuma, second by John Turcmanovich to approve the Magic show to be held at Kennedy Park on August 21, 2021, from Noon – 1:00 p.m. All were in favor. Motion passed.

- Special Event Form – Cub Scout Pack 765 – Would like to sell popcorn/peanuts in the pool parking lot on the following : 8/28/21, 9/4/21 ,9/11/21.

A Motion was made by William Chuma, a second by Bob Silver to approve Cub Scout Pack 765 selling Peanuts and Popcorn in the pool parking lot pending insurance and times are handed in. All were in favor. Motion passed.

- Trailer Storage - Lansford Alive is looking for a place to store their trailer where they store seasonal items, they would like to store it on the former Silberline property.

A Motion was made by William Chuma, second by John Turcmanovich to allow Lansford Alive to store their trailer of seasonal items on the former Silberline property with Bill Chuma directing them where to put the trailer. All were in favor. Motion passed.

- Road Salt – There is a delay in getting Road Salt this year.
- Handicap Parking – 50 Jones St.

A Motion was made by Bob Silver, second by Martin Ditsky to grant the handicap parking space at 50 Jones St. All were in favor. Motion passed.

Correspondence (not enclosed)

- JTNB – Certificate of Deposit has reached it Maturity the maturity date is 8/15/21.

A Motion made by William Chuma, second by John Turcmanovich to rollover the Certificate of Deposit. All were in favor. Motion passed.

- Resignation letter from Doug Knauss – We received the letter of resignation from Douglas Knauss that he is resigning from the Zoning Hearing Board effective 8/11/21.

A Motion was made by William Chuma, second by John Turcmanovich to accept the letter of resignation from Douglas Knauss. All were in favor. Motion passed.

- Audit of District Court #56-3-03 for the year end December 31,2020.

Committee Reports –

- **Public Works** – William Chuma reported that he talked to Radocha about renting a milling machine he they are \$1400.00 a day without an operator. So, I reached out to the County to rent the zipper it will cost from between \$150.00 to \$175.00 a day. We need to order Crack Sealant it is \$1250.00 a pallet we will need at least two pallets. We need to order it right away or we won't get it once the State orders theirs. I think we should change the Street Opening Fee to make it a sliding scale because the price is too low. Discussed the parking on the unit block of E. Ridge St and the 100 Block of W. Ridge St.

to go from angle parking to parallel parking during the winter months and to change the signs. We are going to re-visit that with snow removal. The Borough Crew is getting ready for paving which is about 2 weeks out.

- **Municipal Administration** – Bruce Markovich reported that we were turned down by the Water Authority for the piece of property we were requesting. The roof on the Silberline Property that was blowing open has been repaired by BJ Berk. There is a serious mold issue in the office of the majestic building, so I have asked BJ to give us an estimate on that. The SAMS number after we filed all the paperwork someone found that the old number was under the 26 E. Patterson St address so now, we must have a paper notified and send it over to them.

There was a motion made by Bob Silver, a second by William Chuma to order 2 pallets of Crack Sealant for \$2600.00. All were in favor. Motion passed.

- **Park & Recreation** – Gwyneth Collevchio reported that Friend of the Pool will parking cars for the football games. No news on the pool. Bill Chuma mentioned that there was break in at the fence again. The Borough Workers fixed the fence again. There is a broken light in the pool parking light that we need to repair.
- **Public Safety** – John Turcmanovich reported that there is a big problem with obtaining the services of police officers. The officers are working double shifts and we have no applicants. Tests were cancelled. Making a motion to send a letter to the three other departments in the Valley to get their interest in Shared Services.

There was a Motion made by John Turcmanovich, second by Bob Silver to get in touch with DCED to send us a representative to begin talks on Shared Police Services with Summit Hill, Nesquehoning, and Coaldale Police Departments. All were in favor. Motion passed.

There was a Motion made by John Turcmanovich, second by Bob Silver to contact the Commander at the State Police Barracks and find out what we need to do if we need the State Police to help in the Borough. All were in favor. Motion passed.

We should have the new police car in about 2 ½ to 3 weeks.

There was a Motion made by John Turcmanovich, second by William Chuma to hire John Tamburello as a Part-Time Police Officer pending his background check. All were in favor. Motion passed.

Municipal Monthly Reports for July:

Fire Department – American Fire Co. No 1 responded to 12 incidents in July: 6 in Lansford, 2 in Summit Hill, 3 in Coaldale, 1 in Nesquehoning.

Ambulance – There was no report

Mayor's Report – There were 193 calls in the Borough. The mayor also reported that there was \$1,551.93 collected from the Magistrate. Year to date is \$12,641.98.

Code Compliance – Jim Dean investigated 25 code enforcement complaints, issued 21 Notice of Violations, investigated 19 rental complaints, performed 19 rental inspections, and investigated 2 zoning issues. The report is on file.

Solicitor's Report – Silberline is complete

Tax Collector's Report – Tax Collector Terrance McCall collected from July 1-31, 2021 \$63,323.48.

Treasurer's Report – Bills to Approve

- General Fund - \$60,294.93

- Street Light Fund - \$5,056.73
- Sanitation Fund - \$28,112.00
- Parks & Recreation - \$670.33
- Highway – Liquid Fuels - \$856.86
- Fire Tax - \$759.10
- LST Fund - \$5,197.97

Bob Silver asked if the bills they were looking at were the current bills to be paid. Wendy confirmed that they are.

A Motion was made by William Chuma, second by Gwyneth Collevecchio to pay the bills.

	2021	End of Month Balances		
FUND/ Checking	No.	Account Title	June	July
General Fund	6496	General Acct	\$981,436.49	\$857,784.21
General Fund	6488	Escrow for 22 E Kline Ave	\$3,000.00	\$3,000.00
General Fund	2675	Fire Escrow – 332 E Bertsch St	\$6,001.31	\$6001.80
General Fund	2823	Fire Escrow – 334 E Bertsch St	\$4,508.84	\$4,509.21
General Fund	7013	Fire Escrow – 268 E Patterson St	\$9,863.51	\$9,863.51
Sanitation Fund	6438	Sanitation Fund	\$200,220.10	\$243,995.57
Sanitation Fund	7373	Sani-investors’ Money Mkt Acct	\$51,898.08	\$51,915.57
Sanitation Fund	6454	Sanitation Fund Money Mkt Acct	\$12,051.81	\$12,052.80
Sewer Transmission	6446	Sewage Transmission	\$140,526.40	\$122,250.05
Sewer Transmission	7360	Sewer Transmission	\$165,381.78	\$165,395.37
Sewer Transmission	5402	Sewer Loan Proceeds Acct	\$153,016.39	\$153,017.65
Sewer Transmission	1277	Sewer Trans. CD/Aug-12 mo.	\$51,361.27	\$51,371.82
Sewer Transmission	6470	400 E Snyder Sewer Project	\$73,709.74	\$73,715.80
LST	6462	Local Service Tax	\$22,297.40	\$22,804.38
Street Light Fund	6412	Streetlights	\$68,894.60	\$66,542.63
Fire Tax Fund	6371	Fire	\$62,993.93	\$58,858.14
Sp. Highway	6420	Treasurers Special HI Way	\$141,296.10	\$140,807.97
Park & Rec Fund	6363	Lansford Pool Account	\$41,359.90	\$41,363.30
Park & Rec Fund	6404	Recreation	\$51,515.03	\$50,072.76
Total			\$2,231,486.66	\$2,125,463.30
LOANS		LOANS Paid from Fund		
Tax Anticipation Note		1.99% for 1 yr.	\$50,000.00	0
Tunnel St/Storm Sep		\$18,689.23 per mo.	\$478,348.61	\$478,348.61
MEM Debacle		20 yrs./\$14,130 biannual May & Nov	\$85,824.11	\$76,309.11

2018 Police RAM		Gen Fund or LST 6/1/18 - 5 yr. lo	\$26,440.53	\$26,440.53
2020 Sewer Loan	5 yr.	Sewer Fund \$1,320.47 per month	\$66,650.43	\$65,449.87
Total			\$707,263.68	\$646,548.12

Unfinished Business:

Handicap Parking Space – 34 S. Walnut St.

A letter was sent to get more details from the person applying for the space. Council received a new letter from the Dr. which was one of the items asked for.

A Motion was made by William Chuma, second by Martin Ditsky to turn down the application because they do not meet the criteria. All were in favor. Motion passed.

Adopt a No Smoking Ordinance for Borough Properties- The Ordinance will cover no smoking at any of the Borough owned properties such as : Municipal Building, Outdoor Parks, Pool, Borough Garage.

A Motion was made by William Chuma, second by Bob Silver to advertise an Ordinance for No Smoking on any Borough Property all were in favor. Motion passed.

Portnoff to collect Taxes – We met with Renee Roberts at our Committee Meetings. Discussed the ways to stop delinquent taxpayers who are landlords from buying properties at tax sales. All that is needed is to send the names over to County.

A Motion was passed by William Chuma, second by Gwyneth Collevchio to hire Portnoff to collect any unpaid real estate taxes starting with tax year 2021. Martin Ditsky was opposed. Motion passed.

Award Bid – There were two companies that sent in bids to ARRO for the Streetscape Lighting we need a motion to pick one of the bidders. They are as follows : Larry McMullion & Sons \$143,120.00 & Billitier Electric \$109,170.00.

A Motion was made by Bob Silver, second by William Chuma to accept the bid of Billitier Electric for Phase II of the Streetscape Lighting. All were in favor. Motion passed.

New Business:

Classes - A Motion is needed to reimburse Michele for courses that she took online. The classes were \$45.00 a class.

A Motion was made by Bob Silver, a second by William Chuma that the Borough reimburse the mayor \$45.00 for her on-line course. All were in favor. Motion passed.

Hiring of Computer IT Firm – A motion is needed to hire a computer IT firm for the borough office/police department. Met with the gentleman from Cloud Services yesterday the other company withdrew their service.

A Motion was made by William Chuma, second by Martin Ditsky to hire Cloud Services for the IT Firm to upgrade separate the Borough/Police Department . Bob Silver were opposed. Motion passed.

Hiring of Crossing Guard -A motion is needed to hire a Crossing Guard for the Patterson St and Cortright St. intersection for the Panther Valley School Year 2021-2022.

A Motion was made by Bob Silver, second by William Chuma to hire Kathleen Williams as a Crossing Guard for the 2021-22 School Year pending background check. All were in favor. Motion passed.

Amend the Street Opening Fee – A motion is needed to change the amount of the Street Opening fee. Tabled.

LSA Grant – A motion is needed to apply for an LSA Grant for \$180,000.00 for improvements to Kennedy Park.

A Motion was made by Gwyneth Collevchio, a second by William Chuma to apply for an LSA Grant for \$280,000.00 for improvements to Kennedy Park. All were in favor. Motion passed.

Codification- This will add \$6,400.56 to our invoice. The mayor spoke about Codification and that there was a change order that we would need to vote on, and this was to allow General Code to now read the Ordinances, look at them, and if they felt that there were changes that needed to be made notify us to do it for us. Then we would give it to the Solicitor and then vote on it.

A Motion was made by William Chuma, second by Bob Silver to accept the Change Order by General Code in the amount of \$6400.56 for their services. All were in favor. Motion passed.

Rose Mary Cannon was concerned about the problems going on at the pool are we looking into getting Security Cameras down there. Also are we applying for anymore grants for the pool.

Meeting Adjourned at 8:05 p.m.
Respectfully submitted,

Wendy Butrie
Secretary Treasurer