

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, Jennifer Staines, Martin Ditsky, Jay Doyle, Solicitor Robert Yurchak. John Turcmanovich and Mayor Hugh Vrablic were not in attendance.

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

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

Public Courtesy –

Rosanne Pelaske– 515 E. Bertsch St. – Mentioned the neighboring home at 513 E. Bertsch St. and the fact that there are squatters in the home. The owner of the home is deceased, and the daughter lets everyone live there. Called Code Enforcement and he never called her back.

Rose Mary Cannon – 242 W. Ridge St. – Started with a question for Borough Council asking them what the millage was for the new budget. She then mentioned that there were two checks written for the train station where did that money come from. Mentioned a letter for Colton and how the Chief of Police did not get one when he retired.

Mary Soberick – 109 W Abbott St. – Mentioned that the report from the swimming pool could come back with do not waste your time on it. What happens then?

Joe Genits – 232 W. Front St – Referenced his handout.

Approval of Meeting Minutes

- November 9, 2022, Regular Meeting Minutes

A Motion was made by Jay Doyle, second by William Chuma to approve the November 9, 2022, Regular meeting minutes. All were in favor. Motion passed.

- November 29, 2022, Special Meeting Minutes

A Motion was made by Gwyneth Collevecchio, second by William Chuma to approve the November 29, 2022, Special Meeting Minutes. All were in favor. Motion passed.

- December 6, 2022, Committee Meeting Minutes

A Motion was made by William Chuma, second by Jay Doyle to approve the December 6, 2022, Committee Meeting Minutes. All were in favor. Motion passed.

Correspondence enclosed-

- Handicap Parking – 7 W. Bertsch St.

A Motion was made by William Chuma, a second by Gwyneth Collevecchio to approve the handicap parking space at 7 W. Bertsch St. All were in favor. Motion passed.

Committee Reports – On the table out front

1. Zoning & Ordinance
2. Public Works
3. Municipal Administration
4. Park & Recreation

5. Public Safety

Municipal Monthly Reports for October

Fire Department – American Fire Co. #1 responded to 14 incidents in November: 8 in Lansford, 3 in Summit Hill, 2 in Coaldale, and 1 in Tamaqua.

Ambulance – Leighton Ambulance responded to 72 incidents in November with an average response time of 8.9 minutes from time of dispatch to arrival on scene.

Mayor’s Report \$802.96 was deposited for the month of November

Police Report – No Report

Code Compliance – Jim Dean investigated 21 code enforcement complaints, issued 5 Notice of Violations, investigated 34 rental complaints, performed 11 rental inspections, and received 11 zoning complaints. The report is on file.

Tax Collector’s Report – From November 1, 2022 – November 30, 2022, \$11,445.89 was collected.

Solicitor’s Report – Mentioned that Resolution 2022 –07 Act 57 was ready, and all that is left to do is for Council to vote on it.

A Motion was made by William Chuma, second by Gwyneth Collevecchio to have the Solicitor prepare a Resolution for Act 57. All were in favor. Motion passed.

Attny. Yurchak also mentioned the Ordinance for adopting the 2021 IPMC was finished and ready for adopting.

A Motion was made by Jay Doyle, second by William Chuma to adopt the Ordinance for the 2021 IPMC all were in favor. Motion passed.

Treasurer’s Report –

Bills to Approve

- GENERAL FUND - \$80,032.31
- ARPA FUNDING - \$41,901.99
- STREET LIGHT FUND - \$16,926.91
- SANITATION FUND - \$28,374.00
- SEWER TRANSMISSION FUND - \$2,260.22
- PARKS & RECREATION - \$468.98
- HIGHWAY – LIQUID FUELS - \$6,364.74
- FIRE TAX - \$6,592.49
- DELINQUENT TAX ACCOUNT - \$821.49

A Motion was made by William Chuma, second by Jay Doyle, to approve payment of the October bills. All were in favor. Motion passed.

Account Balances October 31, 2022:

FUND/ Checking	No.	Account Title	October	November
General Fund	6496	General Acct	\$875,669.70	\$795,785.25
General Fund	6488	Escrow for 22 E Kline Ave	\$3,000.00	\$3,000.00
General Fund	2823	Fire Escrow – 334 W. Bertsch St	\$4,514.88	\$4,514.88
General Fund	2823	Fire Escrow – 339 E. Bertsch St	\$11,220.00	\$11,220.00
General Fund	7013	Fire Escrow – 268 E. Patterson St	\$9,863.51	\$9,863.51
General Fund	2153	ARPA Grant Acct	\$353,408.58	\$345,337.91
General Fund	1394	Railroad Proceeds Account	\$531,585.19	\$531,628.88

General Fund	8929	Portnoff Account	\$67,813.25	\$70,388.85
Sanitation Fund	6438	Sanitation Fund	\$318,948.62	\$304,018.24
Sanitation Fund	7373	Sani-investors' Money Mkt Acct	\$51,986.66	\$52,004.61
Sanitation Fund	6454	Sanitation Fund Money Mkt Acct	\$14,104.06	\$14,105.22
Sewer Transmission	6446	Sewage Transmission	\$85,871.06	\$65,858.93
Sewer Transmission	7360	Sewer Transmission	\$165,610.27	\$54,941.12
Sewer Transmission	5402	Sewer Loan Proceeds Acct	\$53,042.93	\$53,047.07
Sewer Transmission	1277	Sewer Trans. CD/Aug-12 mo.	\$51,522.93	\$51,529.39
Sewer Transmission	6470	400 E Snyder Sewer Project	\$32,415.02	\$32,417.68
LST	6462	Local Service Tax	\$27,310.18	\$30,122.98
Street Light Fund	6412	Streetlights	\$68,817.12	\$64,569.41
Fire Tax Fund	6371	Fire	\$26,515.25	\$25,490.27
Sp. Hi-Way	6420	Treasurers Special Highway	\$52,153.61	\$45,662.38
Park & Rec Fund	6363	Lansford Pool Account	\$41,415.23	\$41,418.63
Park & Rec Fund	6404	Recreation	\$46,005.96	\$45,820.57
Total			\$2,962,782.85	\$2,652,746.15
LOANS		LOANS Paid from Fund		
Tax Anticipation Note		1.99% for 1 yr.		
Tunnel St/Storm Sep	\$18,689.23	per mo.	\$219,071.97	\$219,071.97
MEM Debacle	20 yrs./\$14,130	biannual May & Nov	\$56,639.11	\$56,639.11
2018 Police RAM				
2020 Sewer Loan	3591	\$49,644.00	\$47,178.67	\$45,943.83
2022 Ford F 550	5 Yr.	\$60,000.00	\$60,000.00	\$60,000.00
Total			\$385,355.08	\$395,300.08

New Business:

Light Duty Policy – The Solicitor gave the President of Council a packet to look at and review at Committee Meetings before adopting.

A date is needed to meet with DA Greek and Chief Weaver from Nesquehoning dates available are Dec: 15,20,21,22. Council decided to go with the date of Dec. 20th at 6:00 p.m.

Passing of the 2023 Budget –

A Motion was made by William Chuma, second by Jay Doyle to pass the budget for fiscal year 2023. All were in favor. Motion passed.

Resolution 2022-6 – Taxes Remain the same

A Motion was made by William Chuma, second by Gwyneth Collevecchio approve Resolution 2022-6 allowing taxes to remain the same for 2023. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Paying the Fire Escrow out to the owner at 339 E. Bertsch St.

An inspection was performed on this property by James Dean and the property is ok now.

A Motion was made by William Chuma, second by Jay Doyle to pay the fire escrow money to the owner of 339 E. Bertsch St. All were in favor. Motion passed.

Motion to amend the Sewer Transmission Ordinance.

Municipal Administration had a meeting to determine whether the Borough could afford to lower the Sewer Transmission Fee and they decided to lower it from \$90.00 to \$60.00 a year. Changes would need to be drafted by the Solicitor first.

A Motion was made by William Chuma, a second by Jay Doyle to have the Solicitor draft changes to the Sewer Transmission Ordinance reducing the fee from \$90.00 to \$60.00. All were in favor. Motion passed.

Heart and Lung for Officer Houser

Council agreed to have him evaluated by one of the Borough's physicians

A Motion was made by William Chuma, second by Jay Doyle to table the Heart and Lung and have Officer Houser evaluated by one of the Borough's physicians. All were in favor. Motion passed.

Letter of Support for Water Authority Grant

The Water Authority in the 300 block of W. Abbott St. is going to put a new line in from 6-10 inch and a fire hydrant.

A Motion was made by Jay Doyle, second by Gwyneth Collevchio to write a letter of support for the Water Authority for a grant. All were in favor. Motion passed.

Motion to transfer \$6,924.00 from the General Fund to Liquid Fuels – from paving the road in front of 6 Edgemont Rd. in 2021.

A Motion was made by William Chuma, second by Jay Doyle to transfer money back into Liquid Fuels from the General Fund for paving work that was done on the road in front of 6 Edgemont Rd. in 2021. All were in favor. Motion passed.

A Motion was made by William Chuma, second by Jay Doyle to go off the agenda for the purpose of hiring. All were in favor. Motion passed.

A Motion was made by Jay Doyle, second by William Chuma to hire George Gilbert as a full-time employee for public works with his first working day as January 2, 2023. All were in favor. Motion passed.

Mary Soberick questioned the use of a Resolution for the budget instead of an Ordinance. The Solicitor told her that up to a few years ago you could start using a Resolution when the taxes stay the same.

A Motion was made by Martin Ditsky, second by Jay Doyle to adjourn the meeting. All were in favor. Motion passed.

Meeting adjourned at 7:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Wendy Butrie

Secretary Treasurer