

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.

Public Courtesy –

Rose Mary Cannon - of 242 W. Ridge St asked if there was an executive session after the committee meetings on July 6th. It was confirmed there was, and it will be noted on the Committee Minutes.

Jennifer Staines – of 353 W. Abbott St wanders if there is a way that we can block landlords from buying up more properties that are delinquent on their bills and or taxes. The Solicitor stated that there are steps we can take to do so.

Approval of Meeting Minutes

- June 9, 2021, Meeting Minutes

A Motion was made by William Chuma, second by John Turcmanovich, to approve the June 9, 2021, meeting minutes. All were in favor. Motion passed.

- June 16, 2021, Special Meeting Minutes

A Motion was made by John Turcmanovich, second by William Chuma, to approve the June 16, 2021 special meeting minutes. All were in favor. Motion passed.

Correspondence:

- Special Event Form – Halftime Bar & Grill Zoo Stock event September 6, 2021

A Motion was made by John Turcmanovich, second by William Chuma to approve the Halftime Bar & Grill special event for Zoo Stock on 9/6/21. All were in favor. Motion passed.

- Special Event Form – American Fire Co. No 1 Food and Vendor event 10/9/21, no Parking unit block of E. Bertsch St the day of the event.

A Motion was made by John Turcmanovich, second by William Chuma to approve the American Fire Co. #1 special event on 10/9/21 with no parking on the unit block of E. Bertsch St. All were in favor. Motion passed.

- Handicap parking request – 34 S. Walnut was tabled so a letter can be sent to the applicant for more information of his illnesses from his doctor as well as the ownership of the motorcycle and we need the plate number on the application. The request was tabled.
- Lansford Historical Society is requesting permission to store pews in the Silberline Property.

A Motion was made by Bob Silver, second by Gwyneth Collevecchio to allow the Historical Society to store pews in the former Silberline building. All were in favor. Bruce Markovich abstained. Motion passed.

Correspondence (not enclosed)

- Resignation letter from Jason Helmer – resigning from the Police Dept. after 7 yrs. of employment.

A Motion was made by William Chuma, second by John Turcmanovich to accept the resignation of Jason Helmer and send a letter thanking him for his 7 yrs. of service. All were in favor. Motion passed.

- Resignation letter from Ryan Nametko – resigning from Public Works Dept. after 2 yrs. of employment.

A Motion was made by John Turcmanovich, second by William Chuma to accept the resignation of Ryan Nametko and send a letter thanking him for his 2 yrs. of service. All were in favor. Motion passed.

Committee Reports –

- **Public Works** – William Chuma reported that the sewers at Powell & Ridge St are waiting on pipe. The paving projects were approved. There will be no line painting this year no one has paint. The dump truck needs tires on the front of the truck. We also need two rear tires for the loader. They talked about the work that they did behind the Police Station we fixed the wall all we have to do is pave. They talked about Ryan leaving. There is a drainage problem in front of Frank Gustus's property Radocha gave us an estimate of \$3,000.00 all we must do is supply the materials.

- **Municipal Administration** – Bruce Markovich reported that the County turned down our application for a Community Block Grant to tear down 614 E. Patterson St. The Streetlight project was advertised in the paper so that is moving forward. We discussed the treasurer and borough secretary, and we will discuss that later tonight.
- **Park & Recreation** – Gwyneth Collevchio reported that at the committee meeting we discussed the Frackville Pool Rose Mary gave me the phone number to call him I called it and left a message, and he still hasn't called me back. I did call Dan Muesser's office in Pottsville and I talked with Mike about what they did in Frackville. I then called Tom Gerhard and had a lengthy conversation with Tom he was going to visit the pool on Monday, so I had Bruce and Bill to meet with us as well. Tom wanted a detailed e-mail on what they talked about once he receives it he will add his notes to it then he will send it down to Washington DC.
- **Public Safety** – John Turcmanovich reported that the Civil Service testing is set up for July 24th here at the Borough Office the written and the oral are here at the office the physical agility is at the high school then for polygraph testing. There are only two candidates taking the test. We still must advertise the test date. The mayor asked if we could continue to still advertise full time police officers. Council would need to decide that.

Fire Department – American Fire Co. No 1 responded to 13 incidents in June: 6 in Lansford, 1 in Summit Hill, 1 in Coaldale, 2 in Nesquehoning, 2 in Tamaqua and 1 other.

There was a letter from the Chief stating that they never received their budgeted funds for this year.

Ambulance – Lehighon Ambulance responded to 45 incidents in June with an average response time of 8.5 minutes from time of dispatch to arrival on scene.

Mayor's Report – There were 270 calls in the Borough. The police dept. is trying to do the IPMC as well.

Code Compliance – Jim Dean investigated 18 code enforcement complaints, issued 8 Notice of Violations, investigated 18 rental complaints, performed 12 rental inspections, and investigated 27 zoning issues. The report is on file.

Solicitor's Report – Handed out an amendment to the RR Ordinance pertaining to insurance on properties. Bob has the deeds to Silberline properties and will need a check to record the deeds. The next item is from the legislature they passed Senate Bill 554 on June 30, 2021 that our agenda needs to be on our website 24 hours before a council meeting if something is not on there, we cannot discuss it. Except for an emergency this goes into effect 9/1/21.

Tax Collector's Report – Tax Collector Terrance McCall collected from June 1-30, 2021 \$13,589.17.

Treasurer's Report – Bills to be approved total \$ 144,456.76, General Fund \$67,795.36, Park & Recreation \$1,540.68: Hi Way Liquid Fuels \$456.35; streetlights \$5,056.73; Sewer Transmission \$35,873.97; Fire Tax \$5,283.25; Sanitation \$28,451.42.

A Motion was made by William Chuma, a second by John Turcmanovich, to approve payment of the June bills totaling \$144,456.76. All were in favor. Motion passed.

Permission was asked to pay the second half of the Tax Anticipation Loan for \$50,000.00

A Motion was made by William Chuma, a second by John Turcmanovich to pay the final payment of the Tax Anticipation Loan which is \$50,000.000. All were in favor. Motion passed.

	2021	End of Month Balances		
FUND/ Checking	No.	Account Title	May	June
General Fund	6496	General Acct	\$806,674.32	\$981,436.49
General Fund	6488	Escrow for 22 E Kline Ave	\$3,000.00	\$3,000.00
Sanitation Fund	6438	Sanitation Fund	\$251,705.04	\$200,220.10
Sanitation Fund	0283	Sani-investors' Money Mkt Acct	\$51,898.08	\$51,915.57
Sanitation Fund	6454	Sanitation Fund Money Mkt Acct	\$12,050.72	\$12,051.81
Sewer Transmission	6446	Sewage Transmission	\$128,059.45	\$140,526.40
Sewer Transmission	1198	Sewer Transmission	\$165,326.06	\$165,381.78
Sewer Transmission	5402	Sewer Loan Proceeds Acct	\$153,010.85	\$153,016.39
Sewer Transmission	1277	Sewer Trans. CD/Aug-12 mo.	\$51,328.92	\$51,361.27
Sewer Transmission	6470	400 E Snyder Sewer Project	\$73,692.99	\$73,709.74
LST	6462	Local Service Tax	\$21,750.40	\$22,297.40
Street Light Fund	6412	Streetlights	\$57,765.57	\$68,993.93
Fire Tax Fund	6371	Fire	\$47,557.24	\$62,993.93
Sp. Highway	6420	Treasurers Special HI Way	\$144,078.36	\$141,296.10
Park & Rec Fund	7699	Lansford Pool Account	\$41,349.59	\$41,359.90
Park & Rec Fund	7756	Recreation	\$36,077.36	\$51,515.03
Total			\$1,371,601.22	\$2,220,976.10
LOANS		LOANS Paid from Fund		
Tax Anticipation Note		1.99% for 1 yr.	\$100,000.00	\$50,000.00

Tunnel St/Storm Sep	\$18,689.23 per mo.		\$497,037.84	\$478,348.61
MEM Debacle	20 yrs./\$14,130 biannual May & Nov		\$85,824.11	\$85,824.11
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	\$69,849.70	\$66,650.43
Total			\$779,152.18	\$707,263.68

Unfinished Business:

Hiring a New Treasurer –

A Motion was made by William Chuma mentioned that we should hire Wendy as the Secretary Treasurer and change her pay to \$20.00 an hour a second was made by John Turcmanovich there was an opposing vote by Bob Silver . Motion passed.

A Motion was made by William Chuma to advertise for a part-time Borough Secretary for 30 hrs. a week from 8:30 a.m.-2:30p.m. with a 15 min break at \$16.00 an hour no benefits a second was made by Bob Silver. All were in favor. Motion passed.

A Motion was made by William Chuma to hire LGH Tax & Accounting Service at a rate of \$60.00 an hour to bring our books up to date and assist with a budget a second by John Turcmanovich. All were in favor. Motion passed.

New Business:

Resolution - A Resolution is needed for all organizations that are applying for grants through the Borough requiring that they must deposit their required funds in an escrow account prior to us filing their applications.

A Motion was made by William Chuma, a second by Bob Silver that the Borough have any organization applying for grants is requires to deposit their funds in an escrow account prior to filing the application. All were in favor. Motion passed.

Railroad Sale – A motion is needed to hire an outside law firm to review the sale of the railroad.

A Motion was made by William Chuma, a second by John Turcmanovich to cap the amount spent on an outside law firm at \$5,000.00 to review the sale of the railroad. Martin Ditsky and Bob Silver were opposed. Motion passed.

Majestic Building -A motion is needed to hire BJ Burke to repair the roof on the Majestic building at Silberline with costs of \$1,800.00.

A Motion was made by William Chuma with a second by Bob Silver hire BJ Burke to repair the roof of the Majestic building at Silberline with a cost estimate of \$1,800.00. All were in favor. Motion passed.

Resolution – A Resolution is needed establishing Climatic and Geographic Design Criteria sent over by ARRO Engineering.

A motion was made by William Chuma a second by Bob Silver to adopt the resolution to establish Climatic and Geographic Design Criteria all were in favor. Motion passed.

Cleaning Person –A motion is needed to increase the rate of pay of the cleaning person Debbie Kupres for the borough/police offices from \$23.00 to \$26.00 to offset costs of cleaning supplies.

A Motion was made by William Chuma, a second by Gwyneth Collevchio to increase the rate of pay for Debbie Kupres from \$23.00 to \$26.00 an hour. Bruce Markovich abstained. Motion passed.

No Smoking Policy – Borough Properties

A motion was made by William Chuma a second by Bob Silver to have the Solicitor draw up paperwork for a no smoking policy on Borough properties. All were in favor. Motion passed.

Hiring – A motion was needed to hire Tonia Collevchio at \$22.00 an hour to train Wendy Butrie on Quick Books. For the record the result was to not hire Tonia Collevchio but to have Lacey of LGH Tax & Accounting teach Wendy Quick Books.

Coal Car – A motion is needed for Lansford Alive Events Committee to put a roof on the coal car. We would like to see what the roof is going to look like before we ok it. Sending a letter out to let them know this.

Borough Truck – A motion is needed to obtain financing costs for a new Borough truck, DCED offers a small equipment loan at 2%. The last quotes from Mauch Chunk and M& T were 2.5 and 2.50%. The only Co stare dealer they can obtain the truck is Rottet, we had contacted Bergey Ford and Carpenter Ford both are unable to provide the truck. The cost of the truck is \$84,975.14 we can use up to \$79,270.35 from liquid fuels. William said that maybe we can take a \$50,000.00 loan and pay the difference out of liquid fuels.

A Motion was made by Bob Silver a second by William Chuma to purchase the Ford F-550 for \$84,975.14. All were in favor. Motion passed.

Crossing Guard – A motion is needed to hire a Crossing Guard for the intersection at Cortright and Patterson St. The decision was made to advertise for a Part-time Secretary, Part-time Police & Crossin Guard all at one time.

A Motion was made by Bob Silver a second by Gwyneth Collevecchio to advertise to hire a Crossing Guard for the intersection of Cortright and Patterson St. All were in favor. Motion Passed.

Borough Garage – A motion is needed to have ARRO Engineering come up with development plan for a new borough garage. To finance from the bank, we will need a plan for the bank. So, we would like to have ARRO Engineering design a development construction plan for the bank.

A Motion was made by Gwyneth Collevecchio, a second by Bob Silver to have ARRO Engineering come up with a development construction plan for a new borough garage. All were in favor. Motion passed.

County Tax Claim – A motion is needed to arrange a meeting with Renee Roberts from Carbon County Tax Claim Bureau to discuss the County's efforts to collect unpaid taxes now at \$324,000.00.

The decision was made to ask Renee Roberts to come and meet with members of Council at the Committee Meetings in August to talk about unpaid taxes.

The mayor discussed her concern with paying for the flow meters and how long we are going to keep paying for this. The other concern she had was reserved parking. The Council does not have reserved parking. Codification was something else she talked about and the fact that the Ordinances need to be re-done we are going to give her the information to the Codification Company.

Meeting Adjourned at 8:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Wendy Butrie
Secretary Treasurer