

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

Council members attending: Bruce Markovich, William Chuma, John Turcmanovich, Mayor Hugh Vrablic, Martin Ditsky, Gwyneth Collevecchio, Jennifer Staines, and Solicitor Robert Yurchak. Jay Doyle was not in attendance.

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

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

Executive Session we discussed police officers and minor personnel issues.

Public Courtesy –

Denise Leibensperger – 164 W. Ridge St, raised her concern for the burnt-out buildings next to her home and asked when the buildings would be demolished.

Justin Bilka – is a probation officer for the County he applied for a full-time job with the Borough and wanted to know where the Borough was with that.

Rose Mary Cannon – 242 W. Ridge St – Mentioned about the swimming pool and she is glad that it is moving forward. Also mentioned was her RTK that she turned in asking for a copy of the LGH Tax and Accounting Service Contract. The contract is not signed by Lacey, Special and it is not dated.

Jason Miller – A commissioned artist mentioned that he does murals and that they can be done if anyone needs them.

Michelle Bartek – 333 E. Abbott St. – Mentioned that Bradley can still do the mural at the pool. The she had a question for the Mayor she asked if the Trax System is in the truck and to the SUV yet and how about the new kitchen and floor.

Joe Genits – 232 W. Front St. – Mentioned that Public Works did a commendable job on streets this year.

Bob Silver – 17 E. Ridge St. – Didn't we get in touch with the surrounding towns about shared services?

Approval of Meeting Minutes

- February 9, 2022, Regular Meeting Minutes.

A Motion was made by Gwyneth Collevecchio, second by William Chuma to accept the Regular Meeting Minutes from February 9, 2022. All were in favor. Motion passed.

- March 1, 2022, Committee Meeting Minutes.

A Motion was made by William Chuma, second by Jennifer Staines to accept the Committee Meeting Minutes. All were in favor. Motion passed.

Correspondence enclosed

- Special Event Form – 5K Run – Lacey Timony

A Motion was made by Gwyneth Collevecchio, second by John Turcmanovich to approve the Special Event form for the 5K Run for Lacey Timony. All were in favor. Motion passed.

- Special Event Form – American Fire Co. #1 – Food & Vendor Event.

A Motion was made by William Chuma, second by John Turcmanovich to approve the Special Event form from the American Fire Co. #1 for the Food & Vendor Event. All were in favor. Motion passed.

- Special Event Form – Lansford Legion – Easter Egg Hunt.

A Motion was made by William Chuma, second by John Turcmanovich to approve the Special Event Form from the Lansford Legion for the Easter Egg Hunt. All were in favor. Motion passed.

- Special Event Form – Friends of Lansford Recreation for a Turkey Dinner

A Motion was made by William Chuma, second by Jennifer Staines to approve the Special Event form from the Friends of Recreation for their turkey dinner. All were in favor. Motion passed.

Committee Reports –

- **Public Works**
- **Municipal**
- **Park & Recreation** The minutes are on the table up front.
- **Public Safety**

Municipal Monthly Reports for December:

Fire Department – American Fire Co. No 1 responded to 15 incidents in February: 5 in Lansford, 2 in Summit Hill, 6 in Coaldale, 2 in Nesquehoning.

Ambulance – For the month of February 53 incidents with a response time of 8.8 minutes.

Mayor’s Report –The mayor reported that there was \$2,331.50 collected for the month of February. The District Attorney would like to meet with Council to discuss the fact that there is grant for regionalization available. John and I talked at the Committee Meetings about Body Cams and License Plate Reader. There are two neighboring towns that have them. There are grants available for this. I will get a price on the Body Cams. We are also in need of new Tasers. John mentioned that for 6 Tasers for 60 months the price is \$15,460.60. The yearly payment would be \$3,092.12. Each officer is assigned a Taser. The new Tasers also record every time the Tasers are used.

Code Compliance – Jim’s report for February he investigated 28 code enforcement complaints, issued 22 Notice of violations, investigated 18 rental complaints performed 18 rental inspections, and investigated 29 zoning issues. The report is on file.
Bruce mentioned that work is needed on the Rental Ordinance he thinks that the committee should get together with Jim and get recommendations on the Ordinance and bring it back to Council.

Solicitor’s Report – No Report

Tax Collector’s Report – No Report to give

Treasurer’s Report – Bills to Approve

- General Fund - \$97,513.16
- Street Light Fund - \$5,203.85
- Sanitation Fund - \$28,327.23
- Sewer Transmission - \$22,622.46
- Parks & Recreation - \$589.68
- Highway – Liquid Fuels - \$16,579.71

- Fire Tax - \$14,188.25
- LST Fund - \$0.00

I mailed out 1,909 Sewage Transmission Bills.

William Chuma also mentioned that there was an issue with an invoice for JR Slaw charging us tax and that it should be looked at before paying it.

A Motion was made by William Chuma, second by John Turcmanovich to pay the bills. All were in favor. Motion passed.

	2021	End of Month Balances		
FUND/ Checking	No.	Account Title	November	December
General Fund	6496	General Acct	\$672,385.97	\$586,617.28
General Fund	6488	Fire Escrow for 22 E Kline Ave	\$3,000.00	\$3,000.00
General Fund	0826	Fire Escrow for 330 W. Bertsch St	\$37,289.13	\$37,289.13
General Fund	2675	Fire Escrow – 332 W. Bertsch	\$6,004.85	\$6005.31
General Fund	2823	Fire Escrow – 334 E Bertsch St	\$4,511.50	\$4,511.85
General Fund	7013	Fire Escrow – 268 E Patterson St	\$9,863.51	\$9,863.51
General Fund	2153	ARPA Grant Acct.	\$199,111.13	\$199,127.22
General Fund	9737	Fire Escrow – 154 W Ridge St	\$53,333.33	\$53,333.33
General Fund	9729	Fire Escrow – 158 W Ridge St	\$35,933.34	\$35,933.34
General fund	8911	Fire Escrow – 156 W Ridge St	\$9,163.57	\$9,163.57
General Fund	6438	USDA Grant Acct.	\$0.00	\$0.00
Sanitation Fund	6438	Sanitation Fund	\$277,991.03	\$268,300.09
Sanitation Fund	7373	Sani-investors’ Money Mkt Acct		\$51,946.30
Sanitation Fund	6454	Sanitation Fund Money Mkt Acct	\$12,058.91	\$12,059.84
Sewer Transmission	6446	Sewage Transmission	\$43,914.56	\$80,894.05
Sewer Transmission	7360	Sewer Transmission	\$165,451.11	\$165,479.67
Sewer Transmission	5402	Sewer Loan Proceeds Acct	\$153,021.50	\$123,025.15
Sewer Transmission	1277	Sewer Trans. CD/Aug-12 mo.	\$51,424.40	
Sewer Transmission	6470	400 E Snyder Sewer Project	\$73,753.16	\$73,758.82
LST	6462	Local Service Tax	\$23,115.99	\$25,459.44
Street Light Fund	6412	Streetlights	\$41,983.10	\$37,141.90
Fire Tax Fund	6371	Fire	\$32,910.76	\$28,825.27
Sp. Highway	6420	Treasurers Special HI Way	\$68,223.96	\$66,979.60
Park & Rec Fund	6363	Lansford Pool Account	\$41,384.27	\$41,387.44
Park & Rec Fund	6404	Recreation	\$44,475.63	\$44,104.81
Total			\$2,060,305.53	\$1,964,206.92

LOANS		LOANS Paid from Fund		
Tax Anticipation Note		1.99% for 1 yr.	\$0.00	\$0.00
Tunnel St/Storm Sep	\$18,689.23 per mo.		\$360,422.59	\$325,676.53
MEM Debacle	20 yrs./\$14,130 biannual May & Nov		\$76,309.11	\$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	\$58,203.29	\$56,988.12
Total			\$504,002.49	\$485,414.29

Unfinished Business:

A motion is needed to settle the grievance with a police officer.

A Motion was made by John Turcmanovich, second by William Chuma that payment has been made to the officer and the grievance has been settled. All were in favor. Motion passed.

New Business:

Advertise street material bids for 2022.

A Motion was made by William Chuma, second by Jennifer Staines to advertise for Street Material Bids for 2022 following the same specifications as last year. All were in favor. Motion passed.

Hiring of Part-Time Borough Secretary.

We are going to have a Special Meeting with the Candidates and interview them with Council then we will have a Special Meeting.

A Special Meeting will be held for this.

Hiring of a Part-time Borough Worker for the Summer.

A Motion was made by William Chuma, second by John Turcmanovich to advertise for a part-time Summer Borough Worker with the rate of pay at \$12.00 an hour. All were in favor. Motion passed.

Accept the Resignation of Hugh Vrablic from the Zoning Hearing Board.

A Motion was made by John Turcmanovich, second by William Chuma to accept the resignation of Hugh Vrablic from the Zoning Hearing Board. All were in favor. Motion passed.

Demolition of 614 E Patterson St.

Bill McMullen did a report on it stating that he considers it an emergency situation and it should be torn down it is a fire hazard and dangerous to the public welfare.

The property at 614 E. Patterson St. needs emergency demolition.

Resolution #2022-3- to apply for a \$60,000 LSA Monroe Grant to be used towards the purchase of the former Lehigh New England Railroad Station from Kenny Hill.

A Motion was made by John Turcmanovich, second by William Chuma to pass Resolution # 2022-3 to apply for a for a \$60,000 LSA Monroe Grant to be used towards the purchase of the former Lehigh New England Railroad Station. All were in favor. Motion passed.

Resolution # 2022-4 – to apply for a \$100,000 LSA Monroe Grant to be used for new sidewalks on the North side of Kennedy Park.

A Motion was made by Gwyneth Collevecchio, second by William Chuma to pass Resolution # 2022-4 for a \$100,000 LSA Monroe Grant to be used for new sidewalks on the North side of Kennedy Park. All were in favor. Motion passed.

Resolution #2022-5 - to apply for a \$25,000 LSA Monroe Grant on behalf of the Lansford Historical Society for a new roof on the former Welsh Church.

A Motion was made by William Chuma, second by Gwyneth Collevecchio to pass Resolution # 2022-5 for a \$25,000 LSA Monroe Grant on behalf of the Lansford Historical Society for a new roof on the former Welsh Church. Bruce Markovich abstained from voting. All were in favor. Motion passed.

Conduit Repair – The conduit for the streetlamp project is broken somewhere between the thrift store and the mini mall, we need to either hire a contractor or have the Borough crew dig up the street and make the repair.

There is a 4ft x 5ft space where the pipe is broken. Billiter Electric will pinpoint exactly where the break is.

A Motion was made by William Chuma, second by John Turcmanovich to have the Borough crew dig up the street between the thrift store and the mini mall. Gwyneth Collevecchio was opposed. Motion passed.

A motion was needed to allow Friends of Recreation to hire and pay Joseph Hutta Plumbing to replace all piping around the pool at a cost of \$14,795.00.

Bruce mentioned that just for the record there was newspaper article written by Chris Reber in Aug of 2020 to do this work.

A Motion was made by William Chuma, second by Jennifer Staines to allow Friends of Recreation to hire and pay Joseph Hutta Plumbing to replace all piping around the pool at a cost of \$14,795.00. All were in favor. Motion passed.

A motion is needed to grant a 90-day extension to Billiter Electric to complete the downtown improvement project. The new deadline to complete the project would be moved from March 14th to June 14th.

A Motion was made by William Chuma, second by John Turcmanovich to grant a 90-day extension to Billiter Electric to complete the downtown improvement project. Giving it a new deadline of June 14th. All were in favor. Motion passed.

Martin Ditsky asked what is with the Borough Garage with the Grant for \$160,000.00.

William Chuma mentioned that the garage door at the borough garage is fixed.

Meeting Adjourned at 7:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Wendy Butrie
Secretary Treasurer