

Special Meeting Minutes

November 21st, 2024

The November 21st, 2024 Special Meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by President Bruce Markovich at the Lansford Borough Town Hall, 1 West Ridge Street, Lansford, Pennsylvania. The meeting was attended by President Pro Tempore Michele Bartek, Council Man Joesph Butrie, Council Woman Gwyneth Collevechio, President Bruce Markovich, and Council Woman Jennifer Staines.

Council Man Jay Doyle, Council Man Jack Soberick, Mayor Hugh Vrablic, and Solicitor Robert Yurchak were absent.

Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Bruce Markovich spoke briefly about the executive meeting which was about personnel issues. The executive session meeting was from 5:30p.m. to 6:00p.m.

Bruce Markovich stated that council is going to be going back into executive session after the special meeting is concluded.

**Public Courtesy-**

Bruce Markovich inquired if the public had any questions. No public comment was made at this time.

Bruce Markovich remarked about the low audience attendance considering the budget is going to be adopted at the meeting.

**Motions to Approve**

**Motion to tentatively adopt the proposed 2025 Budget.-requested by the office**

Bruce Markovich remarked about how this is the fourth or fifth budget that has not had a tax increase and no tax anticipation loan.

Bruce Markovich spoke about the budget shortfall that was filled by previous budget surplus from the past two years, resulting in no tax increase.

Bruce Markovich stated he was thankful that the borough did not spend budget surplus.

Bruce Markovich spoke about how the borough is looking for more ways to bring revenue into borough.

Jennifer Staines spoke about how she wanted an executive session with Borough Accountant Lacey Gonzalez to discuss the budget shortfall.

Jennifer Staines spoke about where money was taken from to fill in the budget shortfall.

Bruce Markovich stated that \$84,000 was taken from budget surplus to balance the 2025 proposed budget.

Bruce Markovich spoke about how a large amount of the budget shortfall was due to the borough having ARRO Consulting handling the rental process.

Motioned by Gwyneth Collevechio and seconded by Michele Bartek.

Motion passed unanimously.

**Motion to approve the payoff of the USDA Grant Loan #0609 in the amount of \$26,577.86.- requested by the office**

Bruce Markovich spoke about the USDA Grant Loan that the loan was used for a police car that was purchased four or five years ago.

Bruce Markovich stated that the police vehicle will have a zero-balance remaining once the loan is paid off.

Motioned by Michele Bartek and seconded by Joseph Butrie.

Motion passed unanimously.

**Motion to accept sole heating oil bid.**

Bruce Markovich opened the sole heating oil bid from Kattner Coal and Oil in Nesquehoning, PA. which showed a price of \$2.63 per gallon for 2,500 gallons.

Motioned by Joseph Butrie and seconded by Jennifer Staines.

Motion passed unanimously.

**Motion to approve heating oil bid.**

Motion to approve the sole heating oil bid from Kattner Coal and Oil in Nesquehoning, PA for 2,500 gallons at the price of \$2.63 per gallon.

Motioned by Joseph Butrie and seconded by Jennifer Staines.

**Motion to accept salt shed bids.**

Motion to table accepting salt shed bids due to bids not physically being present to council.

Motioned by Joseph Butrie and seconded by Michele Bartek.

Motion to table passed unanimously.

**Motion to table salt shed bids for review.**

Bruce Markovich stated he had previously seen the bids which were large amounts, and that council was advised by Bill McMullen to table the bids due to the amounts.

Motion to table salt shed bids by Joseph Butrie and seconded by Michele Bartek.

Motion to table passed unanimously.

**Motion to approve the purchase of Two Payloader tires from Good Tire Service. The cost to be \$1,695.00 a tire.-requested by Joseph Butrie**

Joseph Butrie spoke about how he had contacted two companies, and that Good Tire Service was the lowest cost he found per tire.

Joseph Butrie spoke about how Good Tire Service will not be charging for a service call.

The cost of the tires to be paid out of the Liquid Fuels Account.

Motioned by Joseph Butrie and seconded by Gwyneth Collevechio.

Motion passed unanimously.

**Motion to approve ordering 3000 winter parking ordinance signs the cost to be \$3,950.00. - requested by Joseph Butrie**

Joseph Butrie spoke about the design of the signs and the wording that will be on the signs.

Joseph Butrie spoke about the type of signs they are and when the signs would arrive after being ordered.

The cost of the signs to be paid out of the Liquid Fuels Accounts.

Motioned by Joseph Butrie and seconded by Jennifer Staines.

Motion passed unanimously.

**Motion to advertise for bids for phase one of the Train Station Project-requested by Bruce Markovich**

Motioned by Gwyneth Collevechio and seconded by Michele Bartek.

Motion passed unanimously.

**Motion to approve the purchase of 5 Police Body Cams from Digital-Ally for \$16,600.00-requested by Michele Bartek**

Motion to approve the purchase of 7 Body Cams from Digital-Ally for \$23,240.00 to be paid out of COVID Fund with one Body Cam to go to the Code and Ordinance Enforcement Officer Shane Monk.

Motioned by Jennifer Staines and seconded by Michele Bartek.

Motion passed unanimously.

**Motion to Install stop signs at the following locations:-requested by Joseph Butrie**

**1. Front Street at Pardee going East and West**

Motioned by Joseph Butrie and seconded by Jennifer Staines.

Motion passed unanimously.

**2. Oak Street going West on Edgemont**

Motioned by Joseph Butrie and seconded by Jennifer Staines.

Motion passed unanimously.

**3. Edgemont Road South to Dock Street**

Motioned by Joseph Butrie and seconded by Michele Bartek.

Motion passed unanimously.

**Motion to approve the Handicap Parking Request from Theresa Gusick at 331 East Bertsch Street-Requested by Michele Bartek**

Motioned by Michele Bartek and seconded by Joseph Butrie.

Motion passed unanimously.

**Motion to hire Danilo Garcia as a Part-Time Officer with a conditional offer of employment pending further background investigation, medical, act 57 and polygraph. -requested by Michele Bartek**

Motioned by Michele Bartek and seconded by Gwyneth Collevecchio.

Motion passed unanimously.

Joe Genits of 210 West Front Street inquired about the fee schedule resolution and if that will be approved in a future meeting.

**Motion to Adjourn-**

Motioned by Joseph Butrie and seconded by Michele Bartek.

Motion passed unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:32p.m.

An executive session began after the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,



Ashley McLaughlin

Assistant Secretary/Treasurer