

5600

January 13, 2021

The Regular Public Work Session of the Blakely Borough Council was held at 6:00 P.M. in the Blakely Borough Municipal Building, 1439 Main Street, Peckville, PA 18452.

ROLL CALL

Mayor Jeanette Acciare-Mariani - present
Jeff Cruciani - present Joseph Munley - present
Michael Henzes - present Louis Parri - present
Joseph Ercolani - present Patrick Zwanch - present
Kevin Swift - absent Edward Alco - present

Mr. Parri presided. Solicitor - Mr. Conaboy

Be it known a quorum was present.

A motion to accept the public hearing meeting, special meeting, public work session meeting, and regular meeting minutes was made by Mr. Henzes and seconded by Mr. Munley. All ayes.

Reading of Correspondence

Mr. Paone read an Audit Engagement letter from Fiorelli and Associates. We will audit the financial state of the Borough of Blakely as of and for the year ended December 31, 2020. We understand the financial statements will be presented in accordance with the financial reporting model in effect prior to the described in GASB Statement No. 34 even though we may be required to render an adverse opinion. Also, the document we submit to you will include the following additional information that will be subjected to auditing procedures applied in our audit of the financial statements. Our fee for related services will be \$11,995 and any fees outlined in the other services category will not exceed \$6,720.

Mr. Paone read a statement from DMS Shredding outlining what the borough received for our metal dumpster and scrap streetlights. \$418.80 for the metal dumpster and \$1,920.00 for the scrap streetlights.

Mr. Paone read a letter from the Lackawanna County Department of Elections looking to ascertain which offices will be up for election during the May 18, 2021 Primary. Blakely Borough

5601

currently has three (3) council, mayor, and tax collector up for re-election.

Mr. Paone read a letter from the Lackawanna River Basin Sewer Authority to submit an updated Waste Load Management Report addressing growth and sewage disposal needs within our service area.

Mr. Paone read letters from Selective Insurance giving notice of a conditional renewal for our Police Professional Liability and Public Officials Management & Employment Practices Liability.

Mr. Paone read a letter from Diversified Technology with our annual maintenance and support agreement. The total cost is \$1,720.00.

New Business

Mr. Paone asked council if it was still acceptable to get an FNCB Debit card with the Chief's name on it. All of council agreed with getting him a new card. A motion was made by Mr. Cruciani and seconded by Mr. Ercolani.

Mr. Paone asked council if they would like to extend the already expired CARES Act protocol of paying employees when they have a possible exposure to COVID 19. He also asked if council wanted to use employee sick time when they are getting their COVID vaccines. All council agreed to keep the CARES Act protocol in place from 2020 and to allow the employees to go on borough time because it ultimately benefits the borough. A motion to extend was made by Mr. Henzes and seconded by Mr. Cruciani. All ayes

Mr. Wascura said that he had spoken to Cathy Zinskie and she is a member of the Daughters of the War of 1812. She said that they had done research and discovered that Captain Blakely was a war hero from the War of 1812, and they would like to erect a small plaque at the anchor denoting his service. There would be no cost to the borough. A motion was made by Mr. Munley and seconded by Mr. Ercolani. All ayes

Mr. Wascura said that he had spoken to Brett Ritzenthaler from Ritztech about renewing the lease on the building located at 1600 Pennsylvania Ave. He said that he proposed a fee of \$30,000/month for five (5) years beginning in May 2021. All of

5602

council agreed to this new agreement. A motion was made by Mr. Munley and seconded by Mr. Curciani.

Public Comment

Chet Merli 106 Hospital St. Peckville attended the meeting to inform council of the issue that has arisen on Route 6 Blakely and a property owned by John Krisa. Mr. Merli stated that Dennis Kutch attended a Planning Commission looking to get approval for Mr. Krisa to sell one of the parcels of land behind his building. The planning commission did some investigating and found that the borough never required Mr. Krisa to bond the road (McDonough Drive) that was part of the plans. Mr. Merli is concerned that this may put the borough in a liability issue which may lead to the borough having to install the road. Mr. Conaboy responded to the Mr. Merli's concerns stating that the case from Lackawanna County Court of Common Pleas Stivala vs. South Abington Township supports the borough as the decision made by Judge Corbett states that when an entity purchases a property, they "step into the shoes" of the previous owner. This decision in his opinion precludes the borough from liability. Mr. Merli also stated a section from the Pa Municipal Planning Code that says major subdivisions need to come in every 5 years to have the plan recertified. Since the plans we never recertified by the planning commission he also feels we should deny the plans. Mr. Conaboy respectfully disagreed with Mr. Merli's interpretation of the planning code stating that the 5-year recertification is required to allow the subdivision to keep the zoning it was originally approved under at its inception. If the zoning does not change the recertification is not necessary. Mr. Conaboy said that when a new entity purchases the land as Mr. Krisa plans to sell it and not develop it, the borough can then demand a bond through the Subdivision and Land Development Ordinance as prescribed.

A motion to adjourn was made by Mr. HENZES and seconded by Mr. Cruciani. All ayes

Christopher R. Paone
Blakely Borough Secretary

January 18, 2021

The Regular Meeting of the Blakely Borough Council was held at 6:00 P.M. in the Blakely Borough Building, 1439 Main Street, Peckville, PA 18452.

ROLL CALL

Mayor Jeanette Acciare-Mariani - present		
Jeff Cruciani	- present	Joseph Munley - present
Michael Henzes	- present	Patrick Zwanch - present
Joseph Ercolani	- present	Edward Alco - present
Kevin Swift	- present	Louis Parri - present

Mr. Parri presided.

Be it known a quorum was present.

A motion to accept the public hearing meeting, special meeting, public work session meeting, and regular meeting minutes was made by Mr. Zwanch and seconded by Mr. Swift. All ayes.

READING OF CORRESPONDENCE

Mr. Paone read a letter from the Lackawanna River Basin Sewer Authority to submit an updated Waste Load Management Report addressing growth and sewage disposal needs within our service area.

Mr. Paone read a letter from SEIU 668 giving official notice to the borough that the Non-Uniform Union wishes to begin negotiations for a successor agreement to their collective bargaining agreement that ends on December 31, 2021.

Mr. Paone read a letter from PA Dept of Environmental Protection informing us that our Act 101 Section 904 Recycling Performance Grant in the amount of \$8,366.18 was deposited on 1/11/2021.

Mr. Paone read the bills presented for payment.
Borough Bills Light Bills

The bills were approved by the finance committee. A motion to accept the bills was made by Mr. Ercolani and seconded by Mr. Munley. All ayes.

REPORT OF BOROUGH OFFICERS

MAYOR - The mayor read her monthly report and the police department had 7,073 total calls for the year.

SOLICITOR - Atty Abrahamsen opened the bids for Blakely Borough 2021 Paving Project:

	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Bid Bond</u>
American Asphalt	\$337,573.60	Yes
Wayco	326,341.24	Yes
Pennsy Supply	298,476.16	Yes
Stafursky Paving	320,783.77	Yes
Hanson Aggregates	425,515.40	Yes
E.R. Linde Construction	396,396.00	Yes
M&J Excavation	326,228.25	Yes
H&K Group	393,975.00	Yes
Umbriac Trucking LLC	317,500.60	Yes
Pioneer Construction	308,415.34	Yes
New Enterprise	317,576.94	Yes

A motion to accept the bids was made by Mr. Cruciani and seconded by Mr. Zwanch. All ayes

TREASURERS REPORT

Mr. Paone read the Treasurers Report. A motion to accept the Treasurers Report was made by Mr. Henzes and seconded by Mr. Cruciani. All ayes.

CONTROLLER - No report.

TECHNICAL ADVISOR - No report.

5605

MINE CAVE COMMISSION - Mr. Paone read the Mine Cave Commission Report for the month of December, 2020. All mine openings and voids are secure as of January 18, 2021. A motion to accept the report was made by Mr. Cruciani and seconded by Mr. Munley. All ayes.

REPORT OF COMMITTEES

POLICE - Mr. Zwanch stated that the 2016 Dodge Charger AWD is now in service to replace the 2013 Ford Interceptor AWD.

BUILDINGS - No report.

FINANCE - Mr. Henzes read the Financial Report. A motion to accept the report was made by Mr. Zwanch and seconded by Mr. Swift. All ayes

FIRE - Mr. Cruciani stated that a large amount of our Fire and EMS personnel have been able to get the COVID-19 vaccine.

REFUSE - Mr. Zwanch stated that the 2021 refuse bills have been mailed out.

ELECTRIC LIGHT - Mr. Cruciani said the installation of the streetlight control system is approximately 50% completed but was delayed because of COVID-19 constraints.

ROADS - No report.

SEWERS - No report.

EQUIPMENT - Mr. Munley said that the 8,000lb lift capacity forklift is now in service.

RECREATION - No report.

OLD BUSINESS - None.

NEW BUSINESS - None

REMARKS FROM CITIZENS: None

A motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Henzes and seconded by Mr. Zwanch. All ayes.

5606

Christopher R. Paone
Blakely Borough Secretary