

November 10, 2021
Peckville, PA 18452

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	- absent	Joseph Munley	- present
Michael Henzes	- present	Louis Parri	- present
Joseph Ercolani	- absent	Patrick Zwanch	- present
Kevin Swift	- present	Edward Alco	- present

Mr. Parri presided. Solicitor - Atty. Abrahamsen

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. Henzes. All ayes

Reading of Correspondence

Mr. Paone read a letter from the Keystone Sanitary Landfill, Inc. informing the borough that our waste disposal fee for 2022 will be increasing by \$1.50 per ton.

Mr. Paone read a letter from Comcast with the borough's quarterly franchise fee in the amount of \$16,189.17.

Mr. Paone read a letter from the Lackawanna County Office of Environmental Sustainability Coordinator Nicole Shapiro informing the borough that the Lackawanna Recycling Center will accept Christmas trees from municipalities free of charge from January 3rd, 2022, until January 27th.

Mr. Paone read a letter from Griffin Pond Animal Shelter thanking the borough for our donation to their municipal appeal. Our donation will enable them to provide care to over 200 animals entrusted to their care.

Mr. Paone read a letter from the Pa Department of General Services with the August 2021 to July 2022 Bulk Road Salt

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contract. The contract for Lackawanna County is held by American Rock Salt at a cost of \$64.54 per ton.

Mr. Paone read a letter Lackawanna College requesting that we share this important information with all our municipal administrators and council members. Over the last several months, we have received numerous inquires from various police departments seeking to hire full time officers. To assist departments in developing a timeline for their hiring process, we are providing the following information pertaining to future Pa Basic Municipal Police Training classes at Lackawanna College Police Academy.

Mr. Paone read a letter from the Valley Community Library asking for financial support from the community to help continue the essential services they can provide to the community.

New Business

None

Old Business

Mr. Paone informed council that the milling and paving have taken place on Kingsley Blvd. and Prynne St. Peckville. All the work is working as planned and the water has stopped jumping the crown of the road.

Public Comment

No Comments

Motion to Adjourn

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

Christopher R. Paone
Blakely Borough Secretary

November 15, 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 - absent
Jeff Cruciani - absent Joseph Munley - present
Michael Henzes - present Patrick Zwanch - present
Joseph Ercolani - present Edward Alco - absent
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. Munley. All ayes.

READING OF CORRESPONDENCE

Mr. Paone read a letter from the Lackawanna County Office of Environmental Sustainability Coordinator Nicole Shapiro informing the borough that the Lackawanna Recycling Center will accept Christmas trees from municipalities free of charge from January 3rd, 2022, until January 27th.

Mr. Paone read a letter from the Keystone Sanitary Landfill, Inc. informing the borough that our waste disposal fee for 2022 will be increasing by \$1.50 per ton.

Mr. Paone read a letter from the Pa Department of General Services with the August 2021 to July 2022 Bulk Road Salt contract. The contract for Lackawanna County is held by American Rock Salt at a cost of \$64.54 per ton.

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

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

General Payable - \$124,823.26 Electric Payable - \$9,640.56

REPORT OF BOROUGH OFFICERS

MAYOR - Mr. Paone read the mayor's monthly report.

SOLICITOR - Atty. Abrahamsen asked for a motion to authorize the borough solicitor to advertise for the street number ordinance. A motion was made by Mr. Ercolani and seconded by Mr. Henzes. All ayes.

Atty. Abrahamsen asked for a motion to authorize the borough solicitor to advertise for the feral cat ordinance. A motion was made by Mr. Ercolani and seconded by Mr. Henzes. All ayes.

Atty. Abrahamseen asked for a motion to authorize the borough solicitor to advertise for the snow parking ordinance. A motion was made by Mr. Ercolani and seconded by Mr. Henzes. All ayes.

Atty. Abrahamsen asked for a motion to authorize the borough solicitor to advertise to update the garbage ordinance. A motion was made by Mr. Zwanch and seconded by Mr. Munley. All ayes.

Atty. Abrahamsen asked for a motion to accept the deed for the extension of Kathleen Dr. from Denzal Construction. This would dedicate the road as owned by Blakely Borough. A motion was made by Mr. Zwanch and seconded by Mr. Munley. 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. Swift. All ayes.

CONTROLLER - Mr. Alco stated that the 2022 preliminary budget has been completed. Mr. Paone read the budget.

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Revenues:

Taxes - \$889,350
Permits - \$67,377
Fines & Forfeits - \$35,330
Interest, Rents, & Royalties - \$368,525
Intergovernmental Revenues - \$521,531
Charges for Services - \$6,548,471
Gas System - \$217,681
Misc Revenues - \$41,000
Other Financing Sources - \$2,321,155
Total - \$11,010,421

Expenditures:

General Government - \$537,051
Public Safety - \$1,379,426
Health & Welfare - \$28,952
Sanitation - \$626,972
Highways, Roads, & Streets - \$1,408,564
Other/Electric Co. Expense - \$3,499,991
Culture & Recreation - \$107,361
Debt Service - \$0
Misc - \$920,950
Other Financing Uses - \$2,501,155
Total - \$11,010,421

A motion to accept the preliminary budget was made by Mr. Henzes and seconded by Mr. Ercolani. All ayes.

TECHNICAL ADVISOR - No report.

MINE CAVE COMMISSION - Mr. Paone read the Mine Cave Commission Report for the month of October, 2021. All mine openings and voids are secure as of November 15, 2021. A motion to accept the report was made by Mr. Munley and seconded by Mr. Zwanch. All ayes.

REPORT OF COMMITTEES

POLICE - No report.

BUILDINGS - No report.

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

FIRE - No report.

REFUSE - No report.

ELECTRIC LIGHT - Mr. Cruciani stated that the final shut-off notices of the year will be sent out next week.

ROADS - No report.

SEWERS - Mr. Swift said the Lower Pleasant Ave. Sanitary Sewer Replacement will begin this week.

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EQUIPMENT - Mr. Munley said the borough has recently purchased a 1993 Case Backhoe to load salt during the winter. This will keep our main backhoe in good shape for many years to come.

RECREATION - No report.

OLD BUSINESS

Mr. Paone informed council that the electricians have installed three new street lights on Gino Merli Dr. just above Everson St.

Mr. Paone informed council that the water issues on Kingsley Blvd. and Prynne St. have been adjusted and everything seems to be working well.

NEW BUSINESS

None

REMARKS FROM CITIZENS:

Catherine Palonis, 449 Delaware St., Peckville read a letter to council about an incident that occurred at her property the previous week. She stated that Mr. Paone removed a 15" tall fence from the corner of her property and tossed it into her yard. Mr. Paone stated that we did remove the fence, but it was not tossed but laid down carefully in the yard. He told her that he deemed it a safety hazard for its location in relation to the curb and the narrowness of the road itself.

James Kiballa, First St., Peckville complained about the way First St., Peckville has been plowed. He specifically spoke about a storm last year in which he plowed snow onto the road, and he was confronted by Mr. Paone who told him to remove the snow, or he would be cited. Mr. Kiballa stated that this was the first time he was ever asked about the snow removal, but Mr. Paone contended that he asked him in the past not to do it and plow truck drivers were complaining that it had occurred multiple times during the season. Mr. Kiballa said that he feels the plow truck drivers are purposely plowing more snow to his side of the road and he has found curb stones in the snow he has removed. He also stated that Mr. Paone was unprofessional and should be immediately fired and that he probably makes too much money. Mr. Abrahamsen told Mr. Kiballa that he had already

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gone over the normal time limit for public comment and we would have to move on.

Tom Elkins, Hickory St. stood up to interject after what Mr. Kiballa was saying about the plowing in Blakely Borough. He respectfully disagreed saying that he has been driving since the 1950's and there is no other town that he has ever driven in that has better roads during the winter season. He commended all the plow truck drivers and told them to keep up the good work.

John & Cynthia Spager, Oak St., Peckville thanked borough council and management for their help with the shield on the streetlight across the street from their home. Mr. Paone told them that he was happy that the shield worked out and the electricians had to highly modify the shield to make it work.

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

Christopher R. Paone
Blakely Borough Secretary