

September 14, 2022
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 | | |
| Jeffrey Cruciani | - present | Joseph Munley | - present |
| Michael Henzes | - present | Louis R. Parri | - present |
| Edward J. Alco, Jr. | - absent | Patrick Zwanch | - present |
| Kevin Swift | - absent | Carlo Celli | - 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. Munley and seconded by Mr. Zwanch. All ayes

Reading of Correspondence

Mr. Paone read a letter from the Pa Department of Community and Economic Development informing the borough that we are will be receiving the Second Tranche of the American Relief Plan Act funds in the amount of \$326,025.46 on September 9, 2022.

Mr. Paone read a letter from the Pa Liquor Control Board informing the borough of the Liquor and Malt Beverage Fees issued for Feb. 1, 2022, to July 31, 2022, in the amount of \$1,400.00.

Mr. Paone read a letter from American Municipal Power informing the borough that Christopher Paone has received a Public Power Certification for completing the AMP, Inc. Public Power Governance series on August 23, 2022

Mr. Paone read a letter from Selective Insurance informing that borough of our final 2019 dividend check in the amount of \$1,366.14.

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Mr. Paone read an email from Dominique Lesconage Marion St. Peckville thanking the borough for taking her thoughts and concerns into consideration and taking action on her requests. She was anticipating such a quick turnaround on her request, and she is overjoyed with the results.

Mr. Paone read a letter from Pa Department of the Auditor General informing the borough that the results of the 2022 distress determination for Blakely Borough. Blakely Borough has received a score of zero (0) and our funded ratio for our combined pension funds is 117%.

Mr. Paone read a letter from the Lackawanna County Office of Environmental Sustainability Manager Nicole Shapiro asking the municipalities to participate in the yearly Lackawanna County Tire Recycling program. The program will tentatively take place from October 3 to 11 or October 14 to 24.

New Business

-Council will authorize the advertising of the Flood Protection Project on Woodhaven Rd. and Bodnick St. Peckville.

-We are planning on installing the rubber flooring for the handicapped playground at the Blakely Borough Recreational Complex within the next month.

-Mr. Paone spoke to council about investing in a CD through Edward Jones. Current CD rates are approximately 2.80% for a 12-month timeframe. The current rate from FNCB is 0.35%

-Mr. Paone spoke to council about a proposal from Waste Management to use Alliance Landfill. They are proposing a \$54.20 per ton.

-Mr. Paone provided Blakely Borough Council with the rate study from the 2022 PMEA conference that was conducted by Utility Engineers, PC.

Old Business

-Mr. Paone gave an update on the Refuse/Recycling numbers for 2021 vs. 2022 for the first eight (8) months of 2022. Garbage is down 163.70 ton and Recycling is up 2.31 ton.

Public Comment

No Comments

Motion to Adjourn

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

Christopher R. Paone
Blakely Borough Secretary

September 19, 2022

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
Kevin Swift - absent Louis Parri - present
Edward J. Alco Jr. - present Carlo Celli - 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. Henzes and seconded by Mr. Cruciani. All ayes.

READING OF CORRESPONDENCE

Mr. Paone read a letter from Pa Department of the Auditor General informing the borough that the results of the 2022 distress determination for Blakely Borough. Blakely Borough has received a score of zero (0) and our funded ratio for our combined pension funds is 117%.

Mr. Paone read a letter from the Pa Department of Community and Economic Development informing the borough that we are will be receiving the Second Tranche of the American Relief Plan Act funds in the amount of \$326,025.46 on September 9, 2022.

Mr. Paone read a letter from the Pa Liquor Control Board informing the borough of the Liquor and Malt Beverage Fees issued for Feb. 1, 2022, to July 31, 2022, in the amount of \$1,400.00.

Mr. Paone read the 2023 MMO for the police pension plan in the amount of \$159,307.00.

Mr. Paone read the 2023 MMO for the non-uniform pension plan in the amount of \$1,244.00.

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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. Zwanch and seconded by Mr. Munley. All ayes.

General Payable - \$132,337.72 Electric Payable - \$33,997.73

REPORT OF BOROUGH OFFICERS

MAYOR - The mayor read her monthly report.

SOLICITOR- Atty. Abrahamsen read Resolution 24 of 2022 entering not a new traffic signal maintenance agreement with the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation for the new signals that will be installed at the intersection of SR247 Depot St., River St. and Bridge St., Jessup. A motion to accept was made by Mr. Alco and seconded by Mr. Munley. All ayes

Atty. Abrahamsen read Resolution 25 of 2022 authorizing an intermunicipal transfer of a liquor license being requested by Pop Pop's Mini Market, Inc. Liquor License No. R-14961. A motion to accept was made by Mr. HENZES and seconded by Mr. Cruciani. All ayes

Atty. Abrahamsen read Resolution 26 of 2022 authorizing the Borough to apply for a Monroe County Local Share Account Grant on behalf of the Valley Community Library Roof Replacement and authorize Christopher Paone to sign all applicable documents. A motion to accept was made by Mr. Zwanch and seconded by Mr. Cruciani. All ayes

TREASURERS REPORT

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

CONTROLLER - Mr. Celli stated that the borough will begin the 2023 budget during the month of October.

MINE CAVE COMMISSION - Mr. Paone read the Mine Cave Commission Report for the month of August, 2022. All mine openings and

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voids are secure as of September 19, 2022. 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. Alco and seconded by Mr. Cruciani. All ayes

EMERGENCY SERVICES - No report.

REFUSE - Mr. Zwanch stated that Friday, September 30th is the final day to pay your 2022 refuse bill before they are sent to the magistrate.

ELECTRIC LIGHT - No report.

ROADS - Mr. Swift said the sidewalk projects are underway on Main St., Blakely, Depot St. and Main St., Peckville.

SEWERS - Mr. Swift stated the Fourth St. Sanitary Sewer Replacement Project has been awarded to Stafursky Paving Co. and should begin within the next few weeks.

EQUIPMENT - No report.

RECREATION - Mr. Munley said the rubber floor will be installed within approximately the next month at the handicapped accessible playground at Blakely Borough Recreational Complex.

OLD BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

None

REMARKS FROM CITIZENS:

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Tom Elkins, Hickory St. asked Chief Salerno if it was possible to speak to the children who ride bikes and speak to them about safety and following the rules on the roads. He said that the bikes and the cars can't see when each other is coming to the intersection at Hickory St. and Walnut St. in Peckville. Is it possible to speak to the schools about bike safety. Chief Salerno said that ever since Blakely Police has put an officer in the school, we have been giving a program that talks about safety on bikes and when crossing the roads.

He asked about the house at the corner of Walnut St. and Travis Alley. Mr. Paone said that he sends out a letter on a monthly basis for the grass and hedges. The owner then takes care of the property and lets it go again.

Genevieve Lupini thanked the borough for their help at the Valley Community Library to get the roof replaced. She said she was very happy that Blakely was able to help the library with the grant. She told the borough about the cars for books campaign that she runs to help with the funding of the library. If the borough or anyone that we know has a car they wish to get rid of please let ker know to see if they can donate it to the library as a fundraising opportunity.

Kristen Wallo, the new executive director of the Valley Community Library also thanked the borough as well for all their help.

Jim Ranelunas giving a shout out to the borough electricians for their work during the outage and to not listen to everyone.

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

Christopher R. Paone
Blakely Borough Secretary