

Lawrenceville Borough Council Meeting

Tuesday September 3rd, 2024

Council President Barry Mortimer call the Regular Meeting of the Lawrenceville Borough Council, held in the Borough Building, to order at 7:00 pm.

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call: Councilman Anthony Urbano – Present; Councilman Eddie (Glenard) Wetzel – Present; Councilman Robert Penzone – Present; Councilwoman Cyndy Burrows – Present; Councilman Mansel O'Dell – Absent; Councilman Terry Gleason – Absent; Council President Barry Mortimer – Present; Mayor Kris Davis – Present; Secretary Jennifer Rumsey – Present

Minutes of Previous Meetings: President Mortimer addressed council members for any questions or concerns on the August Regular meeting minutes. Councilman Penzone addressed the word change second page “scoop” should be “scope”.

Motion was made by Councilman Urbano, Seconded by Councilwoman Burrows to accept the August 5th, 2024 Regular Meeting Minutes with revisions for wording on second page. Roll Call vote: all in favor. Motion carried 5/0 with Councilmen Gleason and O'Dell absent.

Payment of Bills:

Motion was made by Councilman Urbano, Seconded by Councilman Wetzel to approve payment of the bills. Roll Call Vote: 4/1 – Councilwoman Burrows NO – Councilmen Gleason and O'Dell Absent.

Treasurer's Report: Tabled – Council Penzone believes the general fund profit/loss for prior month is high, he would like clarification on ending the balance.

Motion was made by Councilman Urbano, Seconded by Councilman Penzone to table the Treasurer's report until the council was able to speak with the Treasurer, Penny Jeffers. Roll Call Vote: all in favor. Motion carried 5/0 with Councilmen Gleason and O'Dell absent.

Public Comment on Agenda Items: Angelina from IonU Media asked if Apex was paid up to date, President Mortimer stated as far as he knows they are.

Gordon Chilson asked why the council was tabling the Treasurers report, why no vote it down, President Mortimer stated the council would like to the give the treasurer a chance to explain.

Committee/Department Reports

Mayor: Mayor Davis provided an update on the CAP for DEP, stating working through the process. This overlaps with the AOC from EPA, wanting to know what our long term plan is for being hydraulically overloaded for the plant. Mayor Davis thought DEP was helpful the last time spoke/meet with them. There is a meeting tomorrow, September 4th, 2024, Jimmy Joe dot the plan workup and Mayor Davis will present the plan to the council before implementing.

Report on the zoning – A few to process and sign. Kris has already been to the sites and approves the work. Councilman Penzone addressed an issue with the permit for Mr. Buchanan, stating it did not have the dimensions and plot layout with the permit as described on page two of the permit application.

Police: Officer Brackman was present, he provided the overview of the prior months report for the police. He also stated that Officer Wilson has made his resignation to the township at the meeting on Tuesday September 3rd, 2024. Police Department is down a car, it went to the garage by roll back.

Fire Department: No member present. No report provided in time for the meeting.

Library: Financial report was provided – No other information was given.

Ambulance: No one present, no documents submitted

Water & Sewer: President Mortimer relayed that Jimmy Joe was coming up with a plan for the hoop meters to check the flow. Councilman Urbano stated that Jimmy Joe was working on the CAP list and that the drainage in the parking lot was addressed. President Mortimer stated Jimmie Joe inspected the set up at the Fireworks location and all is up to code.

Old Business:

Generator Installation – Council President Mortimer reported that still waiting on UGI to change out the meter. Councilman Urbano stated waiting on UGI contractor. President Mortimer stated a phone call to UGI will be made tomorrow (September 4, 2024).

Prior Year Audit: Councilman Urbano stated not resolved, still looking for a CPA/Auditor.

Apex Invoices: Councilman Urbano spoke with Nicole from Apex, she stated an itemized statement should be with next months bill. She can also provide the Treasurer, Penny Jeffers, itemized invoices as needed.

CDBG Paperwork: President Mortimer stated that Jimmy Joe is working on the list that was provided for the grant.

Fire Dept payment option: Councilman Urbano it still needs to be followed up on for a possible contract change for payments. President Mortimer asked if this needs to be tabled and discussed later. Councilman Urbano replied yes table.

DGK Insurance Renewal \$15782.00: To be paid by installments – see new business

DGK Workers Comp Renewal \$26251.00: To be paid by installments – see new business

Southern Corrosion Proposal \$4331.00: Drain Tank, Inspect, Refill tank, and provide report. Councilman Wetzel asked about a contract with the company to have this service provided.

President Mortimer responded there was no contract for this service. Councilwoman Burrows suggested not to have this service provided since it has already been done earlier in the year. Other Council members were in agreement.

Tioga County Emergency Services – LEMC inactive meeting attendance: Councilman Urbano stated that the fire department would provide the council an email to contact. The fire department member assigned to these attendance is unable to make the meetings because the meetings are held in the evening. It would have to be a council member to attend, or Councilman Urbano suggested he could reach out to the fire department and see if there is another individual that would like to start attending.

20 Cowanesque st – Ordinance Violation: President Mortimer stated the he contacted the Lien holder and was told that the Lien holder does not feel comfortable approaching the property because they were threatened by the tenant of the residence when they took prior action. President Mortimer suggested notifying the lien holder by drafting a letter stating the ordinance violation(s) and actions.

Shelly Haslund – Communications Water Billing – update: President Mortimer stated he spoke with the Borough Solicitor and was told the billing is being billed correctly for the minimum for each dwelling. Public comment was asked by Angelina Barton (IonU media) if the bill was ever over the minimum amount. The property owner stated “it was none of her business.”

Property owner stated when they originally requested water and was up front with what was on the property, the Council at that time deemed that 1 meter and 1 minimum for all units and owner was responsible for any water usage above that, that was three years ago. Mayor Davis asked how it has been so wrong for so long. Councilman Penzone asked if the Solicitor has sent a written letter, Mayor Davis agreed with Councilman Penzone a letter from the Solicitor needs to be sent. President Mortimer stated we will request a letter from the lawyer.

Motion was made by Councilman Penzone, seconded by Councilman Urbano that the correct billing based on the ordinance and a letter from the Solicitor is necessary. Roll Call. Motion Carried all in favor with Councilmen Gleason and O’Dell absent.

Vacant Residence billing: President Mortimer asked for clarification on this. Water Sewer Secretary Jennifer Rumsey stated that this is for the owners/landlords who have property that are not paying a water bill. She stated if she remembered correctly last month is was to bill the owners montly for the line regardless if they had water service or not. Councilman Wetzel stated charge the minimum each month with Councilman Urbrano adding even if the house is vacant. Councilman Wetzel state there is an allotment you can pay for six months for not payment, it was for the “snowbirds” that went to Florida, Councilman Penzone stated there is no distinction on who can use the allotment. This pertains to Vacant locations that the owner has not requested a water shut off.

New Business:

Fall Clean up – Will there be one provided:

Motion was made by Councilman Urbano, seconded by Councilman Wetzel to provide a fall clean-up, date set by Real Disposal. Roll Call Vote. Motion carried 4/1 Councilman Penzone – NO with Councilmen Gleason and O'Dell absent.

Sheesley's Sewer Service Quote Weaver St Station: President Mortimer said that the quote was too high and was not something to agree to at this time.

Pay Worker's Comp in Full DGK – Avoid installment fees – Pay installment * see motion below

Pay Gann Cyber Insurance \$632 – Pay installment *see motion below

Motion was made by Councilwomen Borrowes, seconded by Councilman Urbano to pay the DGK Insurance, workers comp, and Gann Cyber Insurance in installments and to bill the Lawrence township for their portion of the bill. Roll Call Vote. All in favor with Councilman Gleason and O'Dell absent.

Tax Collector Compensation – ordinance to adopt per parcel \$2.25: Tabled until October meeting.

Training purchase \$150 – PSAB municipal secretary/admin: Motion made by Councilman Urbano, seconded by Councilwoman Burrows to allow the training for the secretary/admin from PSAB. Roll Call Vote. All in favor with Councilmen Gleason and O'Dell absent.

Flood Plan Administrator – September 24, 2024: President Mortimer stated that September 24, 2024 at 10am for the annual inspection of the dike (Flood Protection Plan) is good. He also noted that there are a few holes that will need to be filled in. President Mortimer will have the Borough water/sewer workers inspect the dike and fill the holes in. No flood plan administrator was discussed.

2021 W2s Penalty IRS: Councilman Urbano stated that the treasurer Penny Jeffers called the IRS about the issue and to date the 2021 W2s have not been filed. The fine is \$8900 with more incurred penalties the longer it is not paid. The payment of the penalty amount was tabled until further record of documents can be provided, such as where did the prior letters go that the IRS mailed to the Lawrenceville Borough, where were the notices sent out. Mayor Kris Davis suggested that the Council request records of documents from January 2021 to now. TALBED

Amendment to Agenda: Mayor Davis would like to add to the September agenda quotes for snow removal and cinders.

Motion was made by Councilman Urbano, seconded by Councilman Penzone to add the amendment to the September agenda. Roll Call Vote. All in favor with Councilmen Gleason and O'Dell absent.

Motion was made by Councilman Urbano, seconded by Councilman Wetzel to receive bids for snow removal and cinders, and to advertise in the paper of record. Roll Call Vote. All in favor with Councilmen Gleason and O'Dell absent.

Visitors Open Forum:

Gordon Chilson – Asked about cindering with the snow removal. Mayor Davis added the cinders to the amendment to agenda.

Asked about the fire departments workers comp and a possible change to the ordinance, Council would have to advertise to make such a change. Councilman Urbano stated that the Fire department was not without WC and per the contract payment is due in January.

Stated that the Tax Collector ordinance needs to be advertised before making changes

Wanted to know what the flood plan inspection was for. President Mortimer stated it was an annual inspection for the dike per DEP.

Angelina Barton – Asked if all the Borough property has been returned. President Mortimer stated to his knowledge everything has been returned except for a few keys, which locks have already been changed.

Councilman Penzone – Addressed mowing on south side sign which is on private property. He wanted to know why the council was using Borough funds to mow this entire area and not just the parts around the sign only.

Adjourn:

Motion was made by Councilwoman Burrows, Seconded by Councilman Urbano to adjourn the Meeting at 8:26 pm. Roll Call Vote. All in favor. Motion carried 5/0 with Councilmen Gleason and O'Dell absent.

Secretary

Council President