

REGULAR MEETING OF DRAVOSBURG BOROUGH COUNCIL OF DECEMBER 20, 2022

The meeting was called to order by Council President McKelvey at 7:00 p.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll Call

Dzuro.....absent
Mols.....present
Palcsey.....present (via telephone)
Snodgrass..... .present
McKelvey..... .present

Mr. Palcsey makes the motion to accept the minutes as written. Mr. Snodgrass seconds the motion. Roll call vote. Mols-yes; Palcsey-yes; Snodgrass-yes; McKelvey-yes. Motion carried.

Citizens Present

Mr. Dan Krajewski comments he was told from the sewer line workers that the gas line from the firehall all the way down Luscombe is deteriorated; it's plastic. From the firehall up it's metal but from the firehall down, it's all plastic and they keep putting band aids on it. He questions if that is something we can have them fix up there while they are digging up there; have them do it all at once instead of digging up the road twice? President McKelvey states he agrees and we can suggest it to them but it is their decision. A discussion follows.

Mr. Dennis Krajewski states he is here about the paper road on his property. Mr. Glenn reports the borough does not own a paper road. If it has not been dedicated after 21 years, it becomes a part of everyone in that plot. A paper road cannot be blocked and can be used for utilities for egress. He also states the Mr. Krajewski has to go to the magistrate and have the magistrate inform the other party that he has to unblock that alley. A lengthy discussion follows.

Mr. Ron Case of 102 McClure is here about the sidewalks by him. His wife is handicapped and in a wheelchair and would like the borough to put in handicapped accessible ramps. He is talking about where the new garage was built; there are two sidewalks there that should be handicapped ramps. A discussion follows.

Mayor

Mayor McKelvey states he has no police report tonight. He knows the fire department has been busy; he hears the whistle all the time. He then congratulates Mr. Andrew Sikora on becoming the new fire chief and the whole department.

Solicitor

Atty. Gobel reads a Resolution prepared appointing Mark Turnley, CPA, as the Borough's Independent Auditor for 2022. Mr. Snodgrass makes the motion to adopt this Resolution. Mr. Mols seconds the motion. Roll call vote. Mols-yes; Palcsey-yes; Snodgrass-yes; McKelvey-yes. Motion carried.

Atty. Gobel reports a legal clearance letter for the violation of Borough Ordinance No. 509, has been sent to SRCOG for the 6 properties we held demolition hearings for last month.

Atty. Gobel reports the January Council meeting will be his final borough meeting as solicitor. He will be retiring as Solicitor after 41 years with the borough at the end of January. He thanks Council for the opportunity of serving the borough and states it has been a pleasure to work with each and every Council. He requests we move our January meeting to the 4th Monday of the month to accommodate an event he would like to have for Council and their families after the meeting.

Atty. Gobel states we will have to make a motion to advertise the Tax Ordinance for next month after the budget has been passed.

Engineer

President McKelvey states his report was given at Caucus: 1) PAWC reports they will repair Duquesne Avenue in the spring. 2) Maple Avenue bids were opened and the low bidder was Pugliano Construction at the cost of \$2,127,777. They are submitting a spec for a jumbo block wall instead of a poured concrete wall. 3) We were approved for a GTRP grant in the amount of \$120,000. An LSA Grant was also submitted for this project but the LSA Grants have not yet been announced. Once the County give approval, COG will put this project out to bid; their design work has been completed. 4) They submitted an LSA Grant for a new truck for the Street Dept. but have not heard anything yet. 5) We were not awarded a GEDTF Grant. 6) Demolition of 210-214 4th St. will be advertised in the paper on Thursday, December 22nd and 29th. Bids will be opened on January 12th.

Mr. Glenn comments as discussed at Caucus, Pugliano was the low bidder for Maple Ave and Council should award the contract to him subject to obtaining additional funding from the Turnpike Commission. He asks Council if we would like them to write a letter to the Turnpike Commission requesting the additional funding. President McKelvey replies yes. Atty. Gobel comments to Mr. Glenn when the letter is written to make sure they include the low bid, all the costs that have been incurred to date and whatever costs and fees we have with third parties so the Turnpike has an updated current view of all our expenses.

Sanitation/Grants/Blighted Property

Mr. Dzuro is not present and left no report.

Public Safety/Workers Comp/Fire

President McKelvey has nothing to report.

Parks & Recreation/Ord.

Mr. Palcsey thanks all who were involved in getting the light fixed down at Boswell. If you have seen it at night, it is pretty spectacular. Since the light has been installed, there hasn't been anybody going down the tracks.

Mr. Palcsey comments a few months back we passed a motion to increase the fuel allotment for the fire department to \$3000. To date, we have reimbursed them around \$2600. He spoke with the Financial Secretary and they have spent an additional \$420 so if we reimburse them the amount due of \$361.31,

it's only a difference of around \$60. He doesn't feel that it is necessary to make a motion to increase the amount and thanks everyone for their efforts.

Street/Property/COG

Mr. Snodgrass makes the motion to award the Maple Ave. project to Pugliano Construction in the amount of \$2,127,777 subject to the Turnpike Commission putting up the additional costs over the \$2,000,000 and mandating a concrete wall and not jumbo block. Mr. Mols seconds the motion. Roll call vote. Mols-yes; Palcsey-yes; Snodgrass-yes; McKelvey-yes. Motion carried.

Finance/Insurance/Negotiations

Mr. Mols makes the motion to adopt the 2023 General Fund Budget with no tax increase even though the Real Estate Tax is decreased due to the Turnpike Commission taking so many properties and goes over some other highlights of the budget. The total budget is \$1,114,991. Mr. Snodgrass seconds the motion. Roll call vote. Mols-yes; Palcsey-yes; Snodgrass-yes; McKelvey-yes. Motion carried.

Mr. Mols makes the motion to increase the Crossing Guard wages by \$2.50/day which makes their rate \$57.50/day. Mr. Palcsey seconds the motion. Roll call vote. Mols-yes; Palcsey-yes; Snodgrass-yes; McKelvey-yes. Motion carried.

Mr. Mols makes the motion to increase the borough secretary's salary by 5% for next year. Mr. Snodgrass seconds the motion. Roll call vote. Mols-yes; Palcsey-yes; Snodgrass-yes; McKelvey-yes. Motion carried.

Mr. Mols makes the motion to place the borough's workers comp with Penn Prime at the cost of \$12,546 and to place the DVFD#1 worker's comp with SWIF at the cost of \$9,718 effective January 1, 2023. Mr. Snodgrass seconds the motion. Roll call vote. Mols-yes; Palcsey-yes; Snodgrass-yes; McKelvey-yes. Motion carried.

Mr. Mols makes the motion to place the borough's package policy with PA Manufacturers Assoc. Ins. Co. through Christie & Associates at the cost of \$24,918; it is a 5% increase over last years cost. Mr. Palcsey seconds the motion. Roll call vote. Mols-yes; Palcsey-yes; Snodgrass-yes; McKelvey-yes. Motion carried.

Mr. Mols makes the motion to pay all the bills that come in between now and the end of the year. Mr. Snodgrass seconds the motion. Roll call vote. Mols-yes; Palcsey-yes; Snodgrass-yes; McKelvey-yes. Motion carried.

Mr. Mols makes the motion to make budget appropriations to balance accounts. Mr. Snodgrass seconds the motion. Roll call vote. Mols-yes; Palcsey-yes; Snodgrass-yes; McKelvey-yes. Motion carried.

Mr. Mols makes the motion to transfer excess funds, if any, to the Capital Improvement Fund for future projects. Mr. Snodgrass seconds the motion. Roll call vote. Mols-yes; Palcsey-yes; Snodgrass-yes; McKelvey-yes. Motion carried.

At this time, Mr. Snodgrass requests a brief executive session.

President McKelvey calls the meeting back to order.

Old Business

Mrs. Honick reports our Holly Jolly Celebration went well; not as many in attendance this year but all who were had a good time. She thanked all who were involved.

New Business

Mr. Snodgrass makes the motion to appoint the Law Firm of Dodero, Matta & Cambest as the Borough Solicitor effective February 1, 2023. Mr. Mols seconds the motion. Roll call vote. Mols-yes; Palcsey-yes; Snodgrass-yes; McKelvey-yes. Motion carried. Mr. Snodgrass tells Atty. Gobel that it has been a pleasure working with him over the years. Atty. Gobel comments 41 years seems like only yesterday but he is looking forward to retirement.

Mr. Mols makes the motion to pay the approved bills. Mr. Snodgrass seconds the motion. Roll call vote. Mols-yes; Palcsey-yes; Snodgrass-yes; McKelvey-yes. Motion carried.

Mr. Snodgrass makes the motion to adjourn. Mr. Mols seconds. ALL AYE!!!

Respectfully submitted,



Brenda Honick, Secty/Treas.
Borough of Dravosburg