

REGULAR MEETING OF DRAVOSBURG BOROUGH COUNCIL OF JANUARY 23, 2023

The meeting was called to order by Council President McKelvey at 7:05 p.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll Call

Dzuro.....present
Mols.....present
Palcsey.....present
Snodgrass.....present
McKelvey.....present

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

Citizens Present

Mr. Wayne Cosgrove states he is here to give his final annual report as Fire Chief and reads the report. President McKelvey thanks him for his time and years of dedicated service.

Mr. Dan Krajewski states it is his understanding that Atty. Gobel is retiring and questions if we have hired a solicitor yet. President McKelvey responds yes and asks for the correct name of the firm. Atty. Sam Dafonso responds it is Dodaro, Matta and Cambest. Mr. Krajewski says he wants to throw a name out there, Matt Racunas. President McKelvey responds we have already accepted the proposal from Dodaro, Matta and Cambest.

Mr. Bill Kortz comments it is a pleasure to be here tonight and would like to publicly thank Mr. Cosgrove for his many, many years as Fire Chief. Everyone applauds.

Mr. Kortz also thanks Atty. Gobel for the many years of service; he appreciates all of his hard work here in the borough.

Mr. Kortz comments there was a little issue with a tree overhanging and leaning on the ramp to the bridge. He contacted Mr. Macey and it was taken care of the next day. He publicly thanks Mr. Macy for that.

Mayor

Mayor McKelvey comments we heard the fire report already. He's not sure on the Dec. police report but has the Nov. one and there were 76 police calls.

Solicitor

Atty. Gobel reports he sent a legal clearance letter to SRCOG for the 6 demolition properties.

Atty. Gobel reports he sent a Certification letter to the County Elections Bureau that himself and Mrs. Honick certified for this primary election coming up in May that there are 2 local offices on the ballot; 2 members of council at large.

Atty. Gobel reports we have properly advertised the Tax Ordinance for 2023 and reads it. The tax millage is set at 6.55 for general purposes and 1.00 mill for fire service. Mr. Mols makes the motion to adopt this Ordinance. Mr. Dzuro seconds the motion. Roll call vote. Dzuro-yes; Mols-yes; Palcsey-yes; Snodgrass-yes; McKelvey-yes. Motion carried.

Atty. Gobel reads a Resolution prepared appointing Ann Toth to the Zoning Hearing Board for a period of 3 years. Mr. Palcsey makes the motion to adopt this Resolution. Mr. Snodgrass seconds the motion. Roll call vote. Dzuro-yes; Mols-yes; Palcsey-yes; Snodgrass-yes; McKelvey-yes. Motion carried.

Atty. Gobel reads a Resolution prepared appointing Patricia Toth to the Planning Commission for a period of 4 years. Mr. Palcsey makes the motion to adopt this Resolution. Mr. Snodgrass seconds the motion. Roll call vote. Dzuro-yes; Mols-yes; Palcsey-yes; Snodgrass-yes; McKelvey-yes. Motion carried.

Atty. Gobel reports he has submitted today a letter to Council, Mayor and Borough Secretary which is his retirement and resignation as borough solicitor effective with the close of business on January 31, 2023 after 41 years of continuous service in the borough. He reminisces over the years stating it's been a great community to serve as solicitor; he has built a lot of close friendships over the years, and it's been a fun ride. He closed his letter by saying if you remember Bob Hope, and one of his favorite closing lines was, "thanks for the memories" and he thanks all. All gave a big applause for Atty. Gobel.

Mr. Palcsey questions Atty. Gobel where the borough stands as far as 107 6th St. and 11 Goldstrom? Atty Gobel responds he is not sure; Mrs. Davis was supposed to have the issues cleared up by October 31 and the last conversation with Mr. Volpe on 11 Goldstrom was most of them were taken care of. As far as 107 6th St, he knows they were working on it but cannot answer because Mr. Volpe has not given an update on that property.

Engineer

Mr. Glenn states he has several items we talked about at Caucus. First is the Maple Avenue project. Council will need to rescind the motion of awarding the contract and have it re-bid for a decision at next month's meeting.

Mr. Glenn comments his next item is the LSA Grant. When we put in for the Grant, it was to be awarded in November, then they changed it to January and now they say not till March.

Mr. Glenn requests Council to let him know about awarding the demolition bid of 210-214 4th Street so he can notify the contractor of our decision.

Mr. Glenn comments and thinks he speaks for Council also, and wishes Atty. Gobel the best; it has been a pleasure working with him; and thinks he speaks for each and every one of us, including himself, anything Atty. Gobel needs from any one of us, even though he is in Florida, just give us a call. Atty. Gobel thanks him very much; he appreciates that.

Streets/Property/COG

Mr. Snodgrass makes the motion to reject the Maple Ave. Project bids and rebid the project with a concrete wall. Mr. Palcsey seconds the motion. Roll call vote. Dzuro-yes; Mols-yes; Palcsey-yes; Snodgrass-yes; McKelvey-yes. Motion carried.

Mr. Snodgrass comments the guys have been out there salting.

Finance/Insurance/Negotiations

Mr. Mols comments he has no motions, just a personal thank you to Atty. Gobel for his guidance in his decade or so here; it has been a pleasure and thanks him again. Atty. Gobel thanks him for all his help and cooperation; it's been great working with everybody. We have not really had any major problems. The problems we are facing right now are out of our control. The Turnpike Commission has caused us a major problem with taking all of our tax revenue and residents away in upper Riverview. A brief discussion follows.

Sanitation/Grants/Blighted Property

Mr. Dzuro has no report but states it seems like we are moving forward on all our demolitions. After a brief discussion, President McKelvey makes the motion that we award the demolition bid to Minniefield in the amount of \$70,000 using our own borough funds. Mr. Mols seconds the motion. Roll call vote. Dzuro-yes; Mols-yes; Palcsey-yes; Snodgrass-yes; McKelvey-yes. Motion carried. We will hold off on the other 6 properties until we can secure funding.

Public Safety/Workers Comp/Fire

President McKelvey has nothing to report.

Parks & Recreation/Ord.

Mr. Palcsey echoes what the rest of Council has said wishing Atty. Gobel the best and thanking him for his 41 years with the borough.

Mr. Palcsey comments in speaking with Mr. Glenn before regarding the next round of grants for recreation, we will be putting in for whatever we don't get done with the first \$120,000 for the ballfields in the next round of funding.

Old Business

There is none.

New Business

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

Respectfully submitted,

Brenda Honick, Secty/Treas.
Borough of Dravosburg