

Regular Meeting Minutes
August 10, 2023

President Lou Little called the meeting to order. Mr. Kosanovich was excused. All other members were present.

A McNeely/Seybert motion approved the July meeting minutes.
A Tate/McNeely motion approved the officers' reports.

There was no correspondence to be read.

Mrs. McNeely moved to listen to citizen comments and was seconded by Mr. Tate. The motion passed all in favor.

Nora Soos, 102 37th Street Extension was on her way to the meeting and a huge quad was riding her bumper from A.J's and it tried to get around her on 43rd Street. She almost hit it. The chief will look into this

Deborah Huddy 3610 Matilda Street has a complaint about encroachment onto her property from 3612 Matilda Street. A new porch was constructed on the 3612 Matilda property and there may not have been a building permit issued. The new porch is over her property line and the down spout drain goes directly into her basement. Attila Kovacs owns the house and it is in the process of being sold. Mr. Budicak will check with her attorney and get back to us. There are two ways to go depending on how long the porch has been there. We can't determine if a permit was issued if we don't know when the porch was constructed.

Linda Burns, 1010 High Street – Duquesne Light has been called about the branches on the lines, More and more cars are exceeding the 15 mph speed limit on High Street. Something is going to happen and someone is going to get hurt if something isn't done. Citations need to be given. The same can be said for Rock Avenue. Michelle responded that we are looking into putting humps on the road. We have to paint on the road and have signage.

Dave and Ginny Dacko, 702 37th Street has a complaint about the dumpster at the fire hall. They asked how often it was emptied and it is every two weeks. The smell from the dumpster is so bad that they are unable to sit on their screened in porch. It smells like skunk and it could be possible that someone threw a skunk into the dumpster. The dumpster should have a lock on it so that no one can dump in it. The fire department is going to install cameras in the parking lot and will also make sure that a lock is placed on the dumpster so that no one else can use it.

Kevin Farkas, 3706 W 8th Avenue has been looking into roadway safety. Social media has given some insight into the problems. A motion was passed by council to install a double stop sign at Rock and Boden to increase visibility but the sign has never been installed. Wendy said that she was told that it could not be done by the state. He asked Mr. Heaton to see if he could find out who talked to Wendy and what the prohibition was for the placement of the stop sign. Please reach out to Kevin and Linda about these safety issues. Mr. Heaton asked if the concerned citizens would be willing to help the borough with some of the concerns that have arisen on the concerned citizen's page. Kevin is all for that. Mr. Budicak will prepare a resolution that authorizes citizens to help the borough.

John Beres, 705 Lenox Avenue had reported a trailer parked on Mayfield Road back in 2022 and nothing has been done about moving it. He has the parcel number and the plate number of the trailer. The ordinance will have to be checked but Jeff Seybert will look into it. He also asked about the paving. It will begin sometime this month but a start date has not yet been given.

With no other citizens wishing to comment, Mr. Heaton moved to return to the regular order of business, seconded by Mr. Tate and approved unanimously.

Old Business

Streets, Lighting & Bridges – Ms. Harker – boom mower repair – they don't make fly wheels anymore so parts are being ordered to rebuild it. They will try to have it done by the car cruise.

Fire & Police – none

Buildings, Grounds & Equipment – Jake - Where is the new chain saw? It is in the back garage. Also, the steering is not good on the F550. A recall has been issued but nothing has been done. The wood chipper should also have a maintenance check. Our equipment is not being maintained as it should be. The little dump needs ball joints, nothing has been greased. We need to get the workers to take initiative to keep up with the equipment maintenance. Wendy should stop at least once a week to make sure the work is being done. Someone with a supervisory capacity should be making sure that the work is being done on a daily basis. We need an equipment operator to make the foreman, but we don't have benefits or the ability to pay more. Trying an ad again.

Sewers & Sanitation – Mr. Heaton – paving will begin the 2nd or 3rd week in August. Because nothing was done with the spring on 43rd street Mr. Heaton asked if instead of paving 43rd Street we do Rock Ave to Boden. Mrs. McNeely moved to pave Rock Avenue to Boden Street rather than 43rd Street and was seconded by Mr. Seybert. The motion passed all in favor. According to a study through PennDot temporary speed humps require paint stop bars both ways and need street markings. The pavement will have to settle for two weeks and then the humps will be installed. Mr. Heaton thanked Mr. Tate for his help with the Percik water run off

Ordinance – Mr. Seybert – none

Finance & Litigation – Mrs. McNeely is working on an updated employee application. It will be sent to Kevin when it's completed. She requested that an executive session be held after the regular business to discuss a personnel issue.

Parks & Recreation – Mr. Tate nothing that he has asked for has been done at the park. A list was given to Wendy and it was posted but no one did anything. The company where the crushed red brick was ordered before is out of business so he will look for another supplier. The bees need to be exterminated and he is ordering mulch that will have to be picked up. This all needs done before the Centennial Celebration.

President Lou Little - none

Mayor Cogley – the Centennial Banners are in. The hornets need to be taken care of. Mr. Ruby's house at 6th & 5th Alley and 37th Street needs the grass cut. The parade route is set. Would the borough consider buying magnets for the mayors and grand marshall? No. Fire department needs lots of cones and tables & chairs. Honor wall for Viet Nam vets. The Centennial dedication will begin there at 11 am. All emergency people are contacted for the day of the parade and the permit for movie night has been taken care of. Logo's for the new borough signs were presented to council by the mayor and Kevin and there was a mild discussion as to which one should be used. Logo design #1 was chosen. Mr. Tate moved to use Logo Design #1 as the new borough signage and was seconded by Mrs. McNeely. The motion carried. Mayor Cogley and the entire Centennial Committee thank Jason of the fire department for advertising the centennial on the fire department

sign. There was a discussion about the money that was made by the committee. Mr. Heaton said that the Centennial Committee is part of the borough council and the money should be put into the general fund. No decision was made.

Mr. Budicak – will discuss the Aqua water purchase agreement in an executive session. He looked over the Aiken contract and it states clearly that before there is termination of service a 30 day notice must be given to the customer. He requested authorization to write a letter to Aiken regarding the contract and the specifics of said contract. Mr. Tate moved to authorize Mr. Budicak to send a letter to Aiken about the contract and was seconded by Mrs. McNeely. The motion passed all in favor. He was asked if there is any way that the MS4 work can be waived. We don't have the money to do all the work. Jake wanted to know if something could be done with Widmer. Mr. Heaton reminded everyone that DEP has mandated the MS4 work and there are consequences for non-compliance. The borough could be fined for not doing the work, we could lose our sewer tap-ins and the small water grant that we applied for would be in jeopardy. He made it clear that if the MS4 project was dropped he will tender his resignation from council because his signature is on all of the documentation. He wants it perfectly clear that he is against dropping the project. Jake would like some clear answers to a lot of questions about the scope of work and asked if someone from Widmer could come to the meeting next month to answer them. Bill will contact Dan Sell to see if he is available. After much discussion Mrs. McNeely moved to move forward with the MS4 project with what we have written down to this date and was seconded by Mr. Tate. The motion carried. Mr. Budicak said the engineer calculated the units for the fees to assess the property owners. We need specific numbers from Widmer to see what the use fee might be.

Mrs. Lansberry asked to be excused because she was not feeling well. Mrs. Cogley will continue with the minutes for the rest of the meeting.

New Business

Buildings, Grounds & Equipment – Mr. Tate moved that the workers should take care of the wood chipper and was seconded by Mr. McNeely. The motion carried.

Sewers & Sanitation - Mr. Heaton had a complaint from a resident getting water into his back yard on West 5th Avenue. It is coming down the hill but not from the water. We need to find out where it is coming from. Beaver Falls Municipal Authority is also looking into it. This has been explained to the resident. There is also a spring coming up on West 10th Avenue just like the one on 43rd Street.

Streets, Bridges and Lighting – Ms. Harker – none

Fire & Police – none

Finance & Litigation – none

Ordinance – none

Parks & Recreation- Mr. Tate – the lights in the borough building need fixed and the grass at Mrs. Mineard's on West 5th Ave needs cut.

Mayor Cogley – asked for keys to the park but Mr. Little said no.

Mr. Little – Ray Evans Jr. would like to have the bucket truck for \$1200. Mrs. McNeely moved to sell the bucket truck to Ray Evans Jr. and was seconded by Mr. Tate. The motion carried.

Mr. Budicak – will not go into executive session about the water treatment plant tonight but will request that the executive session be moved to September 14th. He cautioned everyone to watch what is put in texts and that there is no quorum to decide anything on a text chain. If the text is considered to be an emergency, be careful what is said and be kind.

Mrs. McNeely moved to pay the bills listed on the bill list and was seconded by Mr. Seybert. The motion carried

Mrs. McNeely moved to ratify purchases made by committees and was seconded by Mr. Heaton. The motion carried.

Mrs. Heaton moved to enter into executive session to discuss a personnel issue. Mr. Tate seconded the motion that passed all in favor.

At 10:25 Mr. Tate moved to return to the regular order of business and was seconded by Mrs. McNeely. The motion passed all in favor.

The issue was resolved.

With no further business to discuss, Mr. Heaton moved to adjourn; seconded by Mrs. McNeely with unanimous approval.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia Lansberry, Borough Secretary
Mrs. Cogley, Mayor