

LEETSDALE BOROUGH COUNCIL met in Regular Session at 7:00 PM on Thursday, June 8, 2023 in Council Chambers.

Council President Napolitano called the meeting to order and announced the meeting was being recorded.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ROLL CALL

PRESENT: Council President M. Napolitano; Councilors A. Awad, B. Carroll, W. James, P. Lee, R. Nanni and J. Weatherby

ALSO PRESENT: Mayor S. Ford; G. Robb, Esq., Tucker Arensberg Attorneys; D. Slagle, P.E., Nichols & Sagle Engineering, Inc.; Chief D. Raible

G. Robb, Esq. announced that Council met in Executive Session prior to this Regular Session Meeting for a litigation item and a personnel matter

REPORTS RECEIVED

TREASURER'S: April

MINUTES: May Regular Session

LIST OF BILLS

MOTION BY Mr. Weatherby to approve the April Treasurer's Report, May Regular Session Minutes and the List of Bills, second by Ms. Lee

Mr. Nanni opposed stating he didn't review them

MOTION CARRIES

Mr. Awad received the Distinguished Service Award at the Pennsylvania State Association of Boroughs Banquet on Tuesday, June 6, 2023 for all he has accomplished on council and his service to the community.

Ms. Napolitano recognized the Leetsdale Garden Club for their hard work

AUDIENCE ADDRESSING COUNCIL

Henriette Kretzler, 343 Washington Street, confirmed the action to provide a letter of support for House Bill 589, Number 563 is for landslide insurance.

SOLICITOR

G. Robb, Esq.

- Council agreed to have the solicitor prepare a resolution to explore grant funds to conduct an engineering study for the Big Sewickley Creek Bridge as an alternate emergency exit from the Industrial Park and Washington Street

ENGINEER

Dan Slagle, P.E.

- Mr. Slagle reviewed the Engineer's monthly report and advised Council that the Quaker Valley Council of Governments / Allegheny County Economic Development Grant Pre-applications need to be submitted in September
- Ms. Carroll confirmed that the Henle Park basketball court grant is to overlay the existing courts and does not include the equipment

MAYOR'S REPORT

Sandra J. Ford

- Mayor Ford thanked Conor Kelley, Borough Intern for his hard work getting residents signed up for the RAVE Alert System
- Received a letter recognizing Officer Schreckengost for his kindness while responding to a recent call
- Mayor Ford provided a Food Bank update and welcomed volunteers to assist

FINANCE/BUDGET/TAXES**Jeffery Weatherby, Chairperson**

MOTION BY Mr. Weatherby to advertise the Ordinance to increase the annual compensation of the mayor, second by Ms. Carroll

MOTION CARRIES

ORGANIZATION ADMINISTRATION**Beth Carroll, Chairperson**

- The new borough website has been launched and a zoom training session has been recorded and posted on the site
- Ms. Napolitano attended the PSAB Conference

PUBLIC SAFETY/POLICE**Jeffery Weatherby, Chairperson**

- Chief Raible reviewed the Police Department's monthly report. Mr. Weatherby inquired if it would be possible to include a trend graph for the monthly numbers being presented, Chief Raible prepares such a graph for the year end review.

MOTION BY Mr. Weatherby to install handicap parking space at 94 Broad Street, second by Mr. Nanni
MOTION CARRIES

Council discussed traffic arrows being painted along Victory Lane and encouraged the audience to provide their feedback. It will be determined by Chief Raible where to have the arrows placed and the Public Works Department will paint the arrows.

MOTION BY Mr. Weatherby to paint traffic arrows on Victory Lane, second by Mr. Awad
MOTION CARRIES

PUBLIC SAFETY/FIRE**Wesley James, Chairperson**

- Mr. James reviewed the Fire Department's monthly report

MOTION BY Mr. James to advertise the updated Fire Department Ordinance, second by Mr. Weatherby
Question on the motion by Mr. Awad to postpone the advertisement so the ordinance can be reviewed, Mr. James advised that the ordinance has been available for over a month. Mr. Awad expressed concern with the donation the borough provides and how the fire department spends the money. Ms. Napolitano stated that the ordinance includes the fire department provides an audit in section 42-6

MOTION BY Mr. Awad to table the motion to advertise the updated Fire Department Ordinance, second by Mr. Nanni

Roll Call: Mr. Awad, yes; Ms. Carroll, no; Mr. James, no; Mr. Nanni, yes; Mr. Weatherby, no; Ms. Lee, no; Ms. Napolitano, no

MOTION DOES NOT CARRY

Roll Call to advertise the updated Fire Department Ordinance

Roll Call: Mr. Awad, no; Ms. Carroll, yes; Mr. James, yes; Mr. Nanni, yes; Mr. Weatherby, yes; Ms. Lee, yes; Ms. Napolitano, yes

MOTION CARRIES

- Mr. James discussed the Borough's Commercial Fire Inspections and having a Knox Box Ordinances for Council's consideration in the future

STREET DEPARTMENT/BOROUGH PROPERTY**Osman Awad, Chairperson**

- Mr. Awad attended the PSAB Conference for one day

PARKS, RECREATION AND COMMUNITY**Beth Carroll, Chairperson**

MOTION BY Ms. Carroll to appoint Lisa Baker Seymour to the Parks & Rec Board with a term ending 2024, second by Mr. Nanni

MOTION CARRIES

MOTION BY Ms. Carroll to ratify the purchase and reimbursement of pizza for the food bank volunteers in the amount of \$18 from the Mayor's Budget, second by Mr. Nanni

Question on the Motion by Ms. Lee requesting additional information. Mr. Robb explained that even a budgeted item needs Council's approval and explained the Borough Code and what type of expenditures are allowed; senior programs and celebrations such as 4th of July and Flag Day

Question on the Motion by Mr. Weatherby inquired if the expense was legal? Mr. Robb stated if related to a senior program, then yes as stated in the Borough Code

Question on the Motion by Ms. Lee inquiring if the food bank is being considered a senior program? Council discussed that most enrolled participants are seniors. Ms. Lee confirmed that this expense was already paid and Council is just categorizing it and then moving forward Council needs to make decision on it. Mr. Robb added that if Borough Council wants to authorize tax payors funds on such expenditures, then Borough Council needs to authorize the expenditure.

MOTION CARRIES

MOTION BY Ms. Carroll to purchase food for the senior high-rise luncheon for Flag Day Celebration, not to exceed \$200.00, second by Mr. Nanni

Mr. Robb provided the following information, the Borough Code provides that Borough Council can appropriate from Borough funds money for the handling, storage and distribution of surplus foods obtained through a governmental agency. Also, the code allows expenditures for the benefits of seniors.

Question on the Motion by Ms. Carroll, we will have a plan moving forward so the mayor can continue to do these things. Mayor Ford confirmed that the volunteers will not continue to receive lunch and each time a lunch is planned Council will need to approve it first and planning ahead, the mayor announced wanting to host two picnics, two dinners and Christmas Party, located at the high rise and open to all seniors. Ms. Lee stated that the high-rise houses more than just seniors and when helping our seniors it should be more accessible to more seniors. Mayor Ford added that relocating the senior events from the high rise to the community room would be costly for the transportation. Ms. Lee confirmed that other senior programs can be considered, it doesn't have to be food and labor.

Mr. James, no; Ms. Lee, no; Mr. Weatherby, no

MOTION CARRIES

MOTION BY Ms. Carroll to purchase and install two basketball poles, backboards and nets, at a cost not to exceed \$10,000.00, second by Mr. Nanni

MOTION CARRIES

PLANNING/ZONING & CODE ENFORCEMENT**Maria Napolitano, Chairperson**

- Council received the monthly Building Inspection and Code Enforcement Report
- Dominic Napolitano, Leetsdale Planning Commission, provided an update on the Draft SALDO Ordinance that will be reviewed by the Borough Solicitors

MOTION BY Mr. Weatherby to provide a letter of support for House Bill 589, Printer Number 563, Establishing the Coal and Clay Mine Subsidence and Landslide Insurance and Assistance Program, second by Mr. Nanni

MOTION CARRIES

- Mr. James provided an update on the Police Traffic Control Ordinance which would name the Leetsdale Police Department to be present for all construction details in the Borough

OLD BUSINESS

- One vacancy on the Zoning Hearing Board, Alternate, with a term ending 2023
- Two vacancies on the Parks & Rec Board, both terms end 2024

CORRESPONDENCE

- Mr. Weatherby reviewed the QVCOG Executive Director's Monthly Report

AUDIENCE ADDRESSING COUNCIL

Scott Zahner, Victory Lane, confirmed the 2023 Paving Project

Jim Gilbert, 3 Main Street, asked if Council consider the old railroad bridge for emergency exit for Washington Street

James DeGori, Washington Street, discussed the Pilise Project and what will be expected as the project continues. Residents concerned with no street lights along Monroe Way.

Mayor Ford provided an update on the Elite Towing code enforcement violation

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION BY Mr. Awad to adjourn at 9:09 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Jennifer Simek



Jennifer Simek
Borough Secretary/Treasurer