

LEETSDALE BOROUGH COUNCIL met in Regular Session at 7:00 PM on Thursday, August 11, 2022 in Council Chambers.

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

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Ms. Lee asked for a moment of silence for our resident Mary Kay Dschuhan who recently passed away.

ROLL CALL

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

ALSO, PRESENT: Mayor S. Ford; M. Turnbull, Esq., Weiss Burkardt and Kramer LLC; D. Slagle, P.E., Nichols & Sagle Engineering, Inc.; Daniel Raible, Chief of Police; Douglas Ford, Street Commissioner

MOTION BY Mr. Nanni to accept the June and July Real Estate Tax Reports, second by Mr. Weatherby

MOTION CARRIES

MOTION BY Mr. Weatherby to accept the May Regular and June Workshop Session Minutes, second by Mr. Awad

Mr. Nanni abstained from the motion as Mr. Nanni was not in attendance

MOTION CARRIES

Mayor Ford announced that a Labor Day Picnic will be held on Monday, September 5, 2022 at noon in Henle Park and all are invited to attend.

AUDIENCE ADDRESSING COUNCIL

John Heyl, LSSE, presented plans to build on lots 1101 & 1201 Brickworks Drive

Thomas Belcastro, Tax Collector, advised that he rents his current business office and provided a tax collection update.

Laura Mastrorocco, 4 Sycamore Spur, asked for assistance with the leadership of the 4th of July Committee. Council invited Ms. Mastrorocco to the September Workshop to discuss further with closing dollar amounts so everyone knows how the

Susan Falcon, 11 Winding Road, requested the dollar amounts collected in the Henle Park Donation Box? Weekend Food Sales amount? Ms. Simek suggested that a Right-to-Know Request be submitted to the Borough Office.

Janet Gilbert, 3 Main Street, asked that Council address the high weeds and the deplorable properties. Mayor Ford stated that the properties in question were submitted to the Code Enforcement Officer today to be addressed. Ms. Gilbert suggested that Council hire an outside company just to cut high grass and control the weeds. Ms. Carroll suggested that Council form a committee to identify these types of properties to have them addressed.

James DeGori, 481 Washington Street, confirmed with Ms. Turnbull that the Borough has an Ordinance for junk yards and complained that the tow yard along Monroe Way needs addressed for vehicles being parked outside of the fence area.

SOLICITOR

M. Turnbull, Esq.

MOTION BY Ms. Napolitano to deny the request from 3 Elm Lane to have chickens, second by Mr. Awad
Question on the Motion by Mr. Awad, why is this the process for chickens? Ms. Turnbull advised that the ordinance states the process, that this request is not zoning.

Roll Call: Mr. Awad, yes; Ms. Carroll, yes; Mr. James, yes; Mr. Nanni, yes; Ms. Napolitano, yes; Mr. Weatherby, yes; Ms. Lee, yes
MOTION CARRIES

MOTION BY Mr. James to advertise the Oil & Gas Ordinance Public Hearing, second by Mr. Weatherby
MOTION CARRIES

Roll Call: Mr. Awad, yes; Ms. Carroll, yes; Mr. James, yes; Mr. Nanni, yes; Ms. Napolitano, yes; Mr. Weatherby, yes; Ms. Lee, yes
MOTION CARRIES

MOTION BY Mr. Weatherby to adopt Resolution No. 07-2022 01, a Resolution identifying the draft fence amendment to the zoning ordinance as a pending ordinance and to authorize legal advertisement of the notice, second by Ms. Napolitano

Question on the Motion by Mr. Awad, what's the current setback language? Ms. Turnbull advised that the current language has the homeowner placing the fence at least six inches from the property line and the amended language will allow the owner to place the fence on the property line.

Roll Call: Mr. Awad, yes; Ms. Carroll, yes; Mr. James, yes; Mr. Nanni, yes; Ms. Napolitano, yes; Mr. Weatherby, yes; Ms. Lee, yes
MOTION CARRIES

MOTION BY Ms. Napolitano to allow Ms. Turnbull to review and make a recommendation for an updated to the Shade Tree Commission Ordinance, second by Ms. Carroll

Roll Call: Mr. Awad, yes; Ms. Carroll, yes; Mr. James, yes; Mr. Nanni, yes; Ms. Napolitano, yes; Mr. Weatherby, yes; Ms. Lee, yes
MOTION CARRIES

- Ms. Turnbull announced that Council met in the following Executive Sessions:
 - a. Prior to this meeting Council met in Executive Session for Attorney Client Privilege, review the Collective Bargaining Contract and to discuss a personnel issue
 - b. Also, Council met after the June voting meeting for Attorney Client Privilege and to discuss the Special Hearing decision for 3 Elm Lane to have chickens or not.

ENGINEER

Dan Slagle, P.E.

- Mr. Slagle reviewed the Engineer's Monthly Report
- Requested the agreements from the QVCOG/ACDD in order to bid out the project
- Contacted the contractor regarding adding additional topsoil and seed
- The low bidder was C. Crump with a base bid of \$24,000.00. The project was awarded, Notice-to-Proceed issued and the project started on July 7, 2022 and will be completed on August 31, 2022
- Research on the Hussey Copper Emergency Access Road will not be possible as the parking lot is ruff with many potholes and this would take the residents pass the furnaces that might be the problem when needing to exit Washington Street
- Currently designing the Washington Street Realignment Project and met with Columbia Gas and Edgeworth Water regarding the utility relocation. Plan to meet with the power company in the near future
- The overpass ramp barrier project is due to begin next month
- The 2022 paving project began today on Quaker Village Drive. The contractor requested permission to pave on the weekend and council agreed.
- We are currently reviewing the Mike Maruca Memorial Bridge inspection report as prepared by Alfred Benesh & Company regarding necessary corrective measures
- Columbia Gas made repairs on Valley Road and Beaver Street which will be overlaid. The Borough's Road opening permit regulations require that Columbia Gas mill and overlay the entire roadway
- Columbia Gas requested to video all of the Borough's sewer lines at no cost to the Borough. The collected data will be given to PaDEP

- Council reviewed the grant list for an upcoming submission and suggested demos.
- Mr. Awad requested a completion date for when Youngblood will complete the sewer drain connections along 1st Street, Mr. Slagle confirmed that he is currently investigating the drainage issue.

MAYOR'S REPORT**Sandra J. Ford**

- Mayor Ford thanked Judy Felicion, Osman Awad and Thomas Belcastro for their hard work on the food bank deliveries in the heat
- Mayor Ford and Mr. Awad toured the new school property and provided an update
- Ordered the Leetsdale Borough sign to be placed in the garden at Maroni's
- Hosting a picnic with Mr. Awad at the highrise for all seniors on August 20, 2022
- Labor Day Community Picnic will be Monday, September 5, 2022 at Noon at Henle Park

FINANCE/BUDGET/TAXES**Patricia Lee, Chairperson**

MOTION BY Mr. James to amend the amount transferred for the Road Tax Collected from the General Fund to the Road Reconstruction Fund from \$62,954.84 to \$69,496.42 for May, an additional report was submitted after last month's meeting, second by Mr. Awad

Roll Call: Mr. Awad, yes; Ms. Carroll, yes; Mr. James, yes; Mr. Nanni, yes; Ms. Napolitano, yes; Mr. Weatherby, yes; Ms. Lee, yes

MOTION CARRIES

MOTION BY Mr. Awad to transfer the June Road Tax Collected from the General Fund to the Road Reconstruction Fund in the amount of \$1,310.81, second by Mr. James

Roll Call: Mr. Awad, yes; Ms. Carroll, yes; Mr. James, yes; Mr. Nanni, yes; Ms. Napolitano, yes; Mr. Weatherby, yes; Ms. Lee, yes

MOTION CARRIES

MOTION BY Mr. Weatherby to transfer the July Road Tax Collected from the General Fund to the Road Reconstruction Fund in the amount of \$31,390.20, second by Mr. Awad

Roll Call: Mr. Awad, yes; Ms. Carroll, yes; Mr. James, yes; Mr. Nanni, yes; Ms. Napolitano, yes; Mr. Weatherby, yes; Ms. Lee, yes

MOTION CARRIES

ORGANIZATION ADMINISTRATION**Maria Napolitano, Chairperson**

MOTION BY Ms. Napolitano to request RFPs for the appointment of Borough Auditor, second by Ms. Carroll

Roll Call: Mr. Awad, yes; Ms. Carroll, yes; Mr. James, yes; Mr. Nanni, yes; Ms. Napolitano, yes; Mr. Weatherby, yes; Ms. Lee, yes

MOTION CARRIES

MOTION BY Ms. Napolitano to authorize Wendy Shepard from the Shade Tree Commission and Ms. Napolitano to apply for a TreeVitalize program grant from Western PA Conservancy, Ms. Carroll
Question on the motion by Ms. Carroll, who will be responsible for picking the new trees, Ms. Napolitano advised that herself and Wendy Sheppard, member of the Shade Tree Commission, would do so together

Roll Call: Mr. Awad, yes; Ms. Carroll, yes; Mr. James, yes; Mr. Nanni, yes; Ms. Napolitano, yes; Mr. Weatherby, yes; Ms. Lee, yes

MOTION CARRIES

MOTION BY Ms. Carroll to accept the 4-year quote for a new website with Civic Plus after the contract is reviewed by the Borough Solicitor, second by Ms. Napolitano

Roll Call: Mr. Awad, yes; Ms. Carroll, yes; Mr. James, yes; Mr. Nanni, yes; Ms. Napolitano, yes; Mr. Weatherby, yes; Ms. Lee, yes

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

- Chief Raible reviewed the Police Department's monthly report

MOTION BY Mr. Weatherby to accept the resignations of Part-time Officers Todd Cappetta and Cameron Grace, second by Mr. James

Roll Call: Mr. Awad, yes; Ms. Carroll, yes; Mr. James, yes; Mr. Nanni, yes; Ms. Napolitano, yes; Mr. Weatherby, yes; Ms. Lee, not present at time of vote

MOTION CARRIES

MOTION BY Mr. Weatherby to advertise the Ordinance for one-way traffic on Church Alley and limiting parking in the Borough-owned parking lots, Mr. Nanni

Question on the motion by Mr. Awad, why is this alley being enforced for one-way and not the other alleys in the borough, Ms. Simek advised that Church Alley just needed updated in the one-way street ordinance as it was not listed at this time

Question on the motion by Mr. Nanni, what parking being limited in the borough parking lots, Ms. Turnbull advised that the parking will be limited for Borough Business only except during street sweeping months on Wednesdays and Thursdays from 7:00 AM until 11:00 AM and the hours of 11:00 PM until 7:00 AM Sunday through Saturday

Question on the motion by Mr. Awad, can you still park on one side of Church Alley and this was confirmed by Ms. Turnbull.

Roll Call: Mr. Awad, yes; Ms. Carroll, yes; Mr. James, yes; Mr. Nanni, yes; Ms. Napolitano, yes; Mr. Weatherby, yes; Ms. Lee, yes

MOTION CARRIES

MOTION BY Mr. Weatherby tabled accepting the Police Agreement as presented for a five-year period, January 1, 2023 ending December 31, 2027, second by Mr. Nanni

Roll Call: Mr. Awad, yes; Ms. Carroll, yes; Mr. James, yes; Mr. Nanni, yes; Ms. Napolitano, yes; Mr. Weatherby, yes; Ms. Lee, yes

MOTION CARRIES

MOTION BY Mr. Weatherby to sell the 2011 Ford Expedition on Municibid with a starting bid of \$6,500.00, Ms. Napolitano

Question on the motion by Ms. Napolitano, why was the vehicle kept so long instead of getting a new earlier? Mr. Weatherby advised that the SUV was used by the truck inspector who is no longer with the borough and now is the time to upgrade. Chief Raible advised that the vehicle should had been sold a year or two ago but COVID slowed the process, the pd is on a plan to replace vehicles every other year. Ms. Napolitano asked how the price works, Chief Raible advised that the bid begins at \$6,500.00 and the bidders determine the increase in the bids.

Roll Call: Mr. Awad, yes; Ms. Carroll, yes; Mr. James, yes; Mr. Nanni, yes; Ms. Napolitano, yes; Mr. Weatherby, yes; Ms. Lee, yes

MOTION CARRIES

MOTION BY Mr. Weatherby to begin the process of getting a COSTARS quote for a new police car, second by Mr. Awad

Roll Call: Mr. Awad, yes; Ms. Carroll, yes; Mr. James, yes; Mr. Nanni, yes; Ms. Napolitano, yes; Mr. Weatherby, yes; Ms. Lee, yes

MOTION CARRIES

- Mr. Weatherby requested a moment of silence for Charles Stipetich an off-duty Oakdale police officer killed in a road rage shooting.

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

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

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

- Mr. Awad provided an update on the Free Lunches in Henle Park and suggested soliciting donations from the surrounding area since this program brings in others from outside of Leetsdale.

MOTION BY Mr. Awad to participate in the Joint Rock Salt Agreement with the SHACOG for the 2022-2023 winter season, second by Mr. Weatherby

Roll Call: Mr. Awad, yes; Ms. Carroll, yes; Mr. James, yes; Mr. Nanni, yes; Ms. Napolitano, yes; Mr. Weatherby, yes; Ms. Lee, yes

MOTION CARRIES

- Mr. Awad requested that two part-timers be hired to help the road department with grass cutting

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

MOTION BY Ms. Carroll to accept the resignations from the Parks & Rec Committee for Tom Eshenbaugh and Elizabeth Surmacz, second by Mr. Nanni

Roll Call: Mr. Awad, yes; Ms. Carroll, yes; Mr. James, yes; Mr. Nanni, yes; Ms. Napolitano, yes; Mr. Weatherby, yes; Ms. Lee, yes

MOTION CARRIES

MOTION BY Ms. Carroll to appoint Caitlin Gresham with a term ending 2023 and Libby Moore with a term ending 2022 to the Parks & Rec Committee vacancies, second by Mr. Nanni

Roll Call: Mr. Awad, yes; Ms. Carroll, yes; Mr. James, yes; Mr. Nanni, yes; Ms. Napolitano, yes; Mr. Weatherby, yes; Ms. Lee, yes

MOTION CARRIES

- Ms. Carroll thanked everyone for all their help with the Summer Parks Programs and will provide additional information of the cost and income.

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

- Received the Code Enforcement and Building Inspector Monthly Reports for June and July
- Received the June and July Planning Commission Minutes

MOTION BY Ms. Carroll to appoint by Resolution Thomas Belcastro to the Planning Commission with a term ending 2023, second by Mr. Awad

Roll Call: Mr. Awad, yes; Ms. Carroll, yes; Mr. James, yes; Mr. Nanni, yes; Ms. Napolitano, yes; Mr. Weatherby, yes; Ms. Lee, yes

MOTION CARRIES

CORRESPONDENCE

- Received the Quaker Valley COG July Report from Patrick Conners, Executive Director
- Allegheny County is baiting for the rabies vaccine through August 31, 2022
- PSAB Fall Leadership Conference, October 14-16 held at Wyndham Gettysburg, cost \$185, plus room \$486.18, total cost \$671.18
- Fall Conference of Townships, Boroughs & Authorities, October 21-23 held at the Erie Bayfront Convention Center, cost full conference \$200, food plan \$250, room \$359.34, total cost \$809.34

MOTION BY Ms. Napolitano to allow Council, Mayor Ford and Borough Employees to attend the PSAB Fall Leadership Conference and/or the Townships, Boroughs & Authorities Fall Conference, second by Ms. Carroll

Roll Call: Mr. Awad, yes; Ms. Carroll, yes; Mr. James, yes; Mr. Nanni, yes; Ms. Napolitano, yes; Mr. Weatherby, yes; Ms. Lee, yes

MOTION CARRIES

LIST OF BILLS

MOTION BY Mr. Weatherby to ratify the July List of Bills and accept the August List of Bills, second by Mr. Awad

Roll Call: Mr. Awad, yes; Ms. Carroll, yes; Mr. James, yes; Mr. Nanni, yes; Ms. Napolitano, yes; Mr. Weatherby, yes; Ms. Lee, yes

MOTION CARRIES

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION BY Mr. Weatherby to adjourn at 9:11 PM, second by Mr. Awad

MOTION CARRIES

Respectfully submitted,

Jennifer Simek



Jennifer Simek
Borough Secretary/Treasurer