

LEETSDALE BOROUGH COUNCIL met in Regular Session at 6:56 PM on Thursday, November 14, 2019 in the Council Chambers.

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

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ROLL CALL

PRESENT: Council Acting President J. Weatherby; Councilors B. Fredrick, O. Awad, T. Belcastro, J. McGurk and T. Michael

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

EXCUSED: Councilor W. James

A moment of silence was observed for Veteran's Day

REPORTS RECEIVED

TAX COLLECTOR'S: August and September

MINUTES: August & October Workshops and August & September Regular Sessions
(Council did not have a September Workshop Meeting)

MOTION BY Mr. McGurk to approve the August and September Tax Collector's Reports and the August & October Workshops and August & September Regular Session Minutes, second by Mr. Frederick
MOTION CARRIES

AUDIENCE ADDRESSING COUNCIL

Judy Felicion, 186 Broad Street, acknowledged the correspondences listed on the agenda, addressed the manhole cover along Broad Street with Mr. Slagle and confirmed with Council that a credit card would not be issued to the newest member of council.

Bob Kusnirak, Broad Street, reinforced Ms. Felicion statements of the manhole along Broad Street, discussed the possibility of having the 2-mill tax being removed for 2020 since it was supposed to be removed in 2018. Council discussed that the 2-mills is for roads and infrastructure and the 2-mills will stay on for 2020 since the roads are not complete. Mr. Kusnirak questioned the work along Rt. 65 being done by Robinson Pipe, Mr. Ford confirmed that company was the only one in the area that had the high-pressure equipment that was needed to clear the pipe from the flooding. It was discussed in the past months of reviewing the Borough's Rental License Fees and Mr. Kusnirak informed Council that he spoke with neighboring municipalities who don't charge a fee. Mr. Kusnirak is concerned that there are property owner's in the Borough that rent their homes without complying with the Borough's Rental Ordinance. Mr. Kusnirak was asked by Council to respect the five-minute maximum and he responded that he was not finished. Mr. Kusnirak addressed the speed humps that were never placed in the alley way near his home with Mr. Ford. He advised Chief Raible of a jeep parked along the sidewalk on Beaver Street that needs removed. Chief explained that the vehicle is on private property and it is to be handled by Jason Sarver, Code Enforcement Officer. Mr. Kusnirak advised that he would be calling the human society after seeing people ride skateboards with a dog on lease and stated that it's illegal.

Judy, 158 Broad Street, requested information on the newly elected councilor and was advised by Ms. Turnbull that the official is a resident of the Borough for a period of one year and a US Citizen that's what makes him eligible for Council.

Jim Gilbert, 3 Main Street, requested that Council consider dropping the 2-mills for the Road Tax to 1-mill, council confirmed the need for the 2-mills for this approaching year.

SOLICITOR**M. Turnbull, Esq.**

- Ms. Turnbull will be working with Council on the Henle Park digital sign policy and a fee schedule.

ENGINEER**Dan Slagle, P.E.**

- Mr. Slagle reviewed the Engineer's Monthly Report
- Youngblood will repair the manhole along Broad Street when the company is in town to complete the 2019 Paving Project which has been delayed due to the cooler weather.
- Mr. Slagle questioned the DCNR Boat Launch Ramp Grant money being return and Council voted at a past meeting to return the money and Council confirmed that it needs to be returned.
- Mr. Slagle has addressed the Route 65 drainage issues with the Quaker Valley School District and when the school builds the new school it has been agreed that the school will have detention basins installed to correct the current drainage issues.

MOTION BY Mr. McGurk to approve Estimate No. 1 in the amount of \$1,125.00 made payable to Youngblood Paving for the 2019 Paving Project, second by Mr. Awad

MOTION CARRIES

MOTION BY McGurk to accept the Leetsdale Planning Commission recommendation to approve the preliminary and final approval for the 704-H-66 Leet Township and 704-L-66 Leetsdale consolidation plan, conditioned upon a letter from Dan Slagle, Borough Engineer dated October 15, 2019, second by Mr. Belcastro

Question on the Motion by Mr. Michael if construction was approved or was this meeting just for the consolidation and Mr. Slagle stated that meeting was just for the property consolidation.

MOTION CARRIES

MOTION BY Mr. Awad to approve the Slum and Blight Resolution for such structures constitute a health and safety hazard and to approve the Concurring Resolution authorizing the filing of an application for CDBG funds with the Allegheny County Economic Development for the Borough's Demolition Grant for 16 Beaver Street, second by Mr. Frederick

MOTION CARRIES

MAYOR'S REPORT**Peter A. Poninsky**

- No Public Safety Meeting held this month

MOTION BY Mr. Belcastro to accept School Choice Proclamation, second by Mr. Awad

MOTION CARRIES

- Mr. Poninsky will attend The Allegheny County Borough Association Dinner on Thursday, December 6th at 6:00 PM at the Edgewood Country Club

MOTION BY Mr. Frederick to approve the purchase of \$25.00 gift cards for the residents that are currently registered to not exceed \$1,000.00, second by Mr. Belcastro

MOTION CARRIES

MOTION BY Mr. Frederick to allow the Police Chief, Daniel Raible to be added to the Borough Credit Card as a card holder and to remove card holder, Joe McGurk as of December 31, 2019, second by Mr. Michael

MOTION CARRIES

MOTION BY Mr. Belcastro to purchase a 2020 Dodge Charger police car not to exceed \$35,000.00, second by Mr. Awad

MOTION CARRIES

- Mr. Poninsky attended the Boroughs Association Meeting and there is a Resolution to change the maintenance of the infrastructure on state roadways to be maintained by PennDOT

FINANCE/BUDGETS**Wesley James, Chairperson**

MOTION BY Mr. McGurk to adopt, post and advertise the 2020 Proposed Budget, second by Mr. Frederick

MOTION CARRIES

MOTION BY Mr. McGurk to advertise the 2020 Real Estate Tax Ordinance levying 8 mills for General Purpose and 2 mills for the Road Reconstruction, second by Mr. Belcastro

MOTION CARRIES

ADMINISTRATION, BENEFITS & PENSIONS**Jeffery Weatherby, Chairperson**

- Nothing new to report this month

PUBLIC SAFETY/POLICE & FIRE**Benjimen Frederick, Chairperson**

- Chief Raible reviewed the Police Department's Monthly Report
- The Leetsdale Police Department is hosting a Christmas Party on December 7, 2019 at Noon with Santa. Contact Officer Dreyer to RSVP.
- Mr. Fredrick reviewed the Fire Department's Monthly Report
- The Leetsdale Fire Department are working on the Fish Fry 2020 details

MOTION BY Mr. Frederick to approve the Leetsdale Volunteer Fire Department to replace 56 LED lamps in the department for \$3,024.00 after the power company rebate total cost of \$2,044.00. This amount would be paid for by the Borough, not from the yearly Borough donation, second by Mr. Belcastro

MOTION CARRIES

STREET DEPARTMENT/BOROUGH PROPERTY**Joseph McGurk, Chairperson**

- Thank you to all who donated and volunteered for the 4th of July Election Day Bake Sale and the Snowflake Run that was held on Saturday, November 9, 2019.
- Need to make contact with Columbia Gas for a Street Opening that needs to be inspected as the area is sinking on Victory Lane and on Village Drive. Council discussed having the Engineer make contact to follow the Ordinance. Mr. Slagle will meet with Doug Ford to take note of the locations that need repaired. Mr. Slagle requested the insurance claim information that was submitted to Columbia Gas in regards to the 1st Street Roadway damages that were submitted by Mr. James. Mr. Weatherby advised that he would get the information from Mr. James.

MOTION BY Mr. McGurk to accept the estimate from Bartlett to remove branches at 268 Beaver Street that are hanging onto neighboring property in the amount of \$1,760.00, no second on the motion

Question on the Motion by Mr. Frederick questioning the ownership of the property where the tree is standing and Mr. McGurk advised that the Borough sold the property and is no longer the owner of the property. Mr. Gilbert and Mr. Cameron spoke up from the audience advising that they had trees that needed trimmed and/or removed and the Borough did not pay for their trees. Council dropped the vote.

MOTION DOES NOT CARRY

PARKS, RECREATION AND COMMUNITY**Osman Awad, Chairperson**

- The Recreation Board hosted drinks & treats in Borough Community Room during Trick or Treat due to the inclement weather that evening.
- Henle Park Play Equipment will be reviewed and presented to Council in the coming months
- Mr. Belcastro advised that he would have more information on the Splash Pad Shutoff next month
- Mr. Awad discussed the possibility of apply for a 501C status for the Leetsdale Free Lunch Program

PLANNING, ZONING & CODE ENFORCEMENT**Thomas Michael, Chairperson**

- Review the Monthly Building Inspection Report by Brian Hill and the Monthly Code Enforcement Report by Jason Sarver.
- A Zoning Hearing was held on 10/23/19 for the application of 150 Board Street requesting variance from the side yard setback required by Borough Ordinance, the Zoning Hearing Board granted the variance with conditions.

ORDINANCES & TAX COLLECTION**Thomas Belcastro, Chairperson**

MOTION BY Mr. Belcastro to approve Turnkey Taxes magistrate litigation and execution for three businesses in the amount of \$1,100.00, second by Mr. Awad

MOTION CARRIES

- Council discussed and it was decided that the local business that owes Delinquent Business Privilege Tax, penalty and interest will need to pay these charges in full.

OLD BUSINESS

1. Tom James provided additional information for the Borough to consider participating in the Military Banner Program.
2. Board Vacancy
 - a. Recreation Board with term ending 2019

CORRESPONDENCE

- Sewickley Bridge Construction Project, Ambulance Response Planning Document Received
- Newly Elected Municipal Officials training is being offered by PSAB

MOTION BY Mr. Frederick to allow the following attend the ALOM Spring Conference; Mr. Frederick, Mr. Awad, Mr. Belcastro, Mr. Poninsky, Doug Ford, Daniel Raible and Jennifer Simek, second by Mr. Belcastro

MOTION CARRIES

LIST OF BILLS

MOTION BY Mr. McGurk to accept the List of Bills, second by Mr. Frederick

MOTION CARRIES

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION BY Mr. Frederick to adjourn at 8:33 PM, second by Mr. McGurk

MOTION CARRIES

Respectfully submitted,

Jennifer Simek

Jennifer Simek
Borough Secretary/Treasurer

