

Vandling Borough Council Minutes February 20, 2023

Mr. Carachilo called the meeting to order. The pledge of allegiance was recited. Council members present included John Carachilo, Fran Pantzar, Bill Matos, Amanda Serge, and Colleen Sullivan. Also present were Mayor Prince, Treasurer Jennifer Slick, Attorney Jeff Levine, and Secretary Nancy Perri.

Minutes: The minutes of the previous meeting were approved on a motion by Mr. Pantzar, second by Mrs. Sullivan. Motion carried with all in favor.

Correspondence:

- *John Carachilo; Lackawanna County Information*
- *Mary Liz Donato; Lackawanna County Hazard Mitigation Plan*
- *Rep. Matt Cartwright; Municipal Leaders Conference*

Mr. Carachilo reported on a grant application that will be submitted to the County for \$5,000 which can be used for any purpose. Acceptance by Council is required. Mrs. Serge made a motion to submit and accept the grant, second by Mr. Pantzar. Motion carried with all in favor.

Mr. Carachilo also reported that the County is meeting with KBA on a number of larger projects to be submitted. Mr. Carachilo has tax rebate forms available for qualifying owners and renters. A rebate between \$750 and \$900 is available. The Borough Tax Collector will not be available in the Borough building during the months of March and April. Mrs. Risboskin recently had surgery and will be unable to come in to the building. Payments can be dropped off in the black mailbox near the front door. It was also reported that the County tax office is adding additional refuse collection fees to several bills that were not included previously. Mr. Carachilo has requested farmer's market coupons be made available for Vandling senior citizens. The Salvation Army has a food pantry is available the first Tuesday of the month at Katri Sales between 12 PM and 2 PM. A form of identification is needed to access the program.

Persons to be heard:

Browndale Fire Company reported 11 incidents in January. Volunteers logged 224 hours and 246 miles. All vehicles are in service.

Brian Fitzsimmons of the Forest City Little League addressed Council noting they were thankful for the use of the field. They mainly used it for tee ball and some inter league play with Carbondale. He distributed pictures to Council of the condition of the field along with a proposal to replace the infield dirt with a custom mix at a cost of \$3,540 plus installation. This would be for 48 tons (2 loads). He noted that one load is not enough and any extra can be stockpiled. Prince Excavating will do the work at a cost between \$1,000 and \$1,500. Mr. Fitzsimmons questioned if we could earmark \$5,000 for the field. He reported that the conditions the children played in last year did not allow them to use the base path. Mr. Pantzar suggested that maybe our DPW could do the work. It was also explained that the reason it is more economical to purchase a full additional load is that you are already paying the trucking fee so it makes more sense to take advantage of that and stockpile any extra. Mr. Fitzsimmons stated that any support the Borough can provide would be appreciated. The season is scheduled to start on Easter Monday. He suggested that perhaps Lackawanna County has a grant program available to one in Susquehanna County which is a one page request form for parks. Mr. Carachilo will check with the Lackawanna County Commissioners tomorrow. Mayor Prince stated that the stagnant water on the field is not good and unhealthy for children playing there. It was noted that

the field will also be used for practice. Mr. Carachilo will check with the County to see if there are other options that might work. Council will make a decision at the March meeting.

Treasurer Report
2022 Audit

Council was provided a copy of the completed 2022 audit which has been submitted to PA DCED. A motion to accept and approve the audit was made by Mrs. Sullivan, second by Mr. Matos. Motion carried with all in favor.

Treasurer Report of Financial Status: (final for February)

Feb 1, 23

ASSETS

Current Assets

Checking/Savings

General Fund

HNB - 0113

333,693.88

HNB - 4601

10,253.49

Total General Fund

343,947.37

Liquid Fuels Fund

HNB - 4613

41,840.99

Total Liquid Fuels Fund

41,840.99

Refuse Fund

HNB - 5401

24,604.71

Total Refuse Fund

24,604.71

CD Balance (.25% Interest Renews 7/24/23)

27,931.46

TOTAL ASSETS

438,324.53

LIABILITIES & EQUITY

Principal Balance on Loan

27,970.94

(Payment Due 1/15/24)

Mr. Pantzar, second by Mrs. Serge motioned to approve the Treasurer's report. Motion carried with all in favor.

Treasurer Report of Receipts: (final for February)

Vandling Borough Revenue February 2023				
Date	Name	Account		Amount
02/01/2023	Hab-Eit	310.20 · Wage Taxes		1,171.54
02/02/2023	Hab-Eit	310.20 · Wage Taxes		746.47
02/06/2023	Hab-Eit	310.20 · Wage Taxes		637.24
02/08/2023	Hab-Eit	310.20 · Wage Taxes		865.94
02/10/2023	Hab-Eit	310.20 · Wage Taxes		994.60
02/15/2023	Hab-Eit	310.20 · Wage Taxes		535.04
02/17/2023	Hab-Eit	310.20 · Wage Taxes		1,940.26
02/22/2023	Hab-Eit	310.20 - Wage Taxes		2,244.42
02/24/2023	Hab-Eit	310.20 - Wage Taxes		1,733.50
		Wage Taxes Subtotal		\$ 10,869.01

02/20/2023	Jeffrey A Levine	404.20 · Legal Advertisement	896.50
02/21/2023	Tumblin Tots	342.00 · Rent	1,050.00
02/20/2023	Mary Ann Risboskin	305.00 - Occupational Taxes	2,211.66
02/28/2023	HNB 4613	341.00 - Interest Earnings	11.07
02/28/2023	HNB 0113	341.00 - Interest Earnings	139.35
		Total Revenue	\$ 15,177.59

Mrs. Serge, second by Mrs. Sullivan motioned to approve the revenue report. Motion carried with all in favor.

Treasurer Report of Expenses: (final for February)

Vandling Borough Bill Listing February 2023			
Date	Name	Account	Amount
02/04/2023	PP&L	434.36 · Street Lighting	1,034.60
02/14/2023	PP&L	409.30 · Bldgs. Utilities	28.77
02/16/2023	PAWC	409.30 · Bldgs. Utilities	36.33
02/16/2023	PAWC	409.30 · Bldgs. Utilities	17.74
02/20/2023	Modern Gas	409.30 · Bldgs. Utilities	387.27
02/20/2023	PAWC	448.36 · Water Hydrants	333.94
02/20/2023	Rock Bottom Construction	430.45 · Contract Serv. Street Main.	18,500.00
02/20/2023	NEP Telephone	409.30 · Bldgs. Utilities	84.15
02/20/2023	Cube Auto Supply	430.20 · Truck Gas & Supplies	84.34
02/20/2023	City of Carbondale	410.45 · Police	4,000.00
02/20/2023	Herlands & Levine	404.10 · Legal Wages & Salary	145.00
02/20/2023	PP&L	434.36 · Street Lighting	1,005.17
02/20/2023	GFL Environmental	427.45 · Contract Sanitation Service	11,433.50
02/20/2023	Jeffrey A Levine	404.20 · Legal Advertisement	896.50
02/20/2023	Jennifer Slick	402.10 · Treasurer's Commissions	400.00
02/20/2023	Jennifer Slick	488.00 · Employees Withholding	(91.16)
02/20/2023	Nancy Ann Perri	405.10 · Secretary's Wages	400.00
02/20/2023	Nancy Ann Perri	488.00 · Employees Withholding	(97.16)
02/20/2023	Thomas Collins, Sr.	430.10 · Street Maintenance Wages	561.00
02/20/2023	Thomas Collins, Sr.	488.00 · Employees Withholding	(127.84)
02/20/2023	John Lavin	413.2 · Protective Services Supplies	390.00
02/20/2023	John Lavin	488.00 · Employees Withholding	(88.88)
02/20/2023	John Lavin	413.2 · Protective Services Supplies	28.61
02/20/2023	William Vaughn	430.10 · Street Maintenance Wages	88.00
02/20/2023	William Vaughn	488.00 · Employees Withholding	(20.06)
02/20/2023	Forest City Borough	430.25 - Road Material	350.00
02/20/2023	Forest City Borough	430.25 - Road Material	700.00
02/21/2023	IRS	6560 · Payroll Expenses	483.66
02/22/2023	UGI PNG	409.30 · Bldgs. Utilities	379.60
02/24/2023	PP&L	409.30 · Bldgs. Utilities	14.44
02/28/2023	PP&L	409.30 · Bldgs. Utilities	46.72
02/28/2023	PP&L	409.30 · Bldgs. Utilities	107.19
		Total Expenses	\$ 41,511.43

Mr. Pantzar noted that the storm drain project bill from Rock Bottom included \$2,100 for some additional work related to a damaged pipe. Mr. Pantzar motioned to pay the bills without the \$2,100 additional from Rock Bottom. Mrs. Sullivan seconded the motion. Motion carried with all in favor.

Mayor Report: Mayor Prince reported that he participated in a zoom on February 14th with the Department of Conservation & Natural Resources (DCNR) regarding potential park projects. Mayor Prince is looking for volunteers to help with the parks and with projects around the Borough. He has reached out to Representative Mullins and Senator Flynn for some additional information on assistance for the Borough. He wanted to publicly thank Representative Mullins for the U.S. and PA flags that he provided to replace the existing ones at the Borough building. Mayor Prince reminded everyone they can email him at mayorvandlingpa@gmail.com or to call the Borough building and leave a message if they have any concerns. Mayor Prince thanked Browndale Fire Company for their report and thanked all emergency service providers who respond within the Borough.

Solicitor Report: Attorney Levine had nothing to report at this time.

Committee Reports:

Mr. Carachilo thanked Mrs. Serge for her assistance in meeting with the County commissioners. He also thanked Jennifer for doing a good job with the audit report.

Unfinished Business:

Mr. Lavin has not had any response from the resident with the tree issue. Ms. Slick asked if there was permit taken out for chickens on Main Street property. Mr. Lavin will check.

Mr. Lavin is requesting that Carbondale Police return the Vandling ordinance book. Mayor Prince will follow up with Chief Bognatz.

New Business: *None at this time.*

Public Comment:

Mr. Fitzsimmons asked the Mayor what type of volunteer assistance he is looking for and noted that some students are looking for senior projects or hours of service for confirmation.

Mrs. Lukas addressed Council regarding the tree problem that was imposing on the right-of-way. She questioned if the street committee (Council members shouldn't have taken note of that. Mr. Pantzar replied that they generally only would inspect something after an issue is brought to their attention. Mr. Lavin did send the owner a letter regarding the tree. Mrs. Lukas also noted that Peterlin is now only dirt and questioned when paving might be done. Council replied that the remainder of the sewer project has to be completed and there is additional dollars coming in soon for that. We cannot pave until the sewer line is corrected.

Mrs. Lukas questioned if our recycling goes to the recycling center. The garbage company does report that it does and provides a tonnage report annually.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:50 PM on a motion by Mr. Pantzar, second by Mr. Matos. All in favor.

These minutes were prepared by Borough Secretary Nancy Perri.

Nancy Perri
Signature

March 19, 2023
Date