

Vandling Borough Council Minutes
July 19, 2021

Council President Fran Pantzar called the meeting to order. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Council members present included Bill Boyle, John Carachilo, Fran Pantzar, John Mayers, and Bill Matos. Also present were Mayor Joseph Brady, Treasurer Jennifer Slick, Attorney Jeff Levine, and Secretary Nancy Perri.

Minutes

Mr. Mayers, with the comment that contrary to the minutes in regard to the chickens that “she did not have permission to have chickens on her property” second by Mr. Matos motioned to approve the minutes of the previous meeting. All were in favor.

Correspondence:

- Auditor General Forest City Fire Relief Audit
- Ciciloni Properties Letter to Council re: BIU

Council would like to discuss the BIU letter further and will have a discussion with Mr. Lavin. The correspondence was approved on a motion by Mr. Boyle, second by Mr. Mayers. Motion carried with all in favor.

Persons to be heard: None at this time.

Public Comment on Agenda Items: None

Treasurer Report

Treasurer Report of Financial Status: (final for July)

	Jul 1, 21
ASSETS	
Current Assets	
Checking/Savings	
COVID Grant	2,144.08
General Fund	
HNB - 0113	270,011.78
HNB - 4601	5,675.01
Total General Fund	275,686.79
Liquid Fuels Fund	
HNB - 4613	46,337.27
Total Liquid Fuels Fund	46,337.27
Refuse Fund	
HNB - 5401	58,877.22
Total Refuse Fund	58,877.22
CD Balance (.40% Interest Renews 7/24/21)	27,750.80
TOTAL ASSETS	410,796.16
LIABILITIES & EQUITY	
Principal Balance on Loan	103,953.26
(Payment Due 1/15/22)	

Mr. Carachilo, second by Mr. Boyle motioned to accept the Treasurer's report. Motion carried with all in favor. The CD is set to renew on July 24th. Mr. Boyle made a motion, second by Mr. Matos to have the Treasurer shop for rates with the same or similar reasonable term and to place the funds with that institution. Motion carried.

Treasurer Report of Receipts: (final for July)

Vandling Borough Revenue July 2021			
Date	Name	Account	Amount
07/02/2021	Hab-Eit	310.20 · Wage Taxes	1,319.21
07/14/2021	Commonwealth of PA	354.07 · Intergovernmental Revenue	36,895.90
07/19/2021	NEIC	413.10 · UCC & Code Enforcement	81.48
07/20/2021	Tumblin Tots	342.00 · Rent	1,050.00
07/20/2021	Lackawanna Co. Treasurer	319.00 · Delinquent Taxes	303.94
07/20/2021	Lackawanna Co. Treasurer	364.00 · Garbage Fees	452.54
07/20/2021	Lack. Co. Recorder of Deeds	310.10 · Real Estate Transfers	1,250.10
07/20/2021	Regina Estates	321.00 · Rental Inspections	150.00
07/20/2021	Mary Ann Risboskin	364.00 · Garbage Fees	8,085.00
07/20/2021	Mary Ann Risboskin	301.00 · Real Estate Taxes	9,754.22
07/20/2021	Mary Ann Risboskin	305.00 · Occ. Taxes	12.00
07/21/2021	Hab-Eit	310.20 - Wage Taxes	946.79
07/28/2021	Hab-Eit	310.20 - Wage Taxes	1,545.77
TOTAL REVENUE			61,846.95

Mr. Carachilo, second by Mr. Mayers motioned to approve the revenue report. Motion carried with all in favor.

Treasurer Report of Expenses: (final for July)

Vandling Borough Bill List July 2021			
Date	Name	Account	Amount
07/05/2021	UGI PNG	409.30 · Bldgs. Utilities	27.92
07/05/2021	PAWC	409.30 · Bldgs. Utilities	64.46
07/19/2021	NEIC	413.10 · UCC & Code Enforcement	81.48
07/19/2021	Herlands & Levine	404.10 · Legal Wages & Salary	197.50
07/19/2021	Forest City Borough	410.45 · Police	2,000.00
07/19/2021	NEP Telephone	409.30 · Bldgs. Utilities	85.41
07/19/2021	PAWC	448.36 · Water Hydrants	331.61
07/19/2021	PP&L	409.30 · Bldgs. Utilities	174.64
07/19/2021	M and M Auto Service	409.37 · Bldgs. /Grounds Rep & Main.	166.95
07/19/2021	Holt Lumber	409.37 · Bldgs. /Grounds Rep & Main.	35.98
07/19/2021	Regal Heating & Plumbing	429.45 · San. Sewer Contract Service	275.00
07/19/2021	Regal Heating & Plumbing	409.20 · Bldgs./Grounds Supplies & Exp.	115.00
07/19/2021	DCED	413.10 · UCC & Code Enforcement	18.00
07/19/2021	County Waste	427.45 · Contract Sanitation Service	6,417.16
07/19/2021	Stafursky Paving	430.45 · Contract Serv. Street Main.	1,200.00
07/19/2021	Stafursky Paving	430.45 · Contract Serv. Street Main.	5,750.00

07/19/2021	Stafursky Paving	430.45 · Contract Serv. Street Main.	6,931.38
07/19/2021	Jennifer Slick	402.10 · Treasurer's Commissions	400.00
07/19/2021	Jennifer Slick	488.00 · Employees Withholding	(91.12)
07/19/2021	Nancy Ann Perri	405.10 · Secretary's Wages	400.00
07/19/2021	Nancy Ann Perri	488.00 · Employees Withholding	(97.12)
07/19/2021	Thomas Collins, Sr.	430.10 · Street Maintenance Wages	306.00
07/19/2021	Thomas Collins, Sr.	488.00 · Employees Withholding	(69.70)
07/19/2021	Mary Ann Risboskin	403.10 · Tax Collectors Commissions	488.31
07/19/2021	Mary Ann Risboskin	488.00 · Employees Withholding	(110.94)
07/19/2021	John Lavin	413.2 · Protective Services Supplies	550.00
07/19/2021	John Lavin	488.00 · Employees Withholding	(125.30)
07/19/2021	James Van Leuven	430.10 · Street Maintenance Wages	622.50
07/19/2021	James Van Leuven	488.00 · Employees Withholding	(141.82)
07/19/2021	Nicholas Pecko	430.10 · Street Maintenance Wages	285.00
07/19/2021	Nicholas Pecko	488.00 · Employees Withholding	(64.92)
07/20/2021	Wex Bank (Sunoco)	430.20 · Truck Gas & Supplies	58.79
07/20/2021	IRS	6560 · Payroll Expenses	802.62
07/21/2021	PP&L	434.36 - Street Lighting	914.12
07/21/2021	PSAB	414.20 - Planning Comm Sup/Exp.	25.00

Total Bills July 2021 28,023.91

Council discussed invoices received from PA DoT for services performed in conjunction with storm drain repair at Main & Ash Streets. The permit shows a supplemental fee of zero so Mr. Mayers will follow up with them to discuss the matter further. Mr. Mayers would like to pay part of the Stafursky bill from the new grant instead of liquid fuels. Mr. Carachilo stated that the final approval of how the funds can be spend has yet to be finalized. After further discussion, Mr. Mayers made a motion to approve the bills as presented with payments from liquid fuels. Mr. Matos, seconded the motion. Motion carried with all in favor.

Mayor Report: Mayor Brady reported that he attended the PA Mayor's Conference in Pittsburgh and will have some expenses to submit next month. He noted that it was a very good conference and he will share the information with the incoming Mayor. He also suggested that the new Mayor attend this conference in the future.

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

Committee Reports:

Mr. Carachilo has forms for residents for vouchers for the farmer's market. He will leave some of them at the Borough Building.

Mr. Mayers provided Council with a suggested list of projects for the Borough to undertake. Mr. Carachilo questioned how he came up with some of the costs. Mr. Mayers replied that they were based on previous estimates received.

Mr. Carachilo reported that he walked the streets with neighbors in the development and viewed about seven 15" pipes coming across the road from Fell Township and sending water runoff into the development. Mr. Carachilo stated that he personally lost four rooms of items. Mr. Boyle noted that he installed a catch basin near his property at his own expense.

Mayor Brady stated that approximately fifteen years ago, Fell Township changed the pipes and the direction of the water. Mr. Pantzar noted that this will all be discussed further later in the meeting.

Mr. Mayers reported on the Peterlin project and noted that the piping is installed. The pipe is not contiguous. Three laterals were identified at the top and there is one more that was added. Mr. Matos stated the he had told KBA that there were four laterals there.

Mr. Mayers stated that the Borough needs to hire additional staff for the winter to clean sidewalks especially at the Borough Building and day care center. The existing staff is not available during the day.

Mr. Mayers reported on the broken storm water line at 141 Main Street. The water company is involved and are claiming that PA DoT won't give them a permit. It is a safety issues and a meeting will be scheduled with PA DoT and the water company.

Fran Pantzar discussed right-of-way issues on paper streets. There is one that has a power line and another with trees in it that are in bad condition. Mr. Pantzar asked Attorney Levine if we would be liable for anything happening on these streets. Mr. Matos asked who owns the streets. A title search or survey would have to be completed to determine ownership.

Mr. Carachilo noted that we want to make sure Peterlin will be paved where Stafursky has completed work.

Unfinished Business:

In regard to the animal ordinance, Attorney Levine questioned what a TNR Program is (trap, neuter, release), and noted we need to check if there would be volunteers to run this type of program. Mr. Mayers stated that our ordinance needs to be tweaked to address feral cats. Attorney Levine stated that this issue can be addressed now through the nuisance ordinance. He also stated that the Archbald ordinance is not much different from our existing ordinance except for the TNR program.

In regard to the bid process, Mr. Boyle noted that a draft was submitted but Mr. Mayers had comments on it. Mr. Mayers replied that several items were not included, for example, the requirements process. There was some further discussion on the process. The specifications will be detailed and agreed to by Council at the next meeting. Mayor Brady stated that there was some discussion at the conference he was at about passing new legislation that would not require newspaper advertising. This is an ongoing discussion.

In regard to the bills from Mr. Seaman, the insurance company is investigating. Mr. Mayers stated that one residence had a sewer problem three times and we paid for it every time.

There was a discussion between Mr. Mayers and Mr. Matos regarding the pipe on Peterlin Street. Mr. Mayers suggested that we put the landlord on notice that we won't pay for it. We need to replace the line or dig it up and fix where the pipe is bowed. A price for the repair can be obtained.

Mr. Boyle stated that three bids based on a specification for the Peterlin project. Mr. Pantzar agreed that this would be required.

New Business:

Nancy Perri informed Council that the Local Share Act (Gaming Funds) Grant is open and applications are due by the end of September. If Council would like to apply the information and a resolution will be voted on at the September meeting.

Mr. Pantzar noted the issues in the Borough with storm drains and water runoff. There are three documented problems that need to be reviewed. One is north of Ash Street between 5th and 6th Streets. The Borough required the developer to install a storm drain which goes along the property line for two lengths. This was completed thirty years ago and the pipe is blocked and the drain will not accept any water. The Borough accepted the work at the time and it is now our responsibility. Mr. Pantzar suggests we obtain bids to correct the problem. The second problem is in the rear of Mr. Matos's house on Peterlin Street which floods area residences. The third area is the top of Ash Street by Mr. Boyle's house. A resident

planted trees and it cut off water that was going down Ash Street. These three areas need to be addressed by the Borough. We will have to involve the cable companies and other utilities on the project.

There was further discussion among Council members about these storm water issues. Mr. Boyle stated that the Borough Engineer needs to review and determine if Fell Township is at fault in any of these areas. Mr. Pantzar replied that the engineer should review between 5th and Hillside Streets and suggest how to deal with issues that are in our right-of-way.

Public Comment:

Dan Martin and Dave Karausky from 7th Street addressed Council regarding storm water runoff. It was stated that the pipes used to run parallel to Hillside Street and the Township changed them and the direction of the water flow. They provided Council several pictures of the aftermath of a recent storm.

Mr. Pantzar asked what our legal options might be in this matter. Attorney Levine replied that we could have recourse if it was improperly designed and our engineer could attest to that.

It was noted that Mr. Curtis and Mr. Martin also had water issues.

Mr. Matos asked who gives the street department workers assignments as they were recently weed whacking in the state right-of-way. He also questioned why they were cutting grass at Main & Ash. Mr. Matos also asked why they are cleaning up after the contractor. Mr. Mayers replied that Mr. Collins gave them some guidance that they are following. Mr. Pantzar and Mr. Mayers will follow up and make sure the workers know their responsibilities.

Mr. Carachilo made a motion to have the Borough Engineer survey and determine what the problem is that is causing the water runoff and storm drain issues and to make recommendations for how to correct the problems throughout the Borough. Mr. Boyle seconded the motion. On a roll call vote, all were in favor except Mr. Matos who voted no. Mr. Carachilo noted that he wants to be present when they inspect. Mr. Mayers will contact them and schedule.

Mr. Matos stated that on the Peterlin project, an 8" pipe was put into a 15" pipe connection and that at Vine Street, a 15" pipe was removed and replaced with an 8" pipe. The Engineer needs to inspect the project.

Mr. Karausky reminded Council of the four foot buffer that exists at the rear of the properties as an easement for utilities.

Jennifer Slick asked about whose responsibility the water issues from the swimming pool by the basketball court is as there is about four feet of water there. The owner is responsible.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:35 PM on a motion by Mr. Boyle, second by Mr. Carachilo.

Borough Secretary Nancy Perri prepared the minutes.

Nancy Perri
Signature

August 15, 2021
Date