

## Vandling Borough Council Minutes September 18, 2023

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

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

**Correspondence:**

- *Lackawanna County Election Bureau*
- *2023 Fire Relief*
- *Lackawanna County Tire Recycling Event*
- *Lackawanna County Association of Boroughs Meeting*

Mr. Matos, second by Mr. Pantzar motioned to accept the correspondence. Motion carried with all in favor.

**Persons to be heard:**

Browndale Fire Company not present.

Council President John Carachilo stated that children can go trick or treating on October 31<sup>st</sup> (Halloween) between 6 PM and 8 PM. He has already spoken with the fire department to provide assistance. Mr. Pantzar made a motion to approve this activity, second by Mrs. Serge. Motion carried with all in favor

**Treasurer Report**

***Treasurer Report of Financial Status: (final for September)***

	<b>Sep 1, 23</b>
<b>ASSETS</b>	
<b>Current Assets</b>	
<b>Checking/Savings</b>	
<b>General Fund</b>	
HNB - 0113	377,780.97
HNB - 4601	15,645.43
<b>Total General Fund</b>	393,426.40
<b>Liquid Fuels Fund</b>	
HNB - 4613	53,739.91
<b>Total Liquid Fuels Fund</b>	53,739.91
<b>Refuse Fund</b>	
HNB - 5401	66,347.29
<b>Total Refuse Fund</b>	66,347.29
<b>CD Balance (.25% Interest Renews 8/24/24)</b>	28,001.28
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	541,514.88
<b>LIABILITIES &amp; EQUITY</b>	
Principal Balance on Loan	27,970.94
(Payment Due 1/15/24)	

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

**Treasurer Report of Receipts: (final for September)**

September 2023 - Revenue				
Date	Name	Account		Amount
09/01/2023	Hab-Eit	310.20 · Wage Taxes		1,926.74
09/05/2023	Hab-Eit	310.20 · Wage Taxes		31.98
09/18/2023	Commonwealth of PA	354.07 - Intergovernmental Revenue		135,000.00
09/19/2023	Mary Ann Risboskin	301.00 · Real Estate Taxes		649.44
09/19/2023	Lackawanna Co. Treasurer	319.00 · Delinquent Taxes		641.35
09/19/2023	Lackawanna Co. Treasurer	364.00 · Garbage Fees		531.92
09/19/2023	Tumblin Tots	342.00 · Rent		1,050.00
09/19/2023	Mary Ann Risboskin	364.00 · Garbage Fees		4,200.00
09/21/2023	Commonwealth of PA	355.07 - Foreign Fire Ins. Tax Dist.		3,713.08
09/26/2023	CFA	354.07 - Intergovernmental Revenue		1,089.00
09/27/2023	Hab-Eit	310.20 - Wage Taxes		1,028.54
09/29/2023	Commonwealth of PA	355.41 - PURTA		176.45
		Total Revenue		\$ 150,038.50

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

**Treasurer Report of Expenses: (final for September)**

September 2023 ~ Expenses				
Date	Name	Account		Amount
09/14/2023	PP&L	409.30 · Bldgs. Utilities		27.51
09/14/2023	PAWC	409.30 · Bldgs. Utilities		20.72
09/14/2023	PAWC	409.30 · Bldgs. Utilities		59.09
09/18/2023	PP&L	434.36 · Street Lighting		979.03
09/18/2023	GFL Environmental As Agent	427.45 · Contract Sanitation Service		11,433.50
09/18/2023	PAWC	448.36 · Water Hydrants		345.10
09/18/2023	NEIC	413.45 · Rental Expense		60.00
09/18/2023	LRBSA	409.30 · Bldgs. Utilities		61.80
09/18/2023	NEP Telephone	409.30 · Bldgs. Utilities		83.42
09/18/2023	City of Carbondale	410.45 · Police		2,000.00
09/18/2023	Herlands & Levine	404.10 · Legal Wages & Salary		167.50
09/18/2023	Regal Heating & Plumbing	429.45 · San. Sewer Contract Service		375.00
09/18/2023	C. Johnson Motor Sports & Equipment	409.20 · Bldgs./Grounds Supplies & Expense		667.98
09/18/2023	Holt Lumber	409.20 · Bldgs./Grounds Supplies & Expense		349.00
09/18/2023	Jennifer Slick	402.10 · Treasurer's Commissions		400.00
09/18/2023	Jennifer Slick	488.00 · Employees Withholding		(91.16)
09/18/2023	Nancy Ann Perri	405.10 · Secretary's Wages		400.00
09/18/2023	Nancy Ann Perri	488.00 · Employees Withholding		(97.16)
09/18/2023	Thomas Collins, Sr.	430.10 · Street Maintenance Wages		476.00

09/18/2023	Thomas Collins, Sr.	488.00 · Employees Withholding	(108.47)
09/18/2023	John Lavin	413.2 · Protective Services Supplies	440.00
09/18/2023	John Lavin	488.00 · Employees Withholding	(100.28)
09/18/2023	William Vaughn	430.10 · Street Maintenance Wages	320.00
09/18/2023	William Vaughn	488.00 · Employees Withholding	(72.92)
09/18/2023	Mary Ann Risboskin	403.10 · Tax Collectors Commissions	32.47
09/18/2023	Mary Ann Risboskin	488.00 · Employees Withholding	(120.97)
09/18/2023	Mary Ann Risboskin	427.1 · Garbage Fee Comm.	500.00
09/18/2023	Bill Matos	400.10 · Legislative Wages	225.00
09/18/2023	Bill Matos	488.00 · Employees Withholding	(51.12)
09/18/2023	Amanda Serge	400.10 · Legislative Wages	225.00
09/18/2023	Amanda Serge	488.00 · Employees Withholding	(51.12)
09/18/2023	Francis Pantzar	400.10 · Legislative Wages	225.00
09/18/2023	Francis Pantzar	488.00 · Employees Withholding	(51.12)
09/18/2023	John Carachilo	400.10 · Legislative Wages	225.00
09/18/2023	John Carachilo	488.00 · Employees Withholding	(51.12)
09/18/2023	Colleen Sullivan	400.10 · Legislative Wages	225.00
09/18/2023	Colleen Sullivan	488.00 · Employees Withholding	(51.12)
09/18/2023	Thomas M. Prince	401.10 · Executive Wages	225.00
09/18/2023	Thomas M. Prince	488.00 · Employees Withholding	(51.12)
09/18/2023	Mikloiche Timber & Construction	438.00 · Repair & Maintenance of Roads	8,500.00
09/18/2023	PSAB UC Plan	6560 · Payroll Expenses	174.62
09/19/2023	PP&L	409.30 · Bldgs. Utilities	13.92
09/19/2023	PP&L	409.30 · Bldgs. Utilities	35.21
09/19/2023	PP&L	409.30 · Bldgs. Utilities	85.19
09/19/2023	UGI PNG	409.30 · Bldgs. Utilities	32.95
09/19/2023	Scranton Times	404.20 - Legal Ad	1,104.40
09/19/2023	LCAB	400.0 - Legislative Supplies	40.00
09/19/2023	IRS	6560 · Payroll Expenses	1,030.56
09/19/2023	Hab-Eit	6560 · Payroll Expenses	100.43
09/19/2023	PA Dept. of Revenue	6560 · Payroll Expenses	253.11
09/19/2023	PAUC	6560 · Payroll Expenses	4.29
		Total Expenses	\$ 31,025.12

Mr. Pantzar wanted to clarify that the original estimate from Mikloiche was \$17,300, which has been paid. There was some additional work required to address water issues that Mr. Mikloiche said would not be too costly. There were several trees cut down.

Mr. Carachilo stated that he has cancelled the playground project due to this increased expense. Mr. Pantzar made a motion to pay the bills but to hold the Mikloiche check until after Council speaks with him. If, after meeting with him, Council determines this invoice is approved, they will give Jennifer approval to send it to Mr. Mikloiche. Mr. Matos seconded this motion which was approved with all in favor.

Jennifer noted that there is a deposit coming from the Commonwealth tomorrow for \$135,000. She questioned if it should be kept in a separate account. Jennifer also questioned if the fire relief should be split between Forest City and Browndale. Council agreed that it should be split as it always has been.

The liquid fuel estimate for next year is \$19,359.78.

**Mayor Report:** Mayor Prince had nothing to report at this time.

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

**Committee Reports:**

Mrs. Serge questioned who is responsible for putting owners on notice for not cutting their grass. That would be Mr. Lavin and she will follow up with him. Amanda also asked about unregistered vehicles, this can also be brought to the attention of Mr. Lavin. In the instance where a vehicle may be used as storage, Mr. Lavin can notify the police.

**Unfinished Business:**

**New Business:**

A resolution was introduced to formally acknowledge that Treasurer Jennifer Slick is the designated officer to act as the business manager in regard to the borough credit card. Mr. Pantzar motioned to approve the resolution, second by Mr. Matos. Motion carried with all in favor.

**Bid Opening (Peterlin Sewer)**

There bids were received for this project. The results were Stafursky Paving (\$349,120), James T. O'Hara (\$390,900), and Linde Corporation (\$383,170).

This project will not start until spring due to material shortages. The Borough currently has \$211,583 available for the project. Jennifer noted that the current capital loan will be paid in January.

Mr. Pantzar made a motion to table the bids until reviewed by the engineer. Mr. Matos seconded the motion which carried with all in favor.

**Public Comment:**

Michele Lapenta noted that the area of 100 Ash has been cleaned out and they will take care of the mowing now to that the Borough doesn't have to. They have it staked out and will take care of the landscaping.

Resident of 535 Hillside asked when the roads will be taken care of as there are ditches on the road that are getting worse with the rain. Mr. Pantzar stated that it will be taken care of.

Another resident asked when the contract with Carbondale Police expires. It will be next year. He feels we should go back to Forest City.

Krista Tomazic addressed issues on Vine Street. The rain water is causing holes in the street. She noted that between the alley and down the street, the road is eroding. Council will address this matter.

Mrs. Tomazic would like to know what Council will do about the raccoons living in the roof of the property on Clinton Street. They are getting in through a hole in the overhang. This will be addressed by Mr. Lavin.

Mrs. Tomazic also questioned what the Borough plans to do about the feral cats that have ruined her porch furniture. There is a neighbor feeding and taking care of the feral cats. Attorney Levine suggested that she obtain evidence of this and give it to Mr. Lavin. She noted that the cats are starting to get into her chicken coop.

Mr. Pantzar stated that there is little Council can do about feral cats other than addressing it with someone who is feeding them and taking care of them. Mr. Carachilo stated that in the 600 block of Main Street there were nine kittens in the driveway. Council will follow up with Mr. Lavin.

Jennifer Slick questioned if Council has considered a fireworks ordinance as they are still being set off. Several residents agreed.

Council agreed to meet on October 23<sup>rd</sup> at 6 PM to review and begin preparing the 2024 budget. The meeting was adjourned at 7:50 PM on a motion by Mr. Matos, second by Mr. Pantzar. All in favor.

These minutes were prepared by Borough Secretary Nancy Perri.

Nancy Perri

Signature

October 15, 2023

Date