

The regular meeting was called to order by Council President Bill Starn at 7:00 p.m. and opened with the Pledge of Allegiance. It was announced that the meeting was being recorded, and the roll was called.

Attendance -- Council Members attending included Vice-President Jim Turnbull, Bryan Landman, Laura Trehar, Jan Livingston, and Rich Siget. Other officials in attendance included Solicitor Frank Paganie, Police Chief David Stanislawski, Fire Chief Jason Medlin, Tax Collector Nadine Galbreath, and Secretary/Treasurer Jack Doyle.

Agenda – Bryan Landman moved that the Agenda be approved, Rich Siget seconded, and the Council approved the Agenda.

Minutes – Bryan Landman moved that the minutes from August 16, 2023 be approved. Rich Siget seconded, and Council approved.

Mr. Paganie announced that there had been an executive session of the Council held on September 11 to discuss pending legal matters regarding the Beaver Falls – Aqua litigation.

Police Report – The August Police Report showed 53 calls for service, including one reportable accident, one instance of child abuse, one juvenile complaint, one loud noise disturbance, 45 traffic monitoring sessions, one neighborhood dispute, one ordinance violation, and one report of a suspicious person. Trick-or-Treating will be from 6 to 8 pm on October 31.

Fire Report – The Fire Company responded to 19 calls in August. They also received a grant through DCNR for \$1,419 for new hose.

Visitors – (1) Gregg Galbreath of 419 7th Street complained that the stop signs on 7th Street are being ignored on a regular basis, with some drivers not even slowing down. He also spoke of “nefarious activities” in Patterson Heights, including predators looking for people who are underage, people taking pictures of children at the playground, and people parking on 5th Avenue and walking through the neighborhood in the middle of the night, like 3-3:30- am.

(2) Heidi Cron of 616 5th Avenue spoke of an incident early in summer with an online predator who made threats against her daughter. The person told her 12-year-old daughter that he wanted to find her address, and made threats against her. She spoke with the FBI and the DA’s office, but was told they did not consider it to be a threat. Then cars started coming by in the middle of the night, parking in front of her house, but just out of range of security cameras. They would stare at her house, then put up the hoods on their jackets, walk away, and later come back. Mrs. Cron said she has contacted the police many times, but not gotten the help she needs. She also mentioned that the cars were always rentals, and licensed in another state. Chief Stanislawski commended the residents for getting good registration information and pictures, which have been turned over to County detectives to help identify these people. He said that there had been an incident the previous night, and that two

individuals were to be arrested for criminal trespass the next day. He said that the police are on top of the situation.

(3) Donna Ceriani of 722 7th Avenue told the Council about a recent 911 call she placed when the first responder could not find her house, thinking she was in Beaver Falls.

(3) Jean Dolan of 301 7th Street Extension told about men trespassing, sitting on her lawn and smoking weed. Apparently, they park on 5th Avenue and walk down 7th Street to her house.

(4) Jim and Edie Ciganik of 516 4th Street asked about progress making the owner of 518 4th Street comply with our property maintenance code. Our Code Enforcement official cited the owner at 518, and the Magistrate is working on the next steps in the process.

(5) Teresa Nicol of 732 8th Avenue (not on the Visitor's Sheet) told of her daughter talking about a white van sitting at her bus stop for three days. She asked that neighbors be aware and vigilant in reporting such incidents.

(6) Gretchen D'Atri of 604 9th Avenue offered to help with communications in the Borough, noting that some of the issues discussed at this meeting should be made available to the residents.

Solicitor – No report.

Code Enforcement – The house at 518 4th Street was discussed previously. The resident at 410 7th Avenue still has a commitment from Contes Brothers to take down her pine tree. Jim Turnbull mentioned the green bag filled with trash beside a house on Darlington Road.

The Council members were all given forms to turn in regarding properties they would like inspected by Code Enforcement, in order to get a specific idea of their complaints. (15:41)

Correspondence – (1) An email from a resident on 5th Street complaining about a lack of parking, especially for a family member who is a handicapped veteran. (2) A letter from the Commonwealth saying that our Liquid Fuels allotment next year will be \$20,700. (3) A quotation from Hadfield Elevator which didn't seem to make sense. (4) A sample ordinance for placing handicapped parking spaces in the Borough. Frank Explained that the ordinance was provided as a guide in case the Council would like to institute the handicapped spaces throughout the Borough.

Tax Collector – Nadine reported receipts of \$1,972.50 during the month of August. We are now in the penalty period for Borough taxes, And there is \$12,951.41 remaining to be collected.

Treasurer's Report – The Treasurer provided a report of receipts, with nothing unusual.

Public Safety Committee – Bryan expanded on the need for residents not to confront people whom they feel don't belong on the neighborhood. He advise them to observe and report. And he said people should stay inside their houses, and not go outside to get a license plate number.

Buildings and Grounds – Nick Engle, who was authorized to do a comprehensive study of our properties and their needs. Engle still needs to meet with Jim and Bryan to go over existing properties in order to complete his report. Jim also requested that Bryan remove one of the slides on the playground that is damaged and dangerous. Next there was a discussion about children, unsupervised, playing in and around the paper and cardboard retrievers, taking rocks and placing them in the grass, where they get run over by the lawnmowers, and other improper activities.

Streets and Sewers – No report.

Recreation – Nothing to report.

Recycling – RO Recycling has been doing a much better job at servicing the paper retriever.

Budget and Finance – Bill asked about a “Budget Bulletin.” Jack responded that he had never seen or heard of it, but would investigate.

Rental Property – Bill asked if there was a way to limit the number of rental properties in the Borough. Frank said he would look into it.

New Business – (1) Handicapped Parking – already discussed.

(2) After Frank explained the Bulk Service Agreement with Aqua Pennsylvania Wastewater, Inc., Bryan Landman moved that Council approve the Agreement. Jim Turnbull seconded, and Council approved. Bryan Landman moved that Council approve the Settlement Agreement between the Borough and Aqua Pennsylvania Wastewater, Inc. Jim Turnbull seconded, and Council approved. Bryan Landman motioned to approve John Salopek and Frank Paganie to represent the Borough in the USDA loan application. Jim Turnbull seconded, and Council approved. Council discussed an ordinance prohibiting bamboo and other invasive species as part of a new nuisance ordinance.

(3) Consensus of Council is that small vehicles will have to be regulated through ordinance.

Old Business – (1) The Council decided to have a town hall meeting, where Randy Dawson from the 911 Center could give his presentation to the residents. Tentative schedule is for October 11.

(2) Council asked Frank to come up with a sample ordinance which would address common nuisances in the Borough.

(3) Council would prefer approving a grant proposal before it is written if the grant requires matching funds

Mayor – Mayor Luger remarked that the number of distressed properties is increasing.

COG – No report.

Emergency Management – Nothing to report.

Announcements – Jim gave his appreciation to Bryan and Charlie for their work on rehabilitating the recycling area.

Fiscal and Contractual – Jim Turnbull moved that the bills be paid or ratified as presented. Bryan Landman seconded, and Council approved.

Adjournment – Bryan Landman moved that the meeting be adjourned. Rich Siget seconded, and Council approved. The next regular meeting will be October 18, 2023, at 7 p.m.

William A. Starn, Council President

Jack D. Doyle, Secretary