

**BOROUGH OF PATTERSON HEIGHTS
COUNCIL MINUTES
December 15, 2024**

Executive Session

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. Bill Starn announced that there had been an Executive Session prior to the meeting. Personnel issues were discussed, but no action was taken. Before calling the roll, Council observed a moment of silence in respect to the death of Charlie West.

Attendance -- Council Members attending included Jim Turnbull, Bryan Landman, David Lee, and Ryan Errett. Rich Siget arrived at 7:20. Other officials in attendance included Mayor Bard Hendry, Police Chief Dave Stanislawski, Solicitor Frank Paganie, and Secretary/Treasurer Jack Doyle.

Agenda – Bryan Landman moved that the Agenda be approved, Ryan Errett seconded, and the Council approved the Agenda.

Minutes – Bryan Landman moved that the minutes from October 16, 2024 be approved. There were no minutes from November, as Council was unable to meet due to the lack of a quorum. Ryan Errett seconded, and Council approved.

Visitors – No visitors sought recognition.

Police Report – In November there were 44 calls for service, including one arrest for solicitation without a permit. The Chief also extended condolences from the Township Police for the passing of Charlie West.

Fire Report – Department President Bard Hendry read the Fire Report, which listed 20 calls for service, of which 14 were for EMS. The Department received \$10,000 from a grant from Norfolk Southern, which they used to purchase 3 sets of gear (boots, pants, coat, and helmet) for the firefighters.

Solicitor – Frank Paganie stated that all his discussion items could be taken up under new business.

Code Enforcement – There was nothing new except to report two building permits, one for Davie Lee and one for David Vetica.

Correspondence – (1) an announcement of police fines awarded to the Borough in the amount of \$124. (2) the cover letter and ad for the 2025 budget published in the *Beaver County Times*, (3) letters from McMillen, Urick, Tocci, Jones, and from Widmer Engineering asking to be reappointed Solicitor and Engineer. (4) a letter from the Beaver County Assessor stating that individual assessments can be viewed on their website, and the total assessed valuations for Patterson Heights for 2025 are \$54,610,100. (5) a letter from Comcast outlining their rate increases for 2025.point

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Tax Collector's Report -- Nadine reported that \$642.85 was deposited In November.

Treasurer's Report – A Treasurer's Report was submitted to Council. Jack pointed out the \$254,000 payment from the County as reimbursement for our sewer reline project.

Public Safety Committee – Nothing to report.

Buildings and Grounds – To be taken up later I the meeting.

Streets and Sewers – Bill Starn showed Council a map of the relined sewers in the Borough.

Recreation -- Ryan received the following quotes for equipment to replace the current playground. (1) Burke/Snider \$54,394.46; Jeffrey Associates \$85,883; MRC \$173,625. After some discussion, Bryan moved that we make the purchase from Burke/Snider, who is COSTARS approved. Rich seconded, and Council approved. Rich also suggested that the Borough purchase additional cameras to provide better surveillance of the playground.

Recycling – Nothing to report.

Budget and Finance – Nothing to report.

Rental Property – Nothing new.

New Business – (1) Ryan moved that Bryan's hourly rate be increased to \$30.00/hour and Jack's to \$20.00. David Lee seconded, and Council approved with Bryan Landman abstaining.

Bryan Landman moved the passage of Resolution 24-12-1, approving the contract for police protection by the Township for four years beginning January 1, 2025. Jim Turnbull seconded and Council approved. Jim Turnbull suggested that we start budgeting to rehab one street per year, rather than make one large project every ten years

Jack explained a couple of items in the 2025 Budget. First, the contributions to the VFD were increased from \$6,000 to \$7,500. Second, under Road Safety, about \$6,000 of the total would be for new street signs and house numbers, based on an estimate by Municipal Signs. Rich moved that the Budget be passed, Bryan seconded, and Council approved.

Bryan moved the passage of Resolution 24-12-2, which states that the Borough's tax rate will remain the same for 2025. Ryan seconded, and Council approved.

Resolution 24-12-3 permits the Tax Collector to accept installment tax payments during the 2025 tax year. Rich Siget so moved, and Ryan seconded. Council approved.

Bryan moved that we retain McMillen, Urich, Tocci, Jones for another year as Solicitor; Widmer Engineering as Borough Engineer; and Building Inspections Underwriters as Code Enforcement Official for the year 2025. Ryan Errett seconded, and Council approved.

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A resident complained about the proliferation of feral cats in the Borough. Apparently, he can dispose of them in any manner he likes, as long as it is done humanely. Discharging a firearm is illegal within the Borough.

Frank suggested he draft a procedure for Right-to-Know requests, and we publish it on the website.

The State Ethics Commission prohibits Mayor Bard Hendry from voting in cases affecting the VFD, since he is also an officer in that organization.

We need to establish a Planning Commission.

Old Business – Old Business has already been discussed.

Mayor – Nothing to report.

COG – Nothing to report.

Emergency Management – Nothing to Report.

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

Announcements – None.

Adjournment – Bryan Landman moved that the meeting be adjourned. Rich Siget seconded, and Council adjourned at 8:13pm. The next regular meeting will be January 15, 2025, at 7 p.m.

William A. Starn, Council President

Jack D. Doyle, Secretary