

*Vandling Borough Council Minutes
August 19th, 2024*

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 Tom Prince, Solicitor Jeffrey Levine, Treasurer Jennifer Slick, Secretary Nancy Perri, and Code Enforcement Officer Joe Lavin. Councilmember Colleen Sullivan was not present.

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

Correspondence:

- Steamtown Marathon
- Mid-Valley Emergency Services
- DCNR inspection report

Mr. Carachilo will follow up with DCNR. Mrs. Serge, second by Mr. Pantzar motioned to accept the correspondence. Motion carried with all in favor.

Persons to be heard:

Browndale Fire Chief Josh Debevec reported that there 19 incidents in July, 42 hours of training and 324 miles travelled. All vehicles are in service. Mr. Pantzar, second by Mr. Matos motioned to accept the report. Motion carried.

Treasurer Report

Treasurer Report of Financial Status: (final for August)

| | <u>Aug 1, 24</u> |
|--|------------------|
| ASSETS | |
| Current Assets | |
| Checking/Savings | |
| General Fund | |
| HNB - 0113 | 501,748.68 |
| HNB - 4601 | <u>7,777.97</u> |
| Total General Fund | 509,526.65 |
| Liquid Fuels Fund | |
| HNB - 4613 | <u>62,622.10</u> |
| Total Liquid Fuels Fund | 62,622.10 |
| Refuse Fund | |
| HNB - 5401 | <u>75,507.15</u> |
| Total Refuse Fund | 75,507.15 |
| CD Balance (.25% Interest Renews 8/24/24) | <u>29,250.76</u> |
| TOTAL ASSETS | 676,906.66 |

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

Treasurer Report of Receipts: (final for August)

| Vandling Borough Revenue ~ August 2024 | | | | |
|--|-----------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------|--|
| Date | Name | Account | Amount | |
| 08/02/2024 | Hab-Eit | 310.20 · Wage Taxes | 2,083.09 | |
| 08/09/2024 | Hab-Eit | 310.20 · Wage Taxes | 1,715.46 | |
| 08/14/2024 | Hab-Eit | 310.20 · Wage Taxes | 910.33 | |
| 08/16/2024 | Hab-Eit | 310.20 · Wage Taxes | 2,189.58 | |
| 08/21/2024 | Hab-Eit | 310.20 · Wage Taxes | 1,647.98 | |
| 08/23/2024 | Hab-Eit | 310.20 · Wage Taxes | 1,933.76 | |
| 08/28/2024 | Hab-Eit | 310.20 · Wage Taxes | 4,231.80 | |
| 08/30/2024 | Hab-Eit | 310.20 · Wage Taxes | 2,666.15 | |
| | | Subtotal Wage Tax | 17,378.15 | |
| | | | | |
| 08/06/2024 | Lack. Co. Recorder of Deeds | 310.10 · Real Estate Transfers | 2,327.50 | |
| 08/20/2024 | Mary Ann Risboskin | 364.00 · Garbage Fees | 4,700.00 | |
| 08/20/2024 | Mary Ann Risboskin | 305.00 · Occ. Taxes | 639.95 | |
| 08/20/2024 | Mary Ann Risboskin | 301.00 · Real Estate Taxes | 1,857.96 | |
| 08/20/2024 | Tumblin Tots | 342.00 · Rent | 1,050.00 | |
| 08/20/2024 | NEP Telephone | 342.00 · Rent | 500.00 | |
| 08/20/2024 | PAWC | 389.00 · Misc. Revenue | 50.00 | |
| 08/20/2024 | Merry Gurung | 321.00 · Rental Inspections | 75.00 | |
| 08/20/2024 | Merry Gurung | 321.00 · Rental Inspections | 75.00 | |
| 08/20/2024 | Airosmith Inc. | 320.00 · Building Permits | 6,030.76 | |
| | | Total Revenue | \$ 34,684.32 | |

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

Treasurer Report of Expenses: (final for August)

| Vandling Borough Bill List ~ August 2024 | | | | |
|--|-------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|------------|--|
| Date | Name | Account | Amount | |
| 08/17/2024 | PP&L | 409.30 · Bldgs. Utilities | 28.83 | |
| 08/17/2024 | PAWC | 409.30 · Bldgs. Utilities | 49.17 | |
| 08/17/2024 | PAWC | 409.30 · Bldgs. Utilities | 17.87 | |
| 08/19/2024 | NEIC | 413.10 · UCC & Code Enforcement | 3,646.57 | |
| 08/19/2024 | NEP Telephone | 409.30 · Bldgs. Utilities | 85.14 | |
| 08/19/2024 | PAWC | 448.36 · Water Hydrants | 344.55 | |
| 08/19/2024 | C. Johnson Motor Sports & Equipment | 409.20 · Bldgs./Grounds Supply & Exp. | 156.50 | |
| 08/19/2024 | Cube Auto Supply | 430.20 · Truck Gas & Supplies | 10.99 | |
| 08/19/2024 | Casella | 427.45 · Contract Sanitation Service | 12,062.34 | |
| 08/19/2024 | PP&L | 434.36 · Street Lighting | 968.72 | |
| 08/19/2024 | City of Carbondale | 410.45 · Police | 2,000.00 | |
| 08/19/2024 | Browndale Fire Co | 411.50 · Fire Co. Contribution | 500.00 | |
| 08/19/2024 | Herlands & Levine | 404.10 · Legal Wages & Salary | 550.00 | |
| 08/19/2024 | Stafursky Paving | 429.45 · San.Sewer Contract Serv | 113,484.36 | |
| 08/19/2024 | KBA Engineering | 429.45 · San.Sewer Contract Serv | 225.00 | |
| 08/19/2024 | Jennifer Slick | 402.10 · Treasurer's Commissions | 400.00 | |
| 08/19/2024 | Jennifer Slick | 488.00 · Employees Withholding | (91.16) | |
| 08/19/2024 | Nancy Ann Perri | 405.10 · Secretary's Wages | 400.00 | |
| 08/19/2024 | Nancy Ann Perri | 488.00 · Employees Withholding | (97.16) | |
| 08/19/2024 | Thomas Collins, Sr. | 430.10 · Street Maintenance Wages | 799.00 | |

| | | | |
|------------|---------------------|--------------------------------------|---------------|
| 08/19/2024 | Thomas Collins, Sr. | 488.00 · Employees Withholding | (182.10) |
| 08/19/2024 | John Lavin | 413.2 · Protective Services Supplies | 380.00 |
| 08/19/2024 | John Lavin | 488.00 · Employees Withholding | (86.61) |
| 08/19/2024 | Mary Ann Risboskin | 403.10 · Tax Collectors Commissions | 124.90 |
| 08/19/2024 | Mary Ann Risboskin | 488.00 · Employees Withholding | (28.37) |
| 08/20/2024 | PP&L | 409.30 · Bldgs. Utilities | 14.03 |
| 08/20/2024 | PP&L | 409.30 · Bldgs. Utilities | 31.49 |
| 08/20/2024 | PP&L | 409.30 · Bldgs. Utilities | 85.12 |
| 08/20/2024 | UGI PNG | 409.30 · Bldgs. Utilities | 31.31 |
| 08/20/2024 | Wex Bank (Sunoco) | 430.20 · Truck Gas & Supplies | 171.10 |
| 08/20/2024 | Visa | 430.25 · Road Material | 129.21 |
| 08/20/2024 | Visa | 405.20 · Sec. Supplies & Exp. | 105.99 |
| 08/20/2024 | KBA Engineering | 414.17 · Plan Prep Costs | 3,877.50 |
| 08/20/2024 | IRS | 6560 · Payroll Expenses | 553.32 |
| | | Total Expenses | \$ 140,747.61 |

Mrs. Serge, second by Mr. Pantzar motioned to approve the current expenses. Motion carried with all in favor.

Treasurer Jennifer Slick informed Council that the CD was up for renewal. There is a 7 month option for 5.05% interest and a 13 month for 4.75% interest. The rate is currently .25%. Mr. Matos made a motion to put it into the seven month CD. Mr. Pantzar seconded the motion. All were in favor.

Mayor Report: Mayor Prince stated that he understands the flooding issues that are occurring but it was an act of nature that we have no control over. He asked that residents be patient as the Borough determines ways to possibly address these issues.

He noted that the bear is still roaming throughout the Borough. He reminded residents that trash goes out on Thursday and mattresses must be wrapped.

Mayor Prince noted that abandoned properties are becoming a serious problem and he will be looking into possible condemnations and demolition at the owner's expense.

There was a question about missing street signs and Mr. Pantzar replied that Mr. Collins was supposed to order them. Mr. Pantzar also stated that he would work with Mr. Lavin on the abandoned properties and that abandoned vehicles would be towed at owner's expense.

The Mayor also informed residents that his Facebook page was hacked and to please not use it.

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

Committee Reports & Unfinished Business:

Mr. Pantzar noted that in relation to storm water, there are catch basins along Clinton Street that need to be cleared out. He contacted PA DoT but it is unclear when they can get to it. Since it may be months, he spoke with Steve Mikloiche who will do it for \$300. Mr. Carachilo agreed but said that storm drains throughout the Borough need to be checked.

It was reported that some lightning strikes yesterday took a number of trees down.

Mr. Pantzar made a motion to have Mr. Mikloiche clean out the storm drain on Clinton Street. Mrs. Serge seconded the motion. Motion carried with Mr. Matos stipulating that it must not exceed \$300.

Council will make plans to review and prioritize the remaining storm drains in the Borough.

New Business:

Bid Opening:

| Vandling Borough 2024 Paving Project | | | | | |
|--------------------------------------|---------------|--------------|-------------|-------------|--------------|
| Contractor | Base Bid | Bid Alt. #1 | Bid Alt. #2 | Bid Alt. #3 | Total |
| Wayco, Inc. | \$ 159,002.84 | \$ 19,241.16 | \$26,856.60 | \$45,200.53 | \$250,301.13 |
| ER Linde (Leeward) | \$ 146,279.00 | \$ 13,062.00 | \$17,075.00 | \$25,397.00 | \$201,813.00 |
| Kobalt Construction | \$ 292,666.00 | \$ 32,796.00 | \$46,248.00 | \$56,298.00 | \$428,008.00 |
| Stafursky Paving | \$ 204,757.30 | \$ 19,797.58 | \$25,487.44 | \$37,656.70 | \$287,699.02 |
| New Enterprise | \$ 182,996.75 | \$ 27,536.70 | \$30,763.00 | \$39,505.25 | \$280,801.70 |
| Pioneer Construction | \$ 232,620.35 | \$ 37,499.00 | \$45,595.00 | \$47,616.45 | \$363,330.80 |

Council discussed the bids received. Mr. Pantzar made a motion to accept the lowest responsible bidder upon review with KBA, Attorney Levine, Mr. Pantzar and the contractor. Mrs. Serge seconded the motion which carried with all in favor.

Public Comment:

Barbara Bock questioned if anyone checked into the slide at the playground. It was reported that Tom Collins tried to address the issue and that it doesn't seem to be a danger right now. Mr. Carachilo stated that in regard to the fence it would be up to the Borough if they wanted to install a new one.

Mark Cordelli from Lackawanna County thanked Council for hosting the Commissioners meeting earlier this month. He shared numerous resources for upcoming events that will be shared on the Borough's Facebook page.

Mr. Carachilo stated that he spoke with Mr. Lavin and Attorney Levine today about condemning the property on Main Street after Mr. Lavin has sent countless letters that have been ignored. They will make some more calls to see what action can be taken.

A newsletter will be prepared and sent out in the fall. There was some discussion on a number of items that should be included in the letter.

Mr. Curtis addressed Council regarding a lot line adjustment. He noted that he made changes as requested by the Lackawanna County Planning Commission. Mr. Pantzar made a motion to approve the line adjustment pending Attorney Levine review and acceptance by Lackawanna County Planning Commission. Mr. Matos seconded the motion which carried with all in favor.

Barbara Bock asked about grass by Mrs. Murnin mother-in-law and neighbor. This is a right of way with no one responsible to maintain at this time.

Tom Prince, Sr. reminded Council that the state put some drains in and to be aware when cleaning catch basins.

The meeting adjourned at 8:05 PM on a motion by Mr. Pantzar, second by Mrs. Serge.

Minutes were prepared by Borough Secretary Nancy Perri.

Nancy Perri
Signature

September 14, 2024
Date