

REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING OF GLASSPORT BOROUGH COUNCIL, JULY 18, 2023

The regular monthly meeting of Glassport Borough Council was called to order by Anthony Colecchi, President of Council.

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call: Handra, present; Kowalski, present; Nabors, present; Norelli, present; Trunzo, absent; Colecchi, present; Jr. Council Harmon, absent; Mayor DiMarco, present.

Prior to the meeting we had an Executive session to discuss personnel and receive information.

Public comments – Agenda Items only.

Toni Cregan - It is not a secret that I have been Emailing the office in regard to my opposition in selling the Sewage Treatment Plant. I have worked for several sewer authorities and I have attended many meetings about privatizing sewage plants and what it does to the community. I know we are one of the lowest rate payers in the region. I am wondering why there is only a usage increase and not a per unit flat fee attached to the bill.

Colecchi – We discussed that at our workshop last week, and we were advised to increase the volumetric fee and not the flat fee.

Skiba – We have been working with this company and our engineers, and they came up with an analysis of why we need to increase our rates and to what point they need to be increased. The first phases of reaching our Long Term Control Plan requirements is going to be approximately \$1.6 million to complete and this increase will cover that. At this rate, to meet all of our issues in our Capital Improvement Plan, our rates are going to be more than if we were to sell it to someone else.

Motion made by Handra second by Stecak to approve the Regular Monthly Meeting Minutes of June 20, 2023.

YES – 6 NO – 0 Motion Carried

Motion made by Kowalski second by Nabors to approve the Safety Meeting Minutes of June 28, 2028.

YES – 6 NO – 0 Motion Carried

Delinquent Taxes/Sewage and Administration – Councilman Angelo Norelli

Total Collections from MBM Collections for June	\$ 28,223.16
Year to Date Collections from MBM Collections for delinquent real estate tax	\$132,129.26
Total Delinquent Sewage Collections for June	\$ 45,887.78
Year to date collections	\$135,164.26

Public Works – Street and Sewage Departments – Mark Stecak

Monthly Public Works Department report was read.

Crime Watch, Parks & Recreation, GDC – Council Vice President Dave Kowalski

Bids for the fencing at the Ninth Street Park were opened on July 5, 2023.

Motion made by Norelli second by Kowalski to award the bid to Allegheny Fence for the park area only and to exclude the basketball court area in the amount of \$99,860.00.

YES – 6 NO – 0 Motion Carried

Motion made by Handra second by Nabors to donate \$200 to the Glassport Kickball League.

YES – 6 NO – 0 Motion Carried

Community Day will be held on Saturday, August 26 from Noon to 5:00 PM. There will be activities for kids and adults and then beginning at 6:00 PM there will be two bands on the Honor Roll.

Motion made by Nabors second by Handra to close the 400 block of Monongahela Ave. on August 26 from 11:00 AM until 5:00 PM for Community Day.

YES – 6 NO – 0 Motion Carried

The Car Show will be held on Saturday, September 9 from 11:00 AM – 5:00 PM. The American Legion will have a Pancake Breakfast from 8:00 to 11:00 and there will be entertainment on the Honor Roll. Time of this will be announced closer to the Car Show.

Buildings – Councilwoman Amy Nabors

Effective Monday, July 10, the Borough office will be closed to the public but appointments can be made to meet with the office staff. Anyone with concerns or questions can call the office Monday to Friday 8:00 to 4:00.

Communications – Kate Handra

I have no report.

Police Committee, Safety Committee/Building Inspector – Council President Anthony Colecchi

The next Safety Meeting will be on Thursday, July 20, at 3:00 PM. Bill Miller will conduct an update on the AED and basic first aid.

There was an Allegheny Together meeting on July 5. There has been a survey put out for residents and business owners. To date there have been approximately 200 responses to this. Allegheny Together will be at Community Day.

Police Report – Mayor Keith DiMarco

There were 1008 calls for service for the month of June, 2023.

Motion made by Kowalski second by Handra to advertise and test for a full-time officer.

YES – 6 NO – 0 Motion Carried

Borough Manager’s Report – Elaina Skiba

The Borough was awarded a CDBG grant for \$34,092 toward the walking track at the Ninth Street Park. After reviewing what the previous engineer submitted for this grant and discussing it with our new engineer, the cost is possibly \$62,000 and not the original \$128,000 that was submitted. I will contact the COG and see if the grant application can be revised. If that is acceptable, we will be able to fund the rest of the project from the Trust.

Due to information received last week, the Town Hall to discuss the future of the sewage plant that was scheduled for Tuesday, August 22 has been postponed. There are discussions that need to be had between the interested parties and the EPA. Once we receive the outcome of these talks, we will update the residents and reschedule the Town Hall.

Motion made by Kowalski second by Norelli to enter into an agreement with LC Deer Disposal, LLC for the removal and disposal of road killed deer in the Borough, pending receipt of additional insurance information, releasing the Borough of liability.

YES – 6 NO – 0 Motion Carried

Solicitor’s Report – Falco Muscante, Maiello, Brungo and Maiello, LLC

Motion made by Handra second by Stecak to adopt Ordinance 1226 establishing a Fats, Oils and Grease Program to limit discharge into the sanitary sewer system.

YES – 6 NO – 0 Motion Carried

Motion made by Kowalski second by Nabors to adopt Ordinance 1227 amending the Sewer Rental Charges to a charge of \$14.30 per one thousand (1,000) gallons or portion thereof. The cost for 1001 gallons and over, an additional charge of \$1.43 per hundred gallons(100) or portion thereof.

YES – 6 NO – 0 Motion Carried

Motion made by Stecak second by Nabors to adopt Ordinance 1228 amending the Peddling and Soliciting Ordinance regarding permitted hours and days imposing permit fees.

YES – 6 NO – 0 Motion Carried

Written Reports of Borough Officials:

Tax Collector – Jennifer Bell

Report Available upon request.

Treasurer’s Report – Elaina Skiba

Monthly Treasurer’s report was read.

Motion made by Norelli second by Kowalski to approve the Monthly Financial Reports.

YES – 6 NO – 0 Motion Carried

Motion made by Handra second by Stecak to approve and pay General Fund bills for June in the amount of \$255,427.64.

YES – 6 NO – 0 Motion Carried

Motion made by Handra second by Kowalski to approve and pay Sewer Revenue Fund bills for June in the amount of \$101,604.33.

YES – 6 NO – 0 Motion Carried

New Business:

Michael Wilbon has asked for use of the Honor Roll on Saturday, August 5 from 12:00 PM to 3:00PM. He plans to hand out backpacks filled with supplies to the kids. He is also looking to have food, games and other entertainment. He is asking that the block be closed off during this event.

Motion made by Handra second by Norelli to close the 400 block of Monongahela Avenue on August 5 from 12:00PM – 3:00 PM.

YES – 6 NO – 0 Motion Carried

Motion made by Kowalski second by Stecak to donate \$100 toward this event.

YES – 6 NO – 0 Motion Carried

Motion made by Nabors second by Handra to donate \$100 to the PNA Stuff the Bus event being held on August 13. They are collecting school supplies for students in South Allegheny School District.

YES – 6 NO – 0 Motion Carried

We have received the information for the Senior Farmers Market Nutrition Program. There will be 5/\$10 vouchers given to eligible Seniors. For more information, there are packets on the desk or in the Borough office. The list of distribution sites is also available.

Reminder to all department heads to contact office personnel to begin discussing your 2024 budget.

Public Comments:

Frank Sabolcik: Can we go into the abandoned properties and clean the weeds and garbage off of the properties on the main street. I would like to get a volunteer group together to come out on Saturday's to do this. There are also 3 or 4 trees that are dead that are borough property.

Skiba – The borough is doing everything we are supposed to get a hold of these property owners, get them cited to take care of their properties. We are not allowed to go onto someone's private property to clean it up. We have hired a landscaper to take care of some of these abandoned properties, but we can't afford to take care of them all.

DeVerse: I will tell you that most times the courts are not on our side. We do everything by the book and do what we are supposed to do, and the Common Pleas Judge throws it out.

Eze Emenike - I would like to use the Honor Roll for my band (Genesis Band) to play on the Honor Roll. I am looking at August 5.

Colecchi – August 5 is already booked, but you can get in touch with the office to see what is available.

Motion made by Handra second by Nabors to adjourn.

YES – 6 NO – 0 Motion Carried

Submitted by:

Approved by:

Andrea G. Foster
Borough Secretary

Anthony Colecchi
President of Council