**REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING**

**TUESDAY, AUGUST 18, 2020**

**7:00 P.M.**

**BOROUGH COUNCIL CHAMBERS**

**MINUTES**

**THE REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING OF THE GLASSPORT BOROUGH COUNCIL WAS CALLED TO ORDER BY THE PRESIDENT OF COUNCIL, ELAINA SKIBA.**

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**ROLL CALL: Colecchi, present; Handra, present; Hickman, present; Kowalski, present; Norelli, present; Trunzo, present; Skiba, present; Mayor DiMarco, present.**

**PUBLIC COMMENTS: (Agenda Items Only – Action Items Only)**

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

**Motion** to approve the Public Hearing for Demolitions held on July 20, 2020.

Motion: Kowalski seconded by Trunzo

Motion Carried.

**Motion** to approve the Minutes of the Regular Monthly Meeting held on July 21, 2020.

Motion: Hickman seconded by Kowalski

Motion Carried.

**Motion** to approve the Minutes of the Safety Committee held on Thursday, July 23, 2020.

Motion: Colecchi seconded by Norelli

Motion Carried.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**Fire Department/Senior Citizens Center – Paul Trunzo, Council/Chair**

Senior Center is not open and the fire hall there is nothing to report due to the Pandemic.

**Delinquent Taxes/Sewage and Administration - Angelo Norelli, Vice President/Chair**

**Delinquent Sewage Report for the Month of July, 2020 is $11,610.00 Total**

**$ 7,411.00 Penalty and Interest**

**$19,021.00 Total Collected**

**The year to date collected for delinquent sewage is…………………………..$ 88,707.31**

**Total Delinquent Sewage and Delinquent Charges collected to date is $157,111.07**

**The Delinquent Taxes for the Month of July, 2020…..$ 20,951.07**

**Year to Date Delinquent Taxes Collected…………………$133,814.31**

We will strive to up our delinquent and current tax collections.

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Residents are encouraged to take advantage of the 2% discount on paying the current school Real Estate Tax.

The Military Banner Program is in full swing. We have 218 Military Banners.

We continue to compile records in the middle office to be disposed of and have them shredded and that job is almost completed.

We have a new Policy and Procedure in place for the scanner and have added two new accounts to the scanner for the Payroll and Community Youth Center Accounts. First Commonwealth Bank is relocating to White Oak in December, 2020 and this was the reason for adding the two new accounts.

We are now taking temperature checks every day of the employees and recording them on a calendar sheet.

**Motion** that since the majority of the tax monies have been collected to pay back half of the tax anticipation loan in the amount of $125,000.

**Motion:** Trunzo seconded by Colecchi

Motion Carried.

**Police Department/Reality Tour, Crime Watch – David Kowalski, Chair/Council**

**Parks & Recreation - David Kowalski, Chair/Council**

**Crime Watch – National Night Out** will be held on Tuesday, October 6, 2020 at the Honor Roll at 6:30 p.m. We are planning on having this because all of the other events were cancelled in town and our first responders deserve recognition for one or two hours because of all the things that they do in the Borough with this virus going on.

One special event coming up – The Glassport Community Event Blood Drive. It is hosted by Senator Jim Brewster and Nick Pisciottano. It will be Friday, August 28, from Noon to 6:00 p.m., at the Citizen’s Hose Company No. 1 Banquet Hall. There is a way to make an appointment and it is on the flyer. There are fliers on the Council desk and some in the Borough Office.

**Communications – Kate Handra, Chair/Council Parks & Rec. Co-Chair Census Committee/Co-Chair**

This week is the last week for the summer Youth Café at St. John’s Youth Center.

Census ends on September 30. Banners and signs will go up next week. They are paid for by a grant from Jefferson Regional Organization. I made signs for Friday for the food truck to do Census Sign ups and also to Twister on the Mon. They said that I could sign people up there. Anyone who signs up for the Census gets $1 off on a sundae at that time. Food trucks are going all the way up until October 30.

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**Public Works – Street and Sewage Departments – Dennis Hickman, Council/Chair**

Street Department did a flagger safety class and everyone passed. They dated fire extinguishers, painted curbs on the main street from 5th to 8th. Also painted the fire station yellow lines, put up three handicapped signs in various spots, put up a sign at the Borough Building, cleaned out a room at the Borough Building, unloaded boxes at the Youth Center, put up two military banners, put the flags up for the Fourth of July, ran the street sweeper and vactor, cleaned the catch basins, filled the sub pump with fuel, put up new speed limit sign by Dollar Tree, cut weeds, cut the lots and the Youth Center, Police Station and Honor Roll, trimmed low tree branches around town and trimmed under trees and sidewalks on the main street, and repaired the belt on the tractor down at the baseball field.

**Municipal Buildings/Properties – Elaina Skiba, President of Council/Chair**

The Youth Center is starting September 8. The Youth Center will now be used by the YMCA along with the AIU. They will be housing approximately 20 children from 7:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Monday through Friday. I would like to ask for a motion. We currently have the building being cleaned just for the AIU downstairs at $15 a day and I would like to ask for a motion to raise that to $20 a day. Also included in that there will have to be cleaning added to the upstairs Monday through Friday and since that is a larger area, I would like to ask for a motion for that to be $25 a day.

**Motion:** Handra seconded by Norelli

Motion Carried.

Art Patel has received his building permit and he will be breaking ground at the end of this week.

We do have a Community Benefit Trust meeting tomorrow in Clairton. The trust will be voting on the projects that were submitted for review by Lincoln and Port Vue. The Glassport projects will not be submitted until the end of August. As of right now, we have the engineer working on putting air conditioning at the Youth Center, Camera Truck for the Borough, we have two demolitions of blighted properties, we have the rehab of the Honor Roll, and we have a generator for the fire department and a side by side for the first responders. We still have a lot left in that account – once these grants are all done and submitted and approved, if there are other suggestions, Council is more than welcome to hear from anyone on thoughts and ideas.

CDBG Year 47 Program Grant – This is due the end of September, 2020.

This is for projects including demolition, sewer and water and recreation.

We need something concrete to be submitted. If I don’t get any suggestions, we will just apply for demolitions again or possibly sewer relining.

**Safety Committee/Building Inspector – Anthony Colecchi, Council/Chair**

Safety Committee met with East Coast Risk Management on July 23. There were 9 in attendance. Topics discussed were hydrogen sulfide protection and protection against lightning hazards and how to protect against when lightning strikes. Flagger training was conducted for public works along with the summer help. There was 100% attendance and everyone passed the test to become certified flaggers.

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The next Safety Committee Meeting will be held on Thursday, August 27, 2020 @ 2:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers.

The building inspector report is available upon request at the Borough Office.

I have taken a project on to make sure that landlords are in compliance of our residential rental ordinance that live outside of a 15 miles radius have a manager within that radius. We have identified 71 landlords outside of that radius and 35 were out of compliance. Letters were sent to the 35 and a few replied and were taken care of accordingly. The next step will be to send out a citation to those who didn’t respond or who do not want to comply. I am also in the process of identifying properties that filled out an affidavit of vacancy that are renting out the property anyway. In double checking my list, we will have a complete report on this in September.

**Mayor Keith DiMarco Census Committee Chair**

**Glassport Police Department Operation Report for July, 2020**

Vehicle Maintenance

Vehicle Date Amount Invoice Vendor Repair Description

15 UM 7/29/2020 $ 63.00 9857 Paul’s Inspection/Emission

16 Utility 7/6/2020 $ 114.95 9808 Paul’s Oil Change Recharge AC

7/14/2020 $ 440.00 1013619 Flynn’s 4 Tires

7/15/2020 $ 80.00 9822 Paul’s Mount & Balance Tires

17 Utility 7/2/2020 $ 164.81 9802 Paul’s Inspection Oil Change

19 Utility 7/27/2020 $ 39.95 9846 Paul’s Oil Change

Vehicle Mileage

Vehicle End Mileage Miles Used Calls for Service 568

15 UM 39,655 1,068 Arrests 24

16 Utility 95,390 1,216 Reportable Offenses 32

17 Utility 60,303 1,530 Warrant Arrests 11

19 Utility 18,806 885 Traffic Stops 33

20 Utility 3,287 841 Citations Issued 24

Total Miles 5,530 Non-Traffic Citations 26

Ordinance Citations 20

Parking Meters $ 52.50 Ordinance Complaints 36

Parking Violations $ 340.00 Reportable Accidents 5

Magistrate Court Report Non-Reportable Accidents 4

Other/Misc. $ 41.10

Ordinances $2,059.38 Notes: July UCR Reports Available

Crimes Code $1,347.16 Upon Request

Vehicle Code $ 965.28

Clerk of Courts $1,335.22\*

Report Fees $ 150.00\*

Magistrate Fines $4,412.92\*

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Parking/Meter $ 392.50\*

Total $6,290.64

Councilman Kowalski has a commemorative plaque for Officer Kiggins if anyone wants to take a look at it.

Talked with Elvis Electric and he will be building back behind the police station. He is going to need a lead way to get to the sewage and water and it needs to be between the hillside and the policedepartment parking lot. He sent out an email to everybody to let them know exactly what needs to be done.

**WRITTEN REPORTS OF BOROUGH OFFICIALS:**

**Tax Collector – Jennifer Bell – Report Available Upon Request**

**Collections for the Month of July, 2020 - $129,326.70**

**Treasurer’s Report – Rosanna DiMarco – Report Available Upon Request**

**Financial Report – Elaina Skiba, President of Council**

**Motion** to approve the Monthly Financial Report for July, 2020.

Motion: Hickman seconded by Norelli

Motion Carried.

**Motion** to approve and pay General Fund bills for July, 2020 in the amount of $455,366.04

Motion: Colecchi seconded by Norelli

Motion Carried.

**Motion** to approve and pay Sewer Revenue bills for July, 2020 in the amount of $48,454.57.

Motion: Kudla seconded by Hickman

Motion Carried.

Deed Transfers – 18 (200 Ohio, 204 Monongahela, 327 N. Monongahela, 527 Vermont, 839 Vermont, 623 Allegheny, 625 Allegheny, 1008 Delaware, 712 Ohio, 430 Iowa, 843 Delaware, 427 Monongahela, 5 Monongahela, 609 9th Street, 2008 Washington, 41 Monongahela) 5 family or bank transfers – Total Deposited - $3,068.17

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

**Resolution No. 4 (7/21/2020) – Jr. Council Appointment – carried over to September 8 – Workshop 9/8/2020 – Interview @ 6:45 p.m. -The person who applied was not available this evening.**

**Advertised and received one applicant – Kasady Renae Burke – 637 Vermont Avenue – Senior SA**

**Ordinance to implement new addresses into 911 System**

**171 and 181 Patterson Way with entrance being on Washington Boulevard**

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**1003 Minnesota Avenue and 1003 Detroit Avenue (There were two 1003 Minnesota Avenues listed and one was changed to 1003 Detroit because all of their utility bills were going to this address).**

**The County has already been informed of this.**

**COMMUNICATIONS: Elaina Skiba, President of Council**

1. The Board Members of the Community Benefit Trust will hold two public meetings – one on Wednesday, August 19, 2020 at 7:00 p.m. The August Meeting will take place at the Clairton Municipal Building, located at 551 Ravensburg Blvd, Clairton, PA 15025. The September meeting will be held on September 30, 2020 at 7:00 p.m. The September meeting will take place at the Glassport Municipal building located at 440 Monongahela Avenue, Glassport, PA 15045. The meetings will be for considering and approving projects consistent with the Trust purposes that are proposed to be funded by the Trust. The listed communities must submit applications for consideration by the trust no later than 30 days before the public hearing.
2. The CDBG Year 47 (2021) Pre-Application information has been submitted to Council by the Steel Rivers COG. The deadline is September 4, 2020. All projects include demolition, sewer/water activities and recreation activities.
3. A Notice of Award for the CD45 CSO Regulator Improvement Project has been submitted to JETJACK, Inc., from the Steel Rivers COG. The amount of the bid award was $217,250.00.

We need to thank Senator Jim Brewster and Representative Bill Kortz. They were completely instrumental in getting us that funding for that project.

1. The CD45-3.12.24 Safe Neighborhood Demolition for 501 Monongahela Avenue was advertised for bids July 31 & August 7 by the Steel Rivers Council of Governments. The Bid Opening date is August 25, 2020 at 10:00 a.m. at the Steel Rivers COG office.
2. A cost estimate has been submitted by KLH Engineers for the PA Blight Remediation Program Grant to Steel Rivers COG for structure demolitions for the following structures:

**Address Parcel ID Asbestos Survey Results Action Estimated Cost**

403 Erie Avenue 467-L-80 No Asbestos Standard $ 9,000.00

508 Cypress Alley 467-R-123 Asbestos-Plaster Abate & Demolish $ 14,000.00

519 Delaware Ave. 467-S-8 No Asbestos Standard $ 9,000.00

641 Delaware Ave. 558-C-90 No Asbestos Standard $ 10,000.00

624 Indiana Ave.Frt 558-C-182 No Asbestos Standard $ 10,000.00

624 Indiana Ave. Rr 558-C-182 YTD YTD $ 15,000.00

900 Indiana Ave. 558-L-301 YTD YTD $ 15,000.00

730 Maryland Ave. 558-H-49 No Asbestos Standard $ 12,000.00

214 N. Monongahela 384-R-208 YTD YTD $ 15,000.00

216 N. Monongahela 384-R-210 YTD YTD $ 15,000.00

703 Vermont Ave. 558-C-378 YTD YTD $ 15,000.00

743 Vermont Ave. 558-G-296 Asbestos – Plaster Abate & Demolish $ 16,000.00

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813 Peach Alley 558-H-356 Asbestos Floor; Less than 160 ft 2 Standard $ 10,000.00

Engineer/Inspection $ 6,000.00

Total Costs $171,000.00

County of Allegheny – General Election will be held on Tuesday, November 3, 2020 and Allegheny County will return to its full complement of 1,323 polling places and intends to use the 800+ facilities that had been used previously, including ours. Our polling places will be up and running this election.

A new round of funding has been submitted for the Allegheny County Vacant Property Recovery Program. Applicants should contact (412)3350-1090 or [VPRP@AlleghenyCounty.us](mailto:VPRP@AlleghenyCounty.us) with any questions about the program. The program, from RAAC’s receipt of a complete application to closing, takes a minimum of 9-12 months.

KLH is preparing specs for demolition of 409 Ohio and 623 Delaware Avenue. Once the advertisement is prepared, they will submit it to the Borough and we can advertise this legally in the Valley Mirror. The funds for this are coming from the Community Benefits Trust.

**NEW BUSINESS: Elaina Skiba, President of Council**

Everyone has received a copy of the scanning procedures for the Borough General Fund and Sewage Checks. Need a motion to accept these procedures.

**Motion:** Norelli seconded by Colecchi

Motion Carried.

First Commonwealth Bank have instituted two new accounts into the scanner. We can now scan our Payroll check and Community Youth Center checks into the accounts and not have to make a trip to the White Oak branch. Need a motion to accept these two new accounts.

**Motion:** Norelli seconded by Kowalski

Motion Carried.

**CITIZENS COMPLAINTS AND REQUESTS:**

Mr. & Mrs. Butler – 514 Monongahela Avenue, Glassport, PA 15045

Elaina Skiba, President of Council, said she invited them here tonight regarding the Sidewalk Sale that has been going on – there were a few people that gave comment on this and it wasn’t really favorable. Could we do something to limit the people coming into the building or have a line and wait outside if that would help.

Mr. Butler said we are not getting as much traffic for the thrift store. Most of the traffic is for the food bank. Up until recently we haven’t had the thrift store outside. The reason we didn’t is because of the COVID. If we could redirect the food bank traffic in some way – anyway that we could to be helpful.

Elaina Skiba, President of Council, said we are getting complaints on the racks of clothing outside.

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I know that there is nothing we can do with the food bank given the volume that is down there.

Mr. Butler said we are working on some solutions in that area. We do have the back area of that building where we could congregate a lot of the people to keep them off of the main street. We are looking into doing something like that.

Elaina Skiba said that would be truly appreciated.

Mr. Butler said I am not sure who picks up my garbage. They haven’t been picking up my garbage at all. We have one dumpster that has been assigned to the food bank, so our building doesn’t have a dumpster. We just have garbage cans. We recently replaced some mattresses to that facility and I can’t get someone to pick up the mattresses and I didn’t want it to become a hassle or get cited. How can I get this picked up?

Elaina said we can call tomorrow and find out what the situation is with Waste Management.

Mr. Butler said I think part of the confusion was the food bank ordered the dumpster from Bigs because the buildings are tied together.

Angelo Norelli, Council, asked “Do you have an account with Waste Management?”

Mr. Butler said no we haven’t.

Dennis Hickman, Council, said you are going to have to get an account set up with Waste Management or you can get your own dumpster.

Mr. Butler said we now get picked up twice a week on the Food Bank side, but the problem is we have a small dumpster and they are saying if it is not in the dumpster, they won’t pick it up. The problem I have is having these things sitting in the yard.

Elaina Skiba said we will get you fixed up with Waste Management. You had expressed some interest in the lot next door. The only thing is the application would have to be filled out by Peggy.

Mrs. Butler said her desire was to move that Thrift Shop into something bigger but I don’t see any for rent signs in any of the buildings.

Elaina said if you see any buildings that you are interested in, I can put you in touch with the gentleman from the Glassport Development Corporation and he can get you some contact information.

Robert March thanked Mr. Colecchi and Mr. DeVerse for cleaning up the stadium. It really looks good and all of the rubbish is gone.

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Motion to adjourn to the call of the chair.

**Motion:**  Trunzo seconded by Norelli

Motion Carried.

**Submitted by: Approved by:**

**Nancy M. Piazza-Whaby Elaina Skiba**

**Borough Secretary President of Council**

**Borough of Glassport Borough of Glassport**

**Dated: September 8, 2020**