

Borough of Union Dale

Council minutes

December 4, 2023

Pledge of Allegiance:

Attendance: Mayor Teri Madrid, Council President Ann Marie Saam, Vice President Donna Tedesco, Council members; Mike Fortuner, John Stephens, and Tom Yale. Secretary, Diane Gomola.

Public Comment: Each person will have 5 minutes to make comments, comments only taken from Union Dale residents and those paying taxes to the Borough.

Minutes of previous meeting: Motion to approve: Donna, 2nd Mike, all in favor, motion passed.

Correspondence received since last meeting will be read aloud for consideration:

- Notice from Edward Jones: renewed 6 month CD IS NOW A 9 MONTH
- All 3 accounts total: \$118,897.78
- PA Dept of labor Solvency election for relief
- FC Library- looking for donation Motion to donate \$50 to FC Library: Donna, 2nd Ann Marie, all in favor, motion passed.

Receipts:

- Berkheimer EIT \$301.21 \$
- Berkheimer EIT \$998.08
- Berkheimer EIT \$799.18
- Berkheimer EIT \$1,127.33
- Berkheimer EIT \$787.61
- Joe Svecz \$210.68
- State PA liquor license \$150.00
- Susq Cnty elections \$50.00

LIQUID FUELS DDA

#123 Prince Excavating LLC \$4,059.00

Treasurer's report:

- Gen Fund DDA \$ \$60,921.42
- Gen Fund MMDA \$\$ 154,163.45
- Liquid fuels Gen DDA \$ 10,106.99
- Liquid fuels MMDA \$ 20,853.91

- Sewer CD HNB \$ 53,431.15
- ED JONES \$118,897.78 (total for all 3)

BILLS:

- DEBIT Amazon Hard drive & paper \$63.77
- 1572 SWIF \$4.00
- 1573 Anthony Guglielmo laptop repair \$75.00
- 1574 Diana Patton Number Made Easy \$650.00 (start QB conversion)
- #1575 PPL \$639.42 ** Motion to amend agenda AND to pay PPL street lighting bill in full in the amount of \$1,218.64 to take it out of past due: Mike, 2nd Donna, all in favor, motion passed.
- 1576 PPL \$58.74
- 1577 Diane Gomola \$425.03
- 1578 Joe Svecz \$8.15
- 1579 AnnMarie Saam \$69.55
- 1580 Donna Tedesco \$69.55
- 1581 Tom Yale \$69.55
- 1582 John Stephens \$69.55
- 1583 Mike Fortuner \$69.55
- 1584 Teri Madrid \$69.55
- 1585 John Bonham Street Signs \$62.10 (stop sign on Norton Hill Rd)

Motion to pay bills: AnnMarie, 2nd John, all in favor, motion passed.

Borough Reports:

- Mayor report- none. Mayor given copy of the swearing in oath to use for upcoming January reorganization meeting of new council members.
- Committee Reports- none

New Business:

- 2024 Estimated Budget- Open discussion. Council makes decision to increase the amount of 7 line items: the annual audit, legal wages/salary, secretarial supplies, Treasurer bond, building utilities, building repair & maintenance & snow removal, increasing the estimated 2024 budget by \$5,983.00. Motion to approve 2024 estimated budget: John, 2nd Donna, all in favor, motion passed.
- Review Election Results- Open discussion.
- A form from Susquehanna County Election Board dated, November 2022 advising then borough secretary to submit information & names of anyone seeking re-election or those wishing to be on the ballot was read to council. The deadline to submit was January of 2023, so that names would appear on the ballot. It is the ultimate

responsibility of those wishing to run for council to complete their separate intention to run forms. At present the new secretary is unable to confirm what happened that the November 2023 ballot only said "Vote for 3" as well as Tom Yale, up for re-election. There were open auditor positions also. Several names were write-in votes. These people received a notice from the election board with instructions for completing with a December 9 deadline. Once the deadline has passed the council will be notified of individuals who accept the position as well as *which* position. The council will be fully prepared for the January 2, 2024, re-organization meeting.

- Councilman Mike Fortuner added information for the auditor based on Title 8 Guide. The auditors shall meet the day after council. The suggested current rate of pay is \$10.00 /hour not to exceed \$1,000 for a borough of our size (population based) Councilman Mike adds that Pennsylvania minimum wage goes up to \$11.00/ hour January 1, 2024. It is unclear at this time if the Title 8 pay rate for auditor will be changed. Educational guide for the new, as well as current auditors, is a free download and can be found at:

[DCED.gov](https://www.dced.gov)

Diane will check with the DCED to see IF any in person local trainings will be offered. The guide can simply be printed out so auditors can have a reference with them any time they need it.

Auditors attending in person training will be reimbursed per mile, if there is a fee, it will be covered by the Borough. Most training courses are now via webinars or Team Meet on your computer where you can view the instructor live at a specific date and time.

- The secretary was reminded that a notice of the approved budget, as well as new meeting time needs to be submitted to Forest City News.
- Motion to transfer \$10,000.00 from Liquid Fuels money market to the Liquid Fuels general fund: John, 2nd by Donna. All in favor, motion passed.

Unfinished BUSINESS:

Norton Hill Rd- progress of job- Tom assigned to go check out Norton Hill Road as it was a difficult labor-intensive job, and we were told the power was temporarily out due to unavoidable large old tree limb removal. Once Norton Hill is deemed complete, we will submit payment to the vendor.

Motion needed to approve 6:30 PM start time of meeting in 2024- Motion to change regular council meeting to a 6:30 start time made by John, 2nd by Donna. All in favor, motion passed.

Motion to adjourn meeting John, 2nd Mike.

NEXT MEETING

ANNUAL RE-ORGANIZATION

Tuesday January 2, 2024 @ **6:30 PM**

