

BOROUGH OF ST. LAWRENCE
MEETING MINUTES
Thursday, December 19, 2024

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting of the St. Lawrence Borough Council was called to order at 7:31 PM by Council President Mr. Robert J. May, on Thursday, December 19, 2024.

ROLL CALL: Council President Robert May did roll call; the following members were present; Robert J. May, Council President, David W. Eggert, Council Vice President, Steve Geibel, Member, Rev. D. Michael Bennethum, Member, Warren Lubenow, Corrie Zana, Borough Mayor, Borough Engineer Pamela Stevens, Derrek Rhoads, Roadmaster, Allison Leinbach, Borough Manager /Treasurer, Amanda Muso, Borough Secretary. Council Member Michael Fritz, Council Member Gregory Zawilla, and Borough Solicitor Joan London were absent from tonight's meeting.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES: The minutes from the November 14 council meeting were presented to the Council for review. There were no corrections or additions.

MOTION: Warren Lubenow made the motion to approve the minutes as presented; seconded by Steve Geibel; all were in favor so the motion carried.

APPROVAL AND PAYMENT OF THE BILLS: All bills requiring payment and ratification up to and including December 17, 2024, were presented to Council prior to the meeting for review. Bills requiring payment and ratification from the general fund up until December 17, 2024 totaled \$873,978.59; sewer fund totaled \$11,874.12; liquid fuels fund totaled \$1,654.67; fire tax fund totaled \$0.00; EMS tax fund totaled \$0.00.

MOTION: Dave Eggert made the motion authorizing payment and ratification of all bills presented; seconded by Warren Lubenow; all were in favor and so the motion carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT: The treasurer's report was presented to Council prior to the meeting for review. There were no questions, corrections or clarifications to the report.

MOTION: Dave Eggert made the motion to approve the treasurer's report as presented and file it for audit; seconded by Warren Lubenow; all were in favor and the motion carried.

GENERAL: \$404,938.11 **SEWER:** \$247,909.50 **RESERVES:** \$198,439.94 **LIQUID FUELS:** \$128,919.63 **FIRE TAX:** \$5,715.09
EMS TAX FUND: \$1,428.72; **TOTAL FUND BALANCE:** \$987,350.99

PUBLIC COMMENT: Mr. K. Stunz and Mr. G. Siegel, members of the POSA, were in attendance. They had questions regarding the POSA moving from the 3540 St. Lawrence Ave. building to the 135 N. Prospect St. building. They have an auctioneer coming in January to inventory/sell some of the club's memorabilia and wanted to know a time frame of when they needed to be vacated from the old Borough Hall. Council decided that they could have until the end of February 2025 unless the building is not sold by then. If the sale of the building goes past the end of February, they would also have their timeline extended. They will be in contact with Roadmaster, Derrek Rhoads on pictures/memorabilia that can be hung at the new location.

They also discussed the flag drop box being brought over to the new location; the box will be located outside of the new building.

The free library book exchange box will also be brought over and placed at the new building.

REPORT OF THE BOROUGH ENGINEER - PAMELA STEVENS, SDE

Pamela Stevens submitted her report which was added to council's packet for review prior to the meeting. Pamela gave an update regarding the MORE Grant. The grant has been approved to carry over to the new building. Pamela is also working with a company that will make putting in the pole barn a smooth process in the future. The plan and budget for the pole barn are in the works. SDE will submit the plans for the new building. The property needs to have a site survey completed in order to move forward.

A Motion to amend the agenda was made by Dave Eggert; followed by Warren Lubenow; all were in favor and so the agenda is to be amended for the following motion.

MOTION: Allow SDE to initiate work including paperwork and survey to start the process of the garage but not to exceed \$4,000.00. The motion was made by Dave Eggert; seconded by Rev Bennethum; all were in favor and so the motion passed.

SEO is continuing to work with and follow up on the complaints involving 170 N. Bingaman St. Investigations are ongoing.

REPORT OF THE BOROUGH SOLICITOR – JOAN LONDON, KOZLOFF STOUTD

Borough Solicitor Joan London was absent from the meeting.

REPORT OF THE BOROUGH MAYOR - CORRINE ZANA

Mayor Zana submitted her report prior to the meeting which has been added into council's packet for review. There was no Police Commission in December. Baskets from the borough were made and sent to individual officers at CBP as an appreciation. The Woman's Club of St Lawrence also sponsored "Shop with a Cop" on December 10th.

PUBLIC WORKS - DERREK RHOADS

Derrek Rhoads submitted his report which was added to council's packet for review prior to the meeting. It has been a very busy month moving into the new borough hall. Security, fire, and communications systems are up and running. Trucks have been prepped and are ready for the winter months. Met-Ed is continuing to take down the poles and towers on the borough property. They should soon be done with our portion of this project.

PLANNING COMMISSION

The Planning Commission does not have any new business to discuss.

JOINT COMPREHENSIVE PLAN: Borough residents are encouraged to take the comprehensive survey for the area

ZONING AND CODE ENFORCEMENT: ALLISON LEINBACH, BOROUGH MANAGER

A resident of the Borough was given an application for Zoning to be able to put a shed on his property line. Once that application is complete, the zoning committee will schedule a hearing.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: NONE

NEW BUSINESS

MOTION: To approve the Final 2025 Budgets, as presented, for the General Fund, Sewer Fund, Liquid Fuels Fund, Fire Tax Fund, and EMS Tax Fund.

The motion was made by Dave Eggert; seconded by Rev. Bennethum; all were in favor so the motion carried.

MOTION: To request from Exeter Township School District a refund of \$9,297.59 in school taxes paid by the Borough at settlement for 135 N. Prospect St

The motion was made by Dave Eggert; seconded by Warren Lubenow; all were in favor so the motion carried.

MOTION: To approve the payment of 1/3 of the expenses when the bill is presented for payment up to \$3,600.00 for the repair of a shared backhoe with AVMA and Mt. Penn

The motion was made by Dave Eggert; seconded by Warren Lubenow; all were in favor and so the motion carried.

MOTION: To ratify the advertisement of ordinance 459 Repeal Volunteer Service Tax credit – Establish Fire Response Stipend

The motion was made by Dave Eggert; seconded by Rev. Bennethum; Steve Geibel voted against it however, majority were in favor so the motion carried

MOTION: To adopt Ordinance 459 Repeal Volunteer Service Tax credit – Establish Fire Response Stipend

The motion was made by Dave Eggert; seconded by Rev. Bennethum; Steve Geibel voted against it however, majority were in favor so the motion carried

MOTION: To adopt Ordinance 458 Setting Tax Millage General Fund and Fire Tax Fund

The motion was made by Dave Eggert; seconded by Warren Lubenow; all were in favor and so the motion carried

MOTION: To approve Resolution 906-2024 Setting 2025 EMS Tax Millage

Motion was made by Dave Eggert; seconded by Steve Geibel; all were in favor so the motion carried

MOTION: To approve Resolution 907-2024 Appoint David Smith for a 3-year term to the Zoning Hearing Board

Motion was made by Dave Eggert; seconded by Steve Geibel; all were in favor so the motion carried

MOTION: To set and approve the Employee wages for 2025 with a 3.5% increase.

Motion was made by Rev. Bennethum; seconded by Steve Geibel; Dave Eggert abstained; the majority were in favor and so the motion carried.

MOTION: To authorize the advertisement of the 2025 Meeting Schedule for Borough Council, Planning Commission, and the Zoning Hearing Board

Dave Eggert made the motion; seconded by Rev. Bennethum; all were in favor so the motion carried

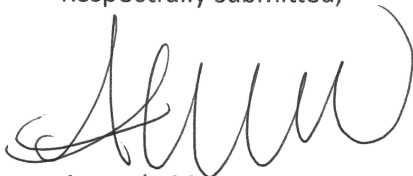
MOTION: To approve Resolution 905-2024 appointing Randy Weidner of REMAX of Reading as the sales agent, with the attached fee schedule, for the Borough property at 3540 St. Lawrence Ave.

The motion was made by Dave Eggert; seconded by Warren Lubenow; all were in favor and the motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT:

MOTION: Dave Eggert made the motion to adjourn; seconded by Warren Lubenow; all were in favor and the motion carried. The meeting of the St. Lawrence Borough Council adjourned at 8:46 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Amanda Muso', written in a cursive style.

Amanda Muso
Borough Secretary

ST. LAWRENCE BOROUGH COUNCIL
12/19/24