

**BOROUGH OF ST. LAWRENCE  
MEETING MINUTES  
THURSDAY, OCTOBER 13, 2022**

**CALL TO ORDER:** The meeting of the St. Lawrence Borough Council was called to order by Council President, Mr. Robert J. May, at 7:30 PM on Thursday, October 13, 2022.

**ROLL CALL:** Mr. May did roll call and the following members and professionals were present; Mr. Robert J. May, Council President, Mr. David W. Eggert, Council Vice President, Mr. Michael Fritz, Member, Mr. Steve Geibel, Member, Mr. Warren Lubenow, Member, Mr. Gregory Zawilla, Member, Mr. Ty Leinneweber, Borough Engineer, SDE, Ms. Joan London, Borough Solicitor, Kozloff Stoudt, Ms. Allison Leinbach, Borough Manager, Mr. Derrek Rhoads, Road Master and Mrs. Susan Eggert, Borough Secretary. Those absent include Rev. D. Michael Bennethum, Member and Mr. Barrie Kinsey, Borough Mayor.

**APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES:** The minutes from the Thursday, September 8, 2022, meeting were distributed to members of Council prior to the meeting for review. There were no questions, corrections or clarifications to the minutes. **MOTION:** Mr. David Eggert made the motion to approve the minutes as presented; seconded by Mr. Warren Lubenow; all were in favor and the motion carried.

**APPROVAL AND PAYMENT OF THE BILLS:** All bills requiring payment and ratification were presented to Council prior to the meeting for review. Bills requiring payment and ratification from the general fund total \$175,981.71. Bills requiring payment and ratification from the sewer fund total \$58,260.97. Bills requiring payment and ratification from the liquid fuels fund total \$15,340.04. There were no questions about the bills presented for payment and ratification. **MOTION:** Mr. Lubenow made the motion authorizing payment and ratification of all bills presented; seconded by Mr. Eggert; all were in favor and 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 and Ms. Leinbach indicated that the treasurer's report could be approved as presented and filed for audit. **MOTION:** Mr. Eggert made the motion to approve the treasurer's report as presented and file it for audit; seconded by Mr. Michael Fritz; all were in favor and the motion carried.

**GENERAL:** \$566,786.46 **RESERVE:** \$83,308.08 **SEWER:** \$64,821.40 **LIQUID FUELS:** \$259,591.13 **FIRE TAX:** \$9,183.76

**REPORT OF THE BOROUGH ENGINEER - TY LEINNEWEBER**

**DANIEL MOLNAR** - Mr. Leinneweber reviewed Ms. Leinbach's zoning review letter and agreed with everything stated in the letter. Ms. London indicated that she has had a conversation with Mr. Molnar's attorney, Attorney Muvdi with regard to what is being required as far as codes, variances and so forth. The main thing that needs to be done is floodplain compliance. We are expecting to receive more information from Mr. Molnar in the near future with regard to his zoning review letter.

**REPORT OF THE BOROUGH SOLICITOR - JOAN LONDON**

**RESOLUTION 866-2022** - Resolution 866-2022 addresses Act 57 which addresses First year homeowners and not receiving their tax bills timely or not at all and only having to pay nothing more

than the flat rate. This is state law and needs to be adopted. A copy of the resolution is included in the minutes for review. **MOTION:** Mr. Eggert made the motion to adopt Resolution 866-2022; seconded by Mr. Lubenow; all were in favor and the motion carried.

**PA AMERICAN** – Ms. London indicated that there has been a settlement with PA American and the PUC with regards to sewer rates. PA American initially was going to charge 43 cents and with the Borough's argument and documentation the PUC and PA American has settled for 40 cents which is a win for the Borough. We do know that there will most likely be an increase in sewer rates with PA American every year but this is a great place to start.

#### **PUBLIC WORKS**

Mr. Rhoads report was available for review. The Borough has successfully gotten another 5- year waiver for the MS 4 stormwater permitting.

#### **BUDGET & FINANCE**

The budget meeting is scheduled for Monday, November 7<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 AM at Borough Hall. This was voted on at the September meeting and Mrs. Eggert will advertise this month.

#### **PLANNING COMMISSION**

The Planning Commission sent a letter to Borough Council requesting that they deny the land development plan submitted for 3001 Perkiomen Avenue. This plan was submitted in 2021 and included in the minutes is the review letter sent to the applicant on 5/26/21 with no action taken on the items listed that needed to be addressed. The applicant has also never asked for an extension and therefore this should be denied based on no action. **MOTION:** Mr. Lubenow made the motion to deny the land development plan submitted for 3001 Perkiomen Avenue in 2021; seconded by Mr. Eggert; all were in favor and the motion carried.

#### **LIBRARY LIAISON**

The library is holding their large book sale tomorrow, Friday, October 14.

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

**RESOLUTION 867-2022** - Resolution 867-2022 updates the fee schedule. The fee schedule updates include road opening fees as well as sewer rates. Mr. Rhoads also indicated that there is a problem with UGI and other utilities creating bores in the roadway for exploratory purposes. It was discussed and a fee will be added to the fee schedule for \$100 per bore hole so that the Borough can fill those holes.

**MOTION:** Mr. Eggert made the motion to approve Resolution 867-2022 updated fee schedule including the added fee of \$100 per bore hole under road opening fees; seconded by Mr. Steve Geibel; all were in favor and the motion carried.

**RESOLUTION 868-2022** – Resolution 868-2022 agrees to option year 2023 of the 2018 RFP for fire protection with Exeter Fire and Mt. Penn fire at a millage rate of 0.68 mills fire tax. **MOTION:** Mr. Eggert made the motion to adopt Resolution 868-2022; seconded by Mr. Michael Fritz; all were in favor and the motion carried.

**DISBURSEMENT OF FOREIGN FIRE INSURANCE MONIES** - The foreign fire insurance money this year totals \$10,285.72. As per the RFP this gets split 50/50 between Exeter Fire and Mt. Penn Fire which gives each company \$5,142.86 to their respective relief associations. **MOTION:** Mr. Lubenow made the motion to disburse the foreign fire insurance monies 50/50 between Exeter Fire and Mt. Penn Fire; seconded by Mr. Fritz; all were in favor and the motion carried.

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**ARL** - The new contract with ARL for 2023 at the same tier level as 2022 will now be \$2.50 per capita based on the new census. Mr. May commented that sticking with the ARL and the same tier after the response that we received with the rabies issues earlier this year would absolutely be the right thing to do; everyone was in agreement. This contract gets signed via Docu-sign and Ms. Leinbach will sign.

**MOTION:** Mr. Eggert made the motion to enter into the same tier level as 2022 with the ARL at a price of \$2.50 per capita and authorized Ms. Leinbach to sign the contract via Docu-sign; seconded by Mr. Lubenow; all were in favor and the motion carried.

**RESOLUTION 869-2002** – Resolution 869-2022 names Ms. Sarah Busch from Exeter Township as the primary delegate to the Tax Collection Committee and Ms. Allison Leinbach as the alternate. **MOTION:** Mr. Eggert made the motion to adopt Resolution 869-2022; seconded by Mr. Fritz; all were in favor and the motion carried.

**2022 CONTRIBUTIONS** – There are four contributions that the Borough will make this year. The first contribution is a budgeted item to the Exeter Library at a \$5.00 per person fee which would be a contribution of \$9,460.00; other contributions to be made are for Berks County Conservation District, Berks County Solid Waste Authority and Crime Alert Berks all for \$250.00. **MOTION:** Mr. Eggert made the motion to authorize the above contributions for 2022; seconded by Mr. Lubenow; all were in favor and the motion carried.

#### **GENERAL COMMENTS TO COUNCIL**

**WOMEN'S CLUB** – Mr. Lubenow indicated that he was contacted by the Women's Club and asked if they would be allowed to sell out of the room upstairs for the November election. Mr. Rhoads said that his only concern was the entrance and exiting that is set up for election and that if they could stick to the same methods that should not be a problem. Keeping the stairwells open and using the elevator and/ or exiting from the front of the building. Mrs. Eggert indicated that she will discuss this with the Women's Club at the upcoming board meeting. **MOTION:** Mr. Eggert made the motion allowing the Women's Club to sell out of the meeting room upstairs on election day as long the entrance and exiting is done as laid out; seconded by Mr. Fritz; all were in favor and the motion carried.

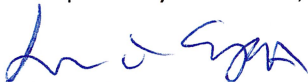
**BERKS MUNICIPAL PARTNERSHIP** – Mr. Lubenow indicated that he attended the meeting. The topic of discussion was development issues which did not really pertain to the Borough since we are basically built out.

**TRAISSER** – Mr. Fritz asked whether or not we are up and running with Traiser. Ms. Leinbach indicated that there is a scheduled meeting with them next week. We are very close to being up and running, however there are a few bugs that they are still trying to work out.

**SALT** – Mr. May asked whether or not we have had salt delivered yet. Mr. Rhoads indicated that we have and the salt shed is full.

**ADJOURNMENT: MOTION:** Mr. Lubenow made the motion to adjourn; seconded by Mr. Fritz; all were in favor and the motion carried. The meeting of the St. Lawrence Borough Council adjourned at 8:09 PM.

Respectfully submitted,



Susan D. Eggert  
Borough Secretary