

**BOROUGH OF ST. LAWRENCE**  
**MEETING MINUTES**  
**Thursday, May 9, 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, May 9, 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, Michael Fritz, Member, Steve Geibel, Member, Warren Lubenow, Member, Corrie Zana, Borough Mayor, Derrek Rhoads, Roadmaster, Allison Leinbach, Borough Manager /Treasurer, Borough Solicitor Joan London, and Susan Eggert, Assistant Borough Secretary. Borough Engineer Pamela Stevens, Rev. D. Michael Bennethum, Member, Gregory Zawilla, Member were all absent for tonight's meeting. Borough Secretary, Amanda Muso arrived late to the meeting.

**APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES:** The minutes from the previous meeting, were presented to Council for review. There was no corrections or questions. **MOTION:** David Eggert made the motion to approve the minutes as presented; seconded by Warren Lubenow; all were in favor so the motion carried.

**APPROVAL AND PAYMENT OF THE BILLS:** All bills requiring payment and ratification up to and including May 8, 2024 were presented to Council prior to the meeting for review. Bills requiring payment and ratification from the general fund up until May 8, 2024 totaled \$160,210.26; sewer fund totaled \$15,216.89; liquid fuels fund totaled \$3,318.17; fire tax fund totaled \$32,700.13; EMS tax fund totaled \$21,015.21.

**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.

**GARAGE GRANT FUNDS:** The Public Works Grant money requested by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania has been returned. The interest credited upon closing of the account totaled in the amount of \$577.91. This remainder of money was granted to the borough for administration fees, and will be transferred into the borough general fund account. The Public Works account will then be fully closed.

**MOTION:** Dave Eggert made the motion to approve the transfer of funds then close the account; seconded by Warren Lubenow. All were in favor 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:** Michael Fritz made the motion to approve the treasurer's report as presented and file it for audit; seconded by Dave Eggert; all were in favor and the motion carried.

**GENERAL:** \$639,576.95 **SEWER:** \$137,478.87 **RESERVES:** \$193,975.75 **LIQUID FUELS:** \$296,057.44 **FIRE TAX:** \$7,583.09  
**PW GARAGE GRANT:** \$0.00; **EMS TAX FUND:** \$3,847.01; **TOTAL FUND BALANCE:** \$1,278,519.11

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** There were no public comments made, however there are public concerns that were brought to council.

Election Day Observation: It was noted that the St. Lawrence Woman's club was selling items too close to the entrance/exit door of the building. There was a tripping hazard due to their location of tables. The borough will send the Woman's Club a letter with the exact location of where they will be allowed to sell in the future.

There were two borough residents that did trip on election day. Neither were injured, however the borough along with the engineer will be discussing and designing a new plan for the bottom entrance of the building. The new plan will be better fitted for handicap accessibility as well as comply with ADA guidelines.

#### **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. Included in the report was that before a garage is placed or built, the property must have the residence completed first.

The floodplain ordinance will continue, more work will continue when the weather permits. The borough and Engineer will review the existing Ordinance with hopes of a revised Ordinance. Updates will be discussed at the Planning commission meeting on May 22, 2024. There were no questions, comments, or concerns with her report.

#### **REPORT OF THE BOROUGH SOLICITOR – JOAN LONDON, KOZLOFF STOUDT**

The tax-exempt status of Goodwill will remain until next year. The Exeter school district decided it was in the best interest to withdraw their appeal, the borough was linked to the appeal and so the borough will also be withdrawing. In an article, Goodwill will now be taking electronic donations of all types. Anything that is not sold will be sent to recycling.

**PUC-PA AMERICAN WATER** The PUC published their findings on May 7, 2024, which stated that they feel as though the Borough of St. Lawrence does not pay enough and will be increasing their special customer charge to \$465.50 per month. PUC has decided that the borough should be placed in Zone 1 which increases our customer rate to 4X the amount that we are currently paying without a reasonable explanation. Council has decided to file exceptions and appeal this rate increase on behalf of the borough.

A motion was made to formally file an appeal to the PUC. Dave Eggert made the motion; seconded by Steve Geibel; all were in favor. There was another motion made to allow Joan, Borough Solicitor, to send a 1<sup>st</sup> letter of discussion to PA American Water. The motion was made by Steve Geibel; seconded by Dave Eggert; all were in favor.

#### **REPORT OF THE BOROUGH MAYOR - CORRINE ZANA**

The Police Commission awarded Dave Eggert and Duane Ziolkowski, from St. Lawrence, the Civilian Service Award. These two residents jumped into action involving an incident that occurred on St. Lawrence Ave. in February.

**PUBLIC WORKS - DERREK RHOADS**

Derrek Rhoads submitted his report which was added to council’s packet for review prior to the meeting. Included in the report was the work done on the bridge. Two metal plates have been installed in the bridge among other upgrades. The next bridge inspection will be in September. The drone footage has been released; we now have an in-depth view into the borough lands.

**PLANNING COMMISSION**

The Planning Commission does not have any new business to discuss.  
Scheduled meeting will be on May 22,2024

**ZONING AND CODE ENFORCEMENT: ALLISON LEINBACH, BOROUGH MANAGER**

Letters have been sent out to those properties who have had complaints filed due to unsafe and unsanitary conditions. We will continue to follow-up with those individuals.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

No unfinished business to discuss.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**Jacksonwald Ave will be closed on June 12,2024 for the Touch a Truck event held by the borough playground.** In the event of rain, it will be the following day June 13, 2024

A motion was made to close Jacksonwald Ave. for the Touch a Truck event by Dave Eggert; seconded by Mike Fritz; all were in favor.

**EMERGENCY DECLARATION FOR FLOODING –**

It has been nearly a year since the July flooding, the loans and assistance from the Federal Government for the flood disaster have all been utilized. The work that needed to be done to the creek has been locked in with the USDA and will continue. There is no longer a need for the emergency declaration to continue, it will end May 9,2024.

**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 8:12pm.

Respectfully submitted,



Amanda Muso  
Borough Secretary

ST. LAWRENCE BOROUGH COUNCIL  
5/10/2024

