

Oakland Borough Council
General Business Meeting
380 State Street
Susquehanna, PA 18847
August 10, 2023

Announcement: Oakland Borough Council went into an executive session before the General Business meeting on June 8, 2023 at 7:35 p.m. for contractual, personnel, and litigation purposes. Meeting ended at 8:15 p.m.

Oakland Borough Council went into an executive session on July 6, 2023 at 6:00 p.m. for contractual, personnel, and litigation purposes. Meeting ended at 7:30 p.m.

Regular Council Business meeting on July 13,2023 was cancelled due to there was not enough for a quorum. A notice was put on the door, posted on the website and on Oakland Borough's Facebook page.

Attendance: President Valerie Senese, Robert Muiteer, Brad Krayeski, Patrick Gall, Mayor Randy Glover, Administrator Jennifer Bixby, Treasurer/ Asst. Administrator Rhonda Parfitt, Solicitor John Martin.

Absent: Vice- President Gary Boughton.

Meeting Was Called to Order at 7:00 p.m. by President Valerie Senese.

Pledge of Allegiance and a moment of silence was observed.

THIS MEETING WAS ANNOUNCED IT WAS RECORDED.

1. Agenda:
A motion by Robert Muiteer, 2nd by Brad Krayeski to adopt the agenda.
All in favor, motion carried.

2. A motion by Patrick Gall, 2nd by Robert Muiteer to approve the June 8, 2023 minutes as presented.
All in favor, motion carried.

3. President Valerie Senese opened public comment at 7:03 p.m.
Ms. Teena Gall at 5899 High Street, Susquehanna, PA 18847 inquired the hours on the curfew ordinance. Mr. Krayeski explained that anything outside reasonable hours. Mr. Krayeski stated it is from 10:00 p.m. to 6:00 a.m. he believes. Ms. Gall explained that she has complained to Officer Creamer about neighbors on High Street 4-5 times for disturbance of peace at 1:00 a.m. President Senese inquired if Ms. Gall filled out a complaint form at the office? Ms. Gall stated no she hasn't that is why she came to the

meeting. President Senese explained that after the meeting she can get a form to fill out and return it to the office. Ms. Gall requested that Council consider changing the ordinance to 9:00 p.m. to 7:00 a.m. when construction usually start.

President Senese thanked Ms. Gall for her public comment and closed public comment at 7:05 p.m.

4. Community Development Committee Report:
 - A. There were no meeting minutes to submit to record.
 - B. Chairperson Heather Krayeski was unavailable for the meeting. There was no verbal report given.

5. Financial Reports:
 - A. President Senese asked if Treasurer Parfitt had any information for June 2023 and July's 2023 Treasurer report. Ms. Parfitt explained that on the General Checking Account for June there was a large deposit of \$71,863.10 (Seventy-one thousand eight hundred sixty-three dollars and ten cents) which was mostly impact fees that was deposited. \$64,075.00 (Sixty-four thousand and seventy-five dollars) was from the impact fees. Ms. Parfitt explained that she will have it so the fees are deposited right into that account. Ms. Parfitt also stated that this was the largest amount Oakland Borough has ever received. Nothing to report for July's report. Mr. Muiter requested that the CD report be added to the Treasurer's report each month. This report will be added to the Treasurer's report. A motion by Patrick Gall, 2nd by Brad Krayeski to accept the Treasurer's report for June and July 2023. All in favor, motion carried.
 - B. A motion to accept July and August Bill Lists with 1 (one) change on the August Bill List.
 1. Under Susquehanna Depot police hours change from June to July on the August Bill List. A motion by Patrick Gall, 2nd by Brad Krayeski. All in favor, motion carried.

6. Correspondence:
 - A. An invitation from Susquehanna Library holding a special StoryWalk Celebration event on Saturday, August 12th at 10:00 a.m. Mayor Randy Glover was asked to represent Oakland Borough.
 - B. An invitation to EMHR's Annual Meeting and Farm to Table Dinner. President Senese asked if anyone Council member would like to go to please contact Ms. Bixby so that she may make the reservations.

7. Codes Report:
 - A. Verbal report was given by Brad Krayeski.

1. Mr. Krayeski explained that it was reported that tenants moved into a condemned property up on Westfall Avenue. Mr. Roy Williams, Code Enforcer went to the property and found that someone was living there and that the signs were taken down. Mr. Williams stated there is no proof who took down the condemned signs. How we were notified was that the Water Authority contacted us as the owner contacted the Water Authority to turn the water on. Mr. Williams had contacted the land owner and has worked out an agreement so the tenants would be able to stay. Mr. Williams did do an inspection and found that a lot of the violations from the previous inspection were taken care of. President Senese requested that Mr. Williams draw up a letter to use as a template letter to the Water Authority on condemned properties.
 2. Mr. Krayeski stated he issued 1 (one) driveway permit and a variance question.
 - B. Mr. Krayeski inquired if Oakland Borough is in a position where our DPW workers would take care of the unkept properties and charge the property owners a fee. If it is a rental property the owners would have to pay the back fee along with the rental fee. Randy Glover, Head of DPW stated that was something the department could handle. Council agreed to look into other municipalities successful programs before putting in place for Oakland Borough.
 - C. Mr. Krayeski stated that the COG does have 2 (two) applicants interested in doing the Codes Enforcement. One is a retired state police officer and one is a constable. Mr. Williams has agreed to represent Oakland Borough in the interview for the Code Enforcer position.
8. Police Report:
- A. A verbal report given by Mayor Glover in the absence of Chief Officer Creamer. Mayor Glover informed Council there was 33.5 hours for June of patrolling, suspicious vehicle, suspicious person on a property, 2 (two) domestic disputes, harassment, 2 (two) traffic stops, property damage to a car, a lockout of a car, took home a juvenile, noise complaint, unwanted person.
9. DPW Report:
- A. A verbal report was given by Randy Glover, Head of DPW.
 1. There is a lot of ditch digging from all the water problems from the rain. Would like to finish High Street. Would like to finish Prospect Street and 3 (three) sides streets before end of summer. Making a lot of progress.
 2. DPW workers had sanded and painted the fire hydrants. Mr. Glover stated that the DPW employees work well together. They get the work done that he requests them to get done. President Senese stated that a lot of compliments have been received by residents.
 3. Called out DPW worker during a heavy rain to clean some ditches. Mr. Glover requested to get grates to go over the drain pipes.
 - B. Mr. Glover, Head of DPW would like the dump truck repaired.

A motion by Patrick Gall, 2nd by Robert Muter to have dump truck repaired.
All in favor, motion carried.

C. Mr. Glover presented to Council about purchasing a new tractor. The one that Oakland Borough owns now still works but is on borrowed time. Council members discussed getting a new one or a used one. President Senese asked if advertising for a tractor this month with all the specifications we are looking for could be done?

A motion by Patrick Gall, 2nd by Brad Krayski to advertise for a tractor with the specifications.

All in favor, motion carried.

10. Finance Committee Report:

A. There were no meeting minutes to submit to record.

B. A verbal report was given by Robert Muter, Head of Finance Committee.

1. Mr. Muter stated that only discussion has been the CD's Oakland Borough has.

Mr. Muter asked Treasurer Ms. Parfitt if the CDs are in place. Ms. Parfitt explained the when the CD for Capital Reserve expires her recommendation is not to renew it. That way Capital Reserve will have money in the account.

C. Consider a motion to change name on Park Renovation checking account to Park Donations. Ms. Parfitt explained that she thought and grant money would be able to go into the Park Renovation account. DCNR requested a separate acct. So not to confuse anyone any 3rd party donations would go into Park Donation account. Ms. Parfitt asked the bank if there need to be a motion changing it. The bank stated that since there was a motion to open the account Oakland Borough would need to have a motion to change it.

Motion by Brad Krayski, 2nd by Robert Muter.

All in favor, motion carried.

11. Parks Committee Report:

A. There were no meeting minutes to submit to record.

B. Gary Boughton was unavailable for the meeting to give a verbal report. President Senese informed Council that there are some updates that will be given under the grant updated in # 13.

C. Internet for Cameras at the park has been tabled.

D. Tree thinning at lower end park has been tabled.

12. Food Pantry:

A. A verbal report was given by Ms. Bixby.

The food pantry is running well. Every month Oakland Borough Food Pantry has been getting new applicants. Mr. Muter inquired if there is anything running low. Ms. Bixby explained that non- eatable products are still needed.

13. Grant Updates:

President Senese requested that Ms. Bixby give the report.

- A. The DCNR checking account had been opened. Ms. Bixby submitted for half the funds. Would take 3-4 weeks before the funds will be deposited to the account.
- B. The update for the playground equipment is: Delta will be staking the playground the week of August 7th to the 11th 2023. Playground equipment will be installed the week of August 14th 2023.
- C. Update on the sidewalk projects Lower end of Westfall and Boyden Street to Wilson Avenue. A meeting was held on August 1, 2023 with Mark from Senator Baker's office, Brian from KSG, Jeramiah from PennDOT, Bobbi Jo Turner, and Jenny Bixby. Mark asked Jeramiah to start the meeting as he knows about the lower end of Westfall Avenue project that needs to be done by December. Jeramiah stated that the driveway permits were submitted for both projects, but he doesn't see a problem that Oakland Borough would need driveway permit for this project. Brian from KSG asked if also there was going to be needing permits for the Boyden Street to Wilson. Jeramiah didn't think so. Jeramiah is going to put a rush on this with PennDOT.
- D. PennDOT is requesting a "NO PARKING Ordinance for lower section of Westfall Avenue, from Prospect Street to State Street/ E. River Street. Ms. Bixby asked Brad to discuss this. Mr. Krayeski explained that there is a parking ordinance #135 for Oakland Borough. After the Council discussed the ordinance Ms. Bixby will send our ordinance to KSG to see if this is sufficed or if it needs to have an addendum to the ordinance.
- E. The DCED RFP for the Comprehensive Plan was sent out and proposals were due on August 9, 2023. Ms. Bixby will set up a date and time with Susquehanna Depot, Oakland Borough and DCED to review the proposals that were received.
- F. The Dam removal started the week of July 24, 2023.
- G. A CDBG grant was submitted for match for park of \$67,509.00 on July 28, 2023.

14. Old/ Tabled Business:

- A. The Pond
- B. The 2 (two) computers and Security Cameras for Borough has been ordered from OEM> John Ord is working on this. The computers and cameras are on back order, but he will get them as soon as he can.
- C. The Knott weed was sprayed on the weekend of July 22 and 23, 2023. Russ requested that it not be cut down as it needs to go all the way to the roots. Russ will be back in one month to make sure Russ does not need to spray more.

15. New Business:

- A. There was no new business this month.

16. Adjournment: A motion by Brad Krayeski, 2nd by Patrick Gall to adjourn the meeting.
Meeting ended at 7:57 p.m.