

Oakland Borough Council
380 State Street
Susquehanna, PA 18847
General Business Meeting Minutes
May 12, 2022

Attendance: President Valerie Senese, Vice-President Gary Boughton, Robert Muiteer, Brad Krayeski, Patrick Gall, Solicitor John Martin, Administrator Jennifer Bixby, Treasurer/ Assistant Administrator Rhonda Parfitt.

Absent: Mayor Randy Glover

President Valerie Senese called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance and moment of silence was observed.

Announcement: Oakland Borough Council held an executive session on May 12, 2022 at the following times: 6:00 p.m. to 6:40 p.m. for contractual, personnel and litigation purposes.

1. Agenda:
 - A. Motion by Robert Muiteer, 2nd by Brad Krayeski to adopt the agenda with a change. All in favor, motion carried.
 1. # 18 Picture of Oakland Borough.
2. Minutes:
 - A. Motion by Robert Muiteer, 2nd by Brad Krayeski to approve the April 14, 2022 minutes as presented. All in favor, motion carried.
3. President Senese opened Public Comment at 7:02 p.m.
 - A. Doug Arthur inquired who was cutting the grass at the park. President Senese stated that question was for head of DPW which was not present at the meeting, and would be addressed throughout the month with the head of DPW. Mr. Arthur stated that he believes that the person must be 18 years old to run lawn mower and weed wacker.
President Senese closed Public Comment at 7:03 p.m.
4. Community Development Committee Report:
 - A. Verbal report given by Heather Krayeski, Committee Chairperson. (See Attached).
 - B. Ms. Parfitt asked Ms. Krayeski if not enough orders for Veteran's Flags would the money be refunded. Ms. Krayeski responded that there should be enough for the 2nd order. Would like To order 10, but could order less.
 - C. Motion by Robert Muiteer, 2nd by Gary Boughton to roll over the OBCDC budget of \$500.00 from 2021 to 2022. All in favor, motion carried.
5. Financial Reports:
 - A. Motion by Robert Muiteer, 2nd by Patrick Gall to approve the Treasurer's Report. All in favor, motion carried.

- B. Motion by Patrick Gall, 2nd by Brad Krayeski to approve and pay Bill List as presented with additional \$150.46 for the Wex Bank Gas Card added to the list. All in favor, motioned carried.
6. Correspondence: There was no Correspondence this month.
7. Codes Report:
Verbal report by Brad Krayeski
- A. Currently processing a few garbage complaints.
8. Police Report:
- A. Chief Officer Creamer or Head of DPW Mayor Randy Glover was not present to give verbal report. Council did review Police Service Bill and Police Log Sheet.
9. DPW Report:
- A. President Valerie Senese gave report in the absence of Mayor Randy Glover.
 1. New tractor has been delivered.
 2. Dump truck is at Endless Mountain Garage having new gas tank installed. While the truck is up on the racks the garage will look at the hydraulic system for leaks.
 3. Pot holes are being filled in.
 4. Snowblower was not delivered as the cab is on back order, and needs to be installed. Will pay the bill later on.
 - B. Motion by Robert Muter, 2nd by Vice-President Gary Boughton to purchase DumperDogg/ Salt Spreader from Powell's for \$11,349.40 with the condition of installation. All in favor, motion carried.
10. Finance Committee Report:
- A. Verbal report by Robert Muter.
 1. Oakland Borough had one offer for \$500.00 from a current employee for the old lawn tractor. Robert Muter explained that the model is a 2005-2006 and he was unable to find a value for that model. The Committee's recommendation to the Council was to advertise the old lawn tractor. An ad will be placed in the Transcript to sell tractor.
 - B. Robert Muter stated that the Oakland Borough Water Authority has requested \$30,000.00 from the ARPA funds to cover operational expenses. Council previously had agreed to purchase and install a generator for the pump station. Oakland Borough Water Authority will not be doing that project due to various reasons. The Water Authority adopted a new project which includes an extensive cleaning plan. Oakland Borough Water Authority has proposed to use their own funds for the cleaning project. The Committee's recommendation to Council would be to support their request by covering their operating with certain conditions.
The conditions are as follows:
 1. Enlist the solicitor to assist in drafting a list of feasible options for the distribution and reconciliation of the funds.
 2. Submit the option to Council for approval.
 3. Submit the list of options to the Oakland Borough Water Authority for their review.
 4. Upon receipt of their selection, submit to Council to proceed, solicitor to draft an agreement to present to Oakland Borough Water Authority based on their selection.
 5. Council to review and approve.

Motion by Vice-President Gary Boughton, 2nd by Patrick Gall. All in favor, motion carried.

11. Parks Committee Report:

- A. Vice -President Gary Boughton stated that the colors for the playground equipment had been picked. The colors are cobalt blue, lime green, earth tones, and a brighter color for safety concerns.
- B. A meeting was held with Vice-President Gary Boughton, President Valerie Senese, Mayor/ Head DPW Randy Glover, Dave Jenkins, and Chris Maby deciding which poles to use for electric. It was suggested to use LED lights which should be bright enough to light the whole area. Dave Jenkins will be checking with Penelec.
- C. Dave Jenkins and Chris Maby suggested getting a 360 camera which will give a panoramic view of the park. Vice-President Gary Boughton mentioned that the camaras would cost about \$699.00 for 2 cameras. President Valerie Senese stated the equipment would go in concession stand for now, then when the red building once in its final place the equipment would be moved to that building. Brad Krayeski mentioned that Oakland Borough would have to purchase signs stating 24-hour surveillance. Robert Muiter mentioned that only a few people should be allowed to have access to the camera footage. President Valerie Senese stated that would be something to look into down the road.

12. Food Pantry:

- A. Ms. Bixby informed Council that she had a meeting with Ingrid from Weinburg. Paperwork has been filled out. The food pantry will becoming its own entity and the new name will Oakland Borough Emergency Food Pantry. The Food Pantry will be under Weinburg's 501(c)
- B. Ms. Bixby also had to do a ServSafe Course and received her certificate for that. Ms. Bixby also informed Council that any volunteer for the food pantry must do the civil rights training. Ms. Bixby has all the paperwork for that.
- C. Ingrid from Weinburg needs to do one more walk through the pantry and it will be finalized.

13. Grant Update:

1. Borough Engineering Update:

A. President Senese explained that part of the STMP grant was for a Stormwater Flood Management Study. A quote was given through U.S. Army Corps of Engineering, which is federal money. Oakland Borough would have to pay half of the quote. President Senese spoke with Jim Rose from DCED and Oakland Borough would be able to apply for a grant with Department of Community and Economic Development which is state money for the match. President Senese asked to make sure the amount of the quote was right. Ms. Bixby will contact U. S. Army Corps of Engineering to make sure.

2. Soil and Conservation Grant/ Upper Boyden Street.

A. President Valerie Senese stated that we need to advertise for sealed bids for the Upper Boyden Street project. We will have to pay for the bid documents to be done through Delta. It will be done in word document so that the next time Oakland Borough would be able to use it with updated information. Motion by Robert Muiter, 2nd by Brad Krayeski to advertise for sealed bids. All in favor, motion carried.

3. President Valerie Senese mentioned for the 2022 grant project for Council to consider doing from Boyden Street by 3rd Avenue to Westfall Avenue. Motion by Brad Krayeski, 2nd by Robert Muiter to submit grant. All in favor, motion carried.

Old/Tabled Business:

- A. President Valerie Senese stated clearances must get done in order to receive the code to building. President Valerie stressed to please get the clearances done. Ms. Bixby would help anyone that needed help to do the paperwork.
- B. President Valerie Senese stated that RFP for blighted contracts will be put on hold for now till more information can be obtained.
- C. President Valerie Senese stated that the Delta Engineering will be coming up to mark trees that can stay for the Outlook project. PennDot has agreed to give Oakland Borough fill. Need to get the trees removed closed to us so that we would be able to use the fill. Oakland Borough will need at least 3 bids for the tree removal.
- D. President Valerie Senese explained that when we had Oakland Borough's Streets swept the driver would not do State Street or Westfall Avenue as they are state roads. Ms. Bixby was in contact with PennDot for the agility program. Oakland Borough would pay to have the streets swept in return PennDot do something for us. President Senese used examples as paint the roads at intersection, some signs. Ms. Bixby will work on that and get it in writing.
- E. President Valerie Senese stated that Jim Rose from DCED had a meeting with Susquehanna Borough about the Compressive Plan in the STMP grant. Susquehanna Borough was in agreement, but both Susquehanna Borough and DCED would like to extend Lanesboro Borough the open curtesy to be included. A meeting will be organized with Jim Rose from DCED and Lanesboro Borough Council to explain the benefits if they would like to be included. The meeting will be held at the Lanesboro Borough's open public meeting.
- F. President Valerie Senese stated as everyone can see lights have been placed and construction will begin soon on State Street. The work will continue till November, only paving may not be finished. It all depends on the weather on how warm or cold it will be. Work will include tearing down houses, fixing the chronic drainage resolved, new sidewalks, curbing. Brad Krayeski asked if our police service would be able to monitor High Street and Prospect Street more due to rise in traffic on the roads. Brad Krayeski also asked maybe see if signs could be place stating No Thru Traffic, Local Traffic Only. President Valerie Senese will check with PennDot to see about the signs, and check into getting more police patrol in areas.

New Business:

- 14. President Valerie Senese stated that it has come to the attention from Community Development Committee recommends a newsletter quarterly for better communication with residents. Suggests each committee's submit notes. President Valerie Senese mentioned to compensate the cost of mailing maybe add ads to the newsletter. Council members did not object to starting the newsletter.
- 15. Discussion about the dump and the pond.
 - A. President Valerie Senese explained that Mayor Randy Glover was approached by Chris Miller to clearing the trees and opening the road to the dump. Oakland Borough would be committed to paying for modify, dirt or any supplies to be used. Chris Miller will be using own equipment, in return a life time to use the dump for anything allowable. Mayor Randy Glover feels this might be a good opportunity to get some bids. President Valerie Senese explained that there is 26 acres of wooded and hilly area. Vice-President Gary Boughton explained that the pond there did have refrigerators, tires and other junk dumped into the pond years ago. President Valerie Senese suggested that the Council met and take a tour around the acres to see their options for the 26 acres. There is grant money out there to

help do this project if Council would like. No motion was made to Chris Miller's offer. Council is open to evaluate the option of opening the area and pond for recreational use. This would help increase property value and become a community asset. Motion by Robert Muiter, 2nd by Patrick Gall to explore development on the 26 acres. All in favor, motion carried.

16. PennDot Leasing Basement:

- A. President Valerie Senese explained that PennDot would like to rent the office space downstairs while they work on State Street. Ms. Bixby looked into from COG. Oakland Borough would be able to rent it out, but would need an occupancy permit. Brad Kraveski will look into what steps Oakland Borough will need to do. Motion by Patrick Gall, 2nd by Robert Muiter to get occupancy permit. All in favor, motion carried.

17. Thank You Card.

- A. President Valerie Senese informed Council that she ran into Sheriff Benedict and expressed what a great job the inmates did on cleaning up 171. Sheriff Benedict said the inmates enjoy getting out, and looks forward to the pizza and soda at the end. President Valerie Senese asked Sheriff Benedict if he felt it appropriate to send them a thank you card. Sheriff Benedict felt it very appropriate. President Valerie Senese expressed that next year doing the pizza and soda for them. Council agreed to send thank you card and next year have the pizza and soda for the inmates.

18. Picture of Oakland Borough:

- A. Vice- President Gary Boughton showed the picture of Oakland Borough that he purchased to the Council and donated to Oakland Borough. A round of applause from the Council and a thank you. Discussion of where to hang it up when painting is done. No decision was made.

Adjournment:

Motioned by Brad Kraveski, 2nd by Robert Muiter. All in favor, motion carried. Meeting ending at 8:05 p.m.