

Oakland Borough Council
General Business Meeting
380 State Street
Susquehanna, PA 18847
October 10, 2024

Announcement: Oakland Borough went into executive meeting after the general business meeting on October 10, 2024 for personnel purposes.

Attendance: President Brad Krayeski, Valerie Senese, Robert Muiteer, William Deakin, Teena Gall, Patrick Gall, and Mayor, Randy Glover.

Absent: Debra White

Meeting called to order at 7 pm by Valerie Senese

Pledge of Allegiance and moment of silence was observed

It was announced that this meeting was being recorded.

1. Agenda:

- A. A motion made by Mr. Muiteer, seconded by Mr. Gall to adopt the agenda with the following additions:
 - Under #6 Financial reports, B, i, Consider a motion to pay Howard Rothenburg a \$5,000 retainer
 - #13 Old/Tabled business, E. Leaf vacuum date.
 - #14 New business, C, Hazard mitigation meeting and formsAll in favor, motion carried.

2. Change of officers

- A. A motion made by Mr. Muiteer, Seconded by Mr. Gall, to appoint Brad Krayeski as President of the Borough Council and Valerie Senese as Pro-Tempore, with Robert Muiteer remaining as Vice President, all in favor, motion carried. Brad Krayeski then began to preside over the meeting.

3. Approval of minutes:

- A. A motion made by Ms. Gall, seconded by Mr. Muiteer to approve the September 12th meeting minutes as presented. All in favor, motion carried. Ms. Senese abstained due to her absence from the meeting.

- B. A motion made by Mr. Gall, seconded by Mr. Deakin, to approve the September 16th meeting minutes as presented. All in favor, motion carried. Ms. Senese abstained due to her absence from the meeting.
4. Public Comment:

Mr. Krayeski opened public comment at 7:06. Doug Arthur, 5157 Prospect Street, stated that He is doing the Halloween Parade at the racetrack on the 31st starting at 5 pm. The parade will take place in the parking lot and usually lasts about 45 minutes. He also stated he believed that the date chosen by the Council to have the leaf vacuuming done was going to be too late due to snow. Public comment closed at 7:08pm.
5. Community Development:
 - A. No updates
6. Financial Reports:
 - A. A motion made by Mr. Gall, seconded by Mr. Muiter, to approve Treasurer's Report as presented. All in favor, motion carried.
 - B. A motion made by Ms. Senese, seconded by Mr. Gall, to approve and pay Bill List as presented, all in favor, motion carried.
 - C. A motion made by Ms. Gall, seconded by Ms. Senese, to change the signatories on all bank accounts at Peoples Security Bank and Trust to: Brad Krayeski, President; Robert Muiter, Vice President; Valerie Senese, President Pro-Tempore; Rhonda Parfitt, Treasurer. All in favor, motion carried.
 - D. A motion made by Ms. Senese, seconded by Mr. Gall, to pay Howard Rothenberg a \$5,000 retainer for continued services. All in favor, motion carried.
7. Correspondence:
 - A. Nothing to report
8. Codes Report:
 - A. Mr. Krayeski stated there were still garbage complaints. He had reached out to the codes officer and had not received any communication. Mr. Muiter made the motion that the Council explore the hire of a seasoned codes enforcement officer or one to be trained, with details to follow; and an authorization to place an ad in the paper. The motion was seconded by Ms. Gall. All in favor, motion carried.
9. Mayor's Report:

- A. A motion made by Ms. Senese, seconded by Mr. Muiiter, to rent a 12 in. chipper for \$275.00 to accomplish the chipping of brush at the park and to allow Mayor Glover to organize a volunteer day. All in favor, motion carried.
- B. Mayor Glover stated the dump truck was done with the new dump box. Mr. Muiiter had a concern about the Streets and Water on the side of the truck. Mr. Glover said Screen It had done magnetic signs at one point he would try to locate them and see if they would work to cover up the streets and water on the truck. It was agreed that no new money would be spent.
- C. Mr. Glover has been working with Chris Miller about the Spring Ave ditch issue. He said the water eroded the side of the bank away has not yet eroded the road but definitely needs attention. A retaining wall of some sort needs to be placed there to keep the road from collapsing. There is no temporary fix.

10. Finance Committee Report:

- A. Treasurer Rhonda Parfitt stated that the proposed budget was nearing completion and that she would have Mr. Muiiter review it before issuing it to the rest of the Council.

11. Food Pantry:

- A. The food pantry has been recertified by Weinberg. The truck and pick-up day will be the 4th Tuesday of the month. Doug Arthur stated that the pick-up time would be from 1-3pm.

12. Grant/Project Updates:

- A. Ms. Parfitt announced she and Ms. Hendrickson had applied for a grant through Norfolk Southern in the amount of \$50,000 to contribute to the cost of renovating the ballfield. There was no application fee and no grant match required. The office staff will report to the council as they receive updates on the status of the application.
- B. Ms. Parfitt updated the council that Minichi was willing to hold their price for the renovation of the ballfield to a certain extent. Minichi had proposed an option for reducing the scope of the project, but the engineer stated that the project still had to go back out to bid. The Council discussed the different options of how to reduce the scope of the project and also how to fund the needed \$150K. A motion was made by Ms. Senese, seconded by Mr. Muiiter, to put the ball field project with removal of the bleachers and scoreboard back out to bid, motion passed by majority vote with Ms. Gall being opposed.
- C. Boland's phase A change order is still within the awarded grant. Changes were made to reduce the steepness of the ramp.
- D. Pioneer Phase B- All of the blue stone has been removed and it is currently on pallets on a private lot on Wilson Ave. The stone is to be moved to our 380 State Street location. Once the stone is in our possession there will be an announcement

via social media about when the stone will be available to the homeowners on Westfall Ave first, then other residents.

13. Old/Tabled Business:

- A. A motion made by Ms. Senese seconded by Ms. Gall, to sign the amended Memorandum of Understanding with the Oakland Borough Water Authority. All in favor, motion carried.
- B. A motion was made by Ms. Gall, seconded by Ms. Senese, to allow the Oakland Borough Water Authority an extension through the month of October to request the remainder of the agreed-upon reimbursement amount. All in favor, motion carried.
- C. Ms. Gall has been in contact with numerous people to get help and obtain grants for the storm water issues. Mr. Gall, Mr. Deakin and Ms. Gall had an appointment with Patty from Senator Casey's office on October 23rd. in Kingsley. There Back and forth between Ms. Gall and Ms. Senese. Ms. Senese stated that she did not approve of Ms. Gall's method of doing this, and that there should have been a discussion about the grants and how they apply to this situation. The council should have been informed before any meetings were set in motion if Ms. Gall is going to represent the Borough. Mr. Krayeski stated that he wanted the record to show that Ms. Gall has been censured in prior months so she does not speak on behalf of the council.

14. New Business:

- A. A motion was made by Mr. Muiteer, seconded by Ms. Gall to add to the January budget the amount of \$3,000 for office furniture. All in favor, motion carried.
- B. A motion was made by Ms. Senese seconded by Mr. Gall to direct Trish Hendrickson to follow through on collecting the money judgment owed by Clay and Lorraine Martin, per the sale of their property within the Borough. All in favor, motion carried.
- C. Mr. Krayeski attended the Hazard mitigation meeting with Scott Aylesworth. Hazard identification and risk evaluation forms were handed out. All members of Council are to fill one out and before the next meeting we will tally them up.

15. A motion made to adjourn by Ms. Senese, seconded by Mr. Deakin. All in favor, motion carried and the meeting was adjourned at 8:59pm.

- A. PIRMA Loss Control Grant application
- B. Consider a motion to appoint Larena Nickerson to serve on the Tri Boro Municipal Authority Board for a term of 5 years years starting January 1st 2025.
- C. Consider a motion to appoint Jaimie Koziol to serve a 4 year term on the Water Authority Board starting January 1st 2025.
- D. Motion to approve and authorize a municipal statement of revival for Tri-Boro Municipal Authority, Ordinance #11.

15. Adjournment:

- a. Consider a motion to adjourn the meeting