

Danville Borough Council Meeting
Minutes
September 3, 2019

Danville Borough Council held a meeting on Tuesday, September 3, 2019 at the Borough Building, 463 Mill St., Danville at 6:00 PM. Vice-President Herritt presided.

Present were Councilpersons, Walters, Rodman, Woodruff, Herritt, Walter and Stigerwalt. Also present were Mayor Swank, J. Hart, B. Earlston, B Horne, S. Berkey, Corporal Swank, Fire Chief Strausser and Solicitor Dennehy.

The invocation was given by Solicitor Dennehy followed with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Public Comments

None

Topics

Note – Comments and/or questions on each topic will be addressed before a Council member moves for Action.

1. Motion by Mr. Walter, seconded by Mr. Stigerwalt and a unanimous vote, Council accepted a letter of resignation from Mr. Richardson. By motion of Mr. Rodman, seconded by Mr. Stigerwalt, council unanimously endorsed the line of succession with Vice-President Herritt becoming President and President Pro Tem Woodruff becoming Vice-President.

By motion of Mr. Woodruff and seconded by Mr. Stigerwalt, Council unanimously voted Mr. Rodman as President pro tem.

2. Tyler Dombroski will be in attendance at the Sept. 10th Council meeting to provide guidance with the 2019 CDBG project review and selection.
3. Motion by Mr. Walters, seconded by Mr. Woodruff and a unanimous vote, Council accepted a resignation letter from part-time police officer, Cody Clossen.
4. Motion by Mr. Woodruff, seconded by Mr. Rodman and a unanimous vote, Council gave approval of the MOU with the Danville Area School District regarding the Danville Police Department.
5. Motion by Mr. Walters, seconded by Mr. Rodman and a unanimous vote, Council approved a wine vendor to set up at the Fall Arts & Crafts event on Saturday, September 7th providing all licensing has been received.
6. Motion by Mr. Rodman, seconded by Mr. Gregg, approval was given to the Equipment sub lease with Montour County to provide the Danville Police

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Department with the updated radios from Motorola Solutions, Inc. Lease payment is \$8,566.80 for 10 years beginning on 9/1/20. Mr. Walters opposed.

7. Update on the Upper Susquehanna Levee Raising Project and continued funding. See the attached synopsis.

Motion made by Mr. Rodman, seconded by Mr. Woodruff and a unanimous vote, Council will continue the levee project with short-term financing from Fulton Bank, while continuing to search for a long-term funding solution to pay back the short term loan.

8. HARB

56 Bloom St. – Motion by Mr. Stigerwalt, seconded by Mr. Woodruff and a unanimous vote, Council approved this application for the replacement of the back egress stairs and porch per architectural plan.

19 Bloom St. – Motion by Mr. Rodman, seconded by Mr. Walter and a unanimous vote, Council gave approval for the replacement of six windows with vinyl material as well as replacing the deteriorating spouting with half round style.

11 Bloom St. – Motion by Mr. Woodruff seconded by Mr. Stigerwalt and a unanimous vote, Council approved this application for the replacement of the exterior fence. The existing fence is to be replaced with black powder coating aluminum fencing.

317 R. Ferry St. – Motion by Mr. Walter, seconded by Mr. Stigerwalt and a unanimous vote, Council approved this application for the replacement of eight windows on the first and basemen floor with vinyl windows to match the existing style.

9. Currently there is an open position in the Borough's 3rd Ward. Council will solicit interested 3rd Ward residents to fill this position within the next 30 days.

Correspondence

1. Letter of thanks from the Montour County Sheriff's Office for the Borough's contribution to the Montour County Sheriff's Office K-9 Unit.

FYI

1. Memo was attached presenting the 2020 Minimum Municipal Obligation for the non-uniformed and uniformed pension plans.

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2. Career Link will be setting up at the Municipal Building, 463 Mill St. on September 18th, from 10AM till 3PM.
3. Montour County's 107th annual Township Officials Association Convention will be held on Thursday, October 17th at the Montour Delong Fair Building.

Other Business

None

New Business

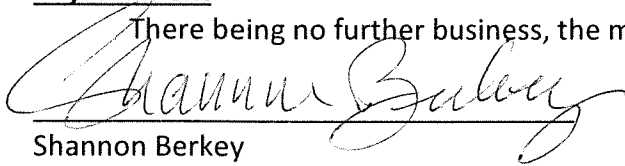
None

News Media

None

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:30.



Shannon Berkey
Danville Borough Manager

The Danville Borough is currently undergoing a major levee raising project. The Upper Susquehanna River and Hospital Run Levee Modifications Project consists of raising the existing levee top elevation and making other improvements including modifications to the existing levee access roads, concrete walls, inlet structures, and the extension of existing concrete storm water headwalls. The proposed levee top is being raised to meet FEMA requirements of 3 feet of freeboard above the 50%, 100-year flood water surface elevation. This will allow the levee to remain certified. Funding for construction was secured thru Montour County by applying for Wyoming Valley Levee Raising Project Mitigation Grant Program Monies. The project was awarded to Dave Gutelius Excavating, Inc. as the low base bidder at \$1,079,000. Larson Design Group is performing construction design and management services. DEP is performing day to day construction inspection at no cost to the project. As one would maybe expect with a project of this magnitude, we have been faced with an obstacle that is jeopardizing the timely completion of the project. An unforeseen condition of excess topsoil depth is greatly affecting the quantity of impervious fill required to build the project to specifications. The design value for the estimated topsoil depth of 4" was taken from the as-built drawings however in places the topsoil depth is up to 3 feet deep and this is mostly in the lower slope and toe areas of the levee. The average topsoil depth is estimated at 12" to 18". To-date we have used 100% of the bid quantity of imported fill, however the project is only 50% complete. This line item in the base bid makes up 65% of the total base bid price. New estimates compiled with actual data from a sample section of completed levee using survey shots from the contractor and engineer has the remaining construction needing additional funding of \$1,000,000. Not a good position for the project to be in at all. We will be looking for funding sources that would be available to complete the project. Right now we can only give the contractor the go ahead to work for 2 more weeks with the cash we have on hand. If we have to demobilize the project and then remobilize, the construction cost continues to escalate. Any suggestions or help are welcomed at this time.

That being said:

The continuation of this project is detrimental to the Borough's current position in the appeal of the remapping of the Borough's FIRM (Flood Insurance Rating Map).

To put this project on hold would essentially bring an end to the possibility of removing our downtown from the Special Flood Hazard District, hindering our goals of developing a thriving, livable downtown.

Another huge ramification of the non-certification of the Hospital Run Upper Susquehanna levee would be the impact on our current Zone X District, which is approximately 70% of our Boroughs' second ward. FEMA would cease to acknowledge our existing levee thereby deeming that portion of the Borough as a Special Flood Hazard Zone requiring residents with a mortgage to purchase flood insurance. Not to mention the main issue of continuing to avoid any flooding to the entire Danville community.