

[DANVILLE BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

DECEMBER 13, 2022

Danville Borough Council held a meeting on Tuesday, December 13, 2022 at the Borough Building, 463 Mill St., Danville at 6:00PM. President Woodruff presided.

Present were Councilpersons Walters, Gregg, Beers Jr., Stigerwalt, Woodruff, Humphries, Deroba and Mayor Swank. Also present were staff members Roberts, Earlston, Fire Chief Buckenburger and Police Chief Swank. Absent were Horne, Mordan, Graham, and Herritt.

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

Special action

A motion was made to add resolution 2022-12 to the agenda. Walters made a 1st of the motion, seconded by Stigerwalt and voted unanimously to add to the agenda.

Public Comments

Georgia Cole commented on vacating the alley off E. Market St. She has previously requested access to the alley. She reports that she uses it to get to her mailbox.

Phillip Prout, regional manager of Barry Isett Inc. took the podium to introduce himself and his colleague Tim Dow and to give a brief overview of what they offer and where they come from. They've asked council to review the materials provided and to reach out to him with any questions they may have. Council thanked them for the presentation and stated they would review the material.

Bill Lynn, Mahoning Township Supervisor and tree fest member spoke as to his dissatisfaction with having to pay the Borough for use of the ballroom for a program that is meant to help the needy within the community. He reports that they could assist so many more people if they could save those fees being paid in rent.

Dean Von Blohn, a past council member reiterated the points made by Mr. Lynn and also asked for the fees for use of the ballroom to be waived in an attempt to help more people with the monies they are able to raise.

Michael Kuziak approached the podium and alerted the Council as to the possibility of the proposed Geisinger Psychiatric facility being allowed within Valley Township, to be built along Route 54 on property the corporation already owns. He reports negotiating this approval with the township on 10/21/22 and confirming the viability of the project with Penn DOT.

Beth Goldman approached the podium and reported that she is not speaking in an official capacity for Penn DOT, but states that she has spoken with them and they do indeed approve the building of the psychiatric center in the location pointed out by Mr. Kuziak.

Council President Byard Woodruff made a public comment that the boy scouts are a valuable asset that he thinks the Borough should work more closely with and to be considered for numerous projects as they come about and are practical.

Consent items Including Financial Reports & Payment of Bills

Motion was made by Wes Walters and seconded by Joe Stigerwalt with a unanimous vote to approve the following:

1. Minutes November 1, 2022.....Regular meeting
2. List of checks- Jim Gregg abstains from check paying, “Jim’s Small Engine Repair” invoices. This is on record as a standing abstention.
3. List of general journal entries
4. Month end list of bills for payment

Action items from previous meetings.....President Woodruff

1. Motion was made by Wes Walters, seconded by Jim Gregg, followed by a unanimous vote to adopt the 2023 Budget.
2. Motion by Walters and seconded by Deroba with a unanimous vote, Tax resolution 2022-8 was accepted as attached.

Topics / New Business.....President Woodruff

1. Motion to accept the meeting dates and times as attached by Stigerwalt, seconded by Beers and with a unanimous vote was approved.
2. Motion was made by Stigerwalt, seconded by Walters and voted unanimously to approve resolution 2022-10 implementing ACT 57 of 2022 property tax penalty waiver provision as attached.
3. Motion to renew the annual lease agreement with the Danville Municipal Authority for sludge disposal was made by Walters, seconded by Beers and voted unanimously to approve.
4. Motion to approve the 2023 events list, including street closures was made by Stigerwalt, seconded by Walters and voted unanimously to approve.
5. Motion was made to appoint Joshua Seidel to the Municipal Authority by Stigerwalt and seconded by Beers with a unanimous approval. This appointment was made to replace the existing member, Betty Ann Moyer.
6. Council voted unanimously to accept the resignation letter of Steve Finn and thanked him for his years of service. They wished him well on his future endeavors. A motion was made by Stigerwalt and seconded by Beers to approve the posting of the position internally beginning 12/14/22. A vote was unanimous to approve.
7. A motion was made by Stigerwalt and seconded by Walters to approve the resolution 2022-11 regarding the appointment of the Chief Administrative Officer. With no further discussion, a vote was taken and unanimously approved.

8. Motion was made by Stigerwalt and seconded by Walters to approve the ADA curb ramp upgrades that are at no expense to the Borough. A vote was held unanimously to approve.
9. Motion was made by Walters and seconded by Stigerwalt to continue legal services with current legal counsel, Marks, McLaughlin, Dennehy & Pointek LLP with the increased rates and was followed by a unanimous vote to approve.
10. Motion was made by Stigerwalt and seconded by Deroba to move the proposal for council chambers renovation discussion to the property committee with a date to be set by the Borough Manager. A vote to approve that motion was unanimous.
11. A motion was made to approve the application for the GLG grant to modernize the signal at Market and Mill Street which involves a 20% match. The motion was made by Stigerwalt, seconded by Beers and after a brief discussion between council and the solicitor Dennehy to be sure they weren't committing to actually funding the grant a vote was taken and approved unanimously. Solicitor Dennehy advised council that the motion was to explore through applying for the grant to see what may be awarded. He advised that they would not be obligated to continue with the grant at this time.
12. A motion was made to approve resolution 2022-12 PA Small Water and Sewer Grant – Becker Street Drainage Improvements by Walters, seconded by Stigerwalt and approved with a vote to be unanimous.

Correspondence & FYI items.....President Woodruff

1. An incorrect normal cost rate (provided by PMRS) was used to calculate the 2023 Minimum Municipal Obligation (MMO) for the Police Pension Plan that was approved 9/13/22. The adjusted MMO is an additional \$692.00.
2. Committee list for 2023, Attached as page 25. All agreed that looked good.

Unfinished / Old Business.....President Woodruff

1. Motion to hold the Zoning Hearing for map revision regarding the Saint Cyril property on January the 25th at 6 pm at a location to be decided upon based on availability was made by Stigerwalt and voted unanimously to approve the date and time, pending location.
2. A motion was made by Stigerwalt, seconded by Gregg to send the discussion of the Columbia quote for the 2nd ward ADA curb ramps to the streets committee. A vote was held and found to be unanimous.
3. A motion was made by Stigerwalt and seconded by Deroba to send the discussion of the Hollow Street project to the Street committee. A vote was held and found to be unanimous to approve the motion.
4. Motion was made by Stigerwalt, seconded by Walters to approve the change in signatories for the sale of real estate to Danville Area School District, more commonly known as Resolution 2022-09 as attached. A vote was taken and was found to be unanimous to approve.

Committees

Finance..... Mr. Walters

1. Budget approved.

Personnel.....Mr. Walters

1. Motion was made to extend the probationary period of Jamie Banyas until his one year anniversary to allow him additional time to grow and learn. Motion was made by Walters and seconded by Stigerwalt; a vote was taken and was unanimous to approve the extension.
2. Executive Session was held on Tuesday, November 29th at 6pm.
3. Motion was made by Stigerwalt, seconded by Deroba to approve the transfer of MaryEllen Rockwell; the borough Clerk to the position of Office Assistant upon the hiring of a new Borough Clerk per the agreement signed 11/30/22 with a stipend of \$1,500 paid retroactively from 11/21/22 until new staff is hired and has received two weeks of training. A vote was taken and was found to be unanimous to approve without comment.

Property.....Mr. Humphries

1. Motion was made for the rent for the Borough property located at 632 W Front Street to increase from \$700 to \$1,000 monthly with an effective date of 12/15/22. This motion was made by Gregg, seconded by Deroba and voted unanimously to approve.
2. Deroba mentioned as an FYI item that the DCNR has set aside \$32K for the planting project involving several acres of Borough property. He further reports that the conservation district has been awarded \$24K for the same project.
3. Bill Lynn made the request to have the ballroom funding deferred for the annual tree fest project. A motion was made by Walters to waive the fees for the organization for 2022, seconded by Beers and voted on unanimously with one abstention by Deroba to approve the motion. Deroba reports that he has not received enough information to cast a vote on the topic.

Public Safety.....Mr. Walter

1. Chief Buckenburger reports that the department has responded on eleven incidents through the month and that the training costs are higher than average due to live fire training that was held on a property on East Market Street.

Streets.....Mr. Stigerwalt

1. Stigerwalt made a motion to vacate the alley, having no second to the motion, the motion dies.

COG.....Mr. Humphries

1. Humphries advised everyone that the next meeting to reorganize would be sometime in January.

DBA.....Mr. Stigerwalt

1. Stigerwalt advised that he has been accepted as a new member to the DBA board with the next meeting date being 1/4/23.

Codes & Zoning.....Mr. Deroba

1. Deroba requests that a codes committee be scheduled at some point before the next Council meeting to discuss third party selection for the 2023 calendar year.

Other Business – none

News Media – none

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:50 PM.

Ken Roberts
Danville Borough Code Compliance Administrator