

**MINUTES
BLAWNOX BOROUGH COUNCIL
Regular Meeting August 13, 2020**

Call to Order

President Laskey called the meeting to order at 6:35 p.m. on Zoom due to the Covid-19 Pandemic.

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call

The roll was called to establish a quorum.

Council Members Present: President Deborah E. Laskey, Jessica Dayhoff, Katie Coban, and Elaine Palmer, and John Simmons.

Council Members Not Present: Vice President Randall Stoddard

Also Present: Solicitor, Sam Dalfonso; Borough Engineer, Gordon Taylor; Borough Manager, Kathy Ulanowicz; Assistant Borough Manager, Mallori McDowell; Junior Council Person Mona Gerges; and Borough Mayor Anthony Gross were present.

Comments from the Public

There were no comments from the public.

Agenda Items

Motion to approve Council Meeting Minutes of the July 9, 2020 meeting.

Moved: Ms. Coban Second: Mr. Simmons Motion Carried: 6-0

Motion to approve bills from the General Fund for June in the amount of \$148,713.46.

Moved: Ms. Kennedy Second: Ms. Coban Motion Carried: 6-0

Motion to approve Resolution 2020-10 appointing Mona Gerges to the Jr. Council Position

Moved: Mr. Simmons Second: Ms. Palmer Motion Carried: 6-0

Mayor Gross administered the Jr. Council Person Pledge

Finance Committee

- 1) The Finance committee met on July 22nd.
- 2) Motion to approve Resolution 2020-09 Authorizing the proper officials to enter into a CARES Act agreement with Allegheny County

Moved: Ms. Kennedy Second: Ms. Coban Motion Carried: 6-0

Property and Planning

- 1) Motion to approve the NART, LLC Lot Consolidation Plan.

Moved: Ms. Dayhoff Second: Ms. Coban Motion Carried: 6-0

- 2) The Zoning Ordinance continues to be reviewed by Attorney Tom Costello.

Strategic Planning

Public Safety

Public Works

- 1) Borough Manager Ulanowicz shared that Vice President Stoddard has come up with a Deduct Meter Policy. The Deduct Meter can be used when people do things like fill a swimming pool so that they can be charged only for the water used, not the sewage. Solicitor Dalfonso shared that the Borough will need a Resolution for the Policy and that he would like to review it to make sure there are no issues that have been seen in other communities.

Community Events

- 1) Councilwoman Coban shared that the Little Free Library is almost here. The person donating it to the Borough will probably be dropping it off soon and Councilwoman Coban has found a volunteer to help her build it and get it set up in the chosen location.

Reports (Available Upon Request)

A. Manager's Report – In the packets no questions

B. Engineer's Report – Gordon Taylor

1. There is no change yet to the consent orders.
2. The MS4 Annual Report is due September 30th, Senate will be happy to help with any questions we may have.
3. The Water Allocation Permit has been filed.
4. The Community Park Design is underway.
5. The Greenways, Trails and Recreation Programs Grant decision has been pushed back until September.
6. The Paving Project is completed. Senate has received their invoice and will be providing it to us soon.
7. The Bid Opening is September 25th for the Sanitary Sewer Manhole Repair (CDBG 46) work.
8. The Water Improvement Project (CDBG 46) is still under design.
9. The Small Water and Sewer Grant Announcement has been pushed back until September.
10. ALCOSAN has asked us to apply for a time extension for the GROW Grant.
11. We are waiting to hear about the ARLEE Grant we submitted.
12. The sewer liner has been removed and inspected at the Freeport Road Development and a new liner will be installed.

Old Business

Borough Manager Ulanowicz gave an update that she has been in contact with the Land Bank about the Petre Estate and the Schultz property at 721 Spruce St.

Borough Council and Manager Ulanowicz made the decision to continue holding Council Meetings on Zoom through December.

Borough Council and Manager Ulanowicz also made the decision that the Borough Building will remain closed to the public until further notice.

Borough Manager Ulanowicz shared an update with Borough Council about the tennis courts at the park. The land had in the past been given to Allegheny County for additional parking for the High Rise. In order to finalize the DCNR Grant for the Community Park the Borough needed that property back. After speaking to Allegheny County, they have agreed to return the tennis court property to the Borough.

New Business

Borough Manager Ulanowicz shared with Borough Council that the Borough has had a significant uptick in trapping for Groundhogs by Big Daddy this year. She shared that Big Daddy suggested that many of his municipalities trap the first animal at an address for free and then have the homeowners cover the cost for additional animal trapping. Borough Council agreed that this was a good idea and asked that the Borough Administration come up with a form that the homeowners could sign when they ask us to trap for the first animal.

Borough Manager Ulanowicz shared with Borough Council that there has been a situation with rats occurring in the Borough, not on Borough property, and that homeowners have been calling looking for the Borough to handle the situation. Borough Council agreed that if the rats are not on Borough Property, they are not Borough responsibility.

Comments from the Public – Non-Agenda Items

Philip Mangis – Owner of 921 Center Avenue Blawnox, PA 15238 – submitted a question “My questions are related to the construction project located at 177 Freeport Road, has the A. Martini Company complied with the approved site plans to the satisfaction of Blawnox Borough? Specifically, has the dramatic change in the sites topography caused by the excavation been completed to specification, as far as, the elimination of portions of the county access road between the site and the house on 921 Center Avenue? Also, the significant drop off at the rear of the 921 Center Avenue lot? The dramatic excavation of the hillside presents considerable health, safety, and erosion/land slide concerns.”

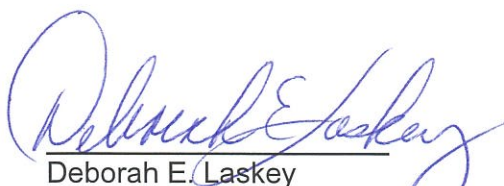
Entered Executive Session 7:20 p.m. Exited 8:00 p.m.

Adjournment

Meeting Adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

ATTEST:


Kathy Ulanowicz
Borough Manager


Deborah E. Laskey
Borough Council President

Kathy Ulanowicz

From: Mallori McDowell
Sent: Tuesday, September 1, 2020 10:17 AM
To: Kathy Ulanowicz
Subject: FW: Question for the Virtual Council Meeting Aug. 13, 2020

From: Philip Mangis <pmangis@comcast.net>
Sent: Wednesday, August 12, 2020 9:34 AM
To: Mallori McDowell <mmcdowell@blawnox.net>
Cc: ktmangis@gmail.com
Subject: Re: Question for the Virtual Council Meeting Aug. 13, 2020

This is a correction to the previous email regarding the construction address of 177 Freeport Road.

Thank you,

Phil Mangis
625 Field Club Road
Pittsburgh, PA 15238

On 08/12/2020 9:27 AM Philip Mangis <pmangis@comcast.net> wrote:

My questions are related to the construction project located at 177 Freeport Road, has the A. Martini Company complied with the approved site plans to the satisfaction of Blawnox Borough? Specifically, has the dramatic change in the sites topography caused by the excavation been completed to specification, as far as, the elimination of portions of the county access road between the site and the house on 921 Center Avenue? Also, the significant drop off at the rear of the 921 Center Avenue lot? The dramatic excavation of the hillside presents considerable health, safety, and erosion/land slide concerns.

Thank you,

Phil Mangis
625 Field Club Road
Pittsburgh, PA 15238

Property owner of:
921 Center Ave
Blawnox, PA 15238