

**MINUTES**  
**BLAWNOX BOROUGH COUNCIL**  
**Regular Meeting May 10th, 2023**

**Call to Order**

President Laskey called the meeting to order at 6:32 p.m. in Council Chambers. A Zoom was set up for anyone that was not feeling well or not comfortable attending in person.

**Pledge of Allegiance**

**Roll Call**

The roll was called to establish a quorum.

**Council Members Present:** Elaine Palmer, John Simmons, President Deborah Laskey, and Christine Carnevali in person. Vice President Randall Stoddard was at the meeting via Zoom (beginning at 6:46ish).

**Council Members Not Present:** Meghan Kennedy and Katie Coban

**Also Present:** Engineer Gordon Taylor, Solicitor Samuel Dalfonso, Junior Council Member Jacob Anthikad, Mayor Anthony Gross, and Borough Manager Kathy Ulanowicz.

**Comments from the Public**

No Comments from the Public.

**Agenda Items**

Motion to approve Council Meeting Minutes of the April 12, 2023 meeting.

**Moved: Ms. Laskey**

**Second: Ms. Palmer**

**Motion Carried: 4-0**

Motion to approve bills from the General Fund for April in the amount \$171,583.51.

**Moved: Ms. Laskey**

**Second: Mr. Simmons**

**Motion Carried: 4-0**

**Finance Committee** – Nothing at this time

**Property and Planning** – Nothing at this time

**Strategic Planning**

- 1) Contract signed for the building water proofing work to begin late summer.
- 2) Motion to Approve Resolution 2023-03 Participating in the Allegheny Together Grant  
**Moved: Ms. Palmer      Second: Ms. Carnevali      Motion Carried: 4-0**
- 3) Allegheny Together kickoff meeting with the Business Advisory Committee will be held May 22<sup>nd</sup>. Let us know if you have any ideas for what you would like to see in the business district.

**Public Safety**

- 1) Fire Department – At the May meeting the fire department discussed bids for painting the new Fire Truck. They have gone with Pitt-Ohio and it will cost between \$20,000 and \$25,000. There is some small rust repairs to be done as well. The high bid was \$50,000. Pitt-Ohio also had the fastest turn around time at between 6 and 8 weeks.
- 2) Fire Safety Inspections – Fire Marshall McBriar and Deputy Fire Marshall Simmons have more inspections set up in the middle/ end of May. They will be inspecting 940 Center Ave, 265 Freeport Road, 511 Freeport Road, and 901 Lewis Ave. They are also still dealing with some issues with the alarm systems at the high rise and are working with them to get those issues fixed.

### **Public Works**

- 1) Motion to reappropriate \$12,000.00 of the Capital Funds budgeted for the building project, to pay for the final 35 water meters needed to complete the water meter replacement project.  
**Moved: Mr. Simmons                      Second: Ms. Carnevali                      Motion Carried: 4-0**

### **Community Events**

- 1) Memorial Day Parade –The parade is starting later at 11:00 am for the Fox Chapel Band so they can make it from another parade on time. The Caterer is adding kielbasa and sauerkraut in addition to the hot dogs, coleslaw and potato salad. The picnic will be at Blawnox Community Park around noonish, following the parade and the program at the monument. We would like for Borough Council to walk in the parade.
- 2) Best of Blawnox update – We are having Earth Day this Saturday at 9 o'clock at the Borough Building. Art Fling coming June 10<sup>th</sup> more info to follow.
- 3) The Hoboken Church is having a flower sale this Friday and Saturday.

### **Reports (Available Upon Request)**

#### **A. Manager's Report –**

- 1) The Borough Office got its buzzer system installed. Now we can see who is at the door right from our phone and let them in. The insurance company is extremely happy the door will remain locked. Mayor Gross would like to look into how long the door system video is stored.
- 2) Mayor Gross asked if Dennis is our rental inspector. He is and the inspections are getting done and he comes when he says he will.

#### **B. Engineer's Report – Gordon Taylor – In the packets**

- 1) Motion to approve final payment CDBG 47 Water Valve Replacement, Mortimor \$187,492.02.

**Moved: Ms. Laskey                      Second: Ms. Palmer                      Motion Carried: 4-0**

- 2) Motion to approve final payment CDBG 48 Water Valve Replacement, Osiris \$23,797.43

**Moved: Mr. Stoddard                      Second: Mr. Simmons                      Motion Carried: 5-0**

- 3) Motion to amend the agenda to include a motion to approve the change order and the final payment for CDBG 48.

**Moved: Ms. Palmer                      Second: Ms. Carnevali                      Motion Carried: 5-0**

- 4) Motion to approve the change order for an additional sum of \$6,957.43.

**Moved: Mr. Simmons                      Second: Ms. Laskey                      Motion Carried: 5-0**

- 5) Motion to approve final payment for CDBG 48 Water Valve Replacement, Osiris \$20,122.43 (not the amount approved in item 2).

**Moved: Ms. Laskey                      Second: Mr. Stoddard                      Motion Carried: 5-0**

6) Motion to amend the agenda to add a change order for CDBG 47

**Moved: Ms. Laskey                      Second: Mr. Stoddard                      Motion Carried: 5-0**

7) Motion to accept the change order for CDBG 47 Water Valve Replacement, Mortimor in the amount of \$212.98

**Moved: Ms. Carnevali                      Second: Ms. Laskey                      Motion Carried: 5-0**

8) Motion to amend the agenda to accept the change order and final invoice for CDBG 48, Underground Water Source Removal

**Moved: Ms. Laskey                      Second: Mr. Simmons                      Motion Carried: 5-0**

9) Motion to approve the change order for CDBG 48 in the amount of \$2,660.81.

**Moved: Mr. Stoddard                      Second: Ms. Laskey                      Motion Carried: 5-0**

10) Motion to approve final payment for CDBG 48 Underground water source removal, Roto Router \$24,850.77

**Moved: Mr. Simmons                      Second: Ms. Palmer                      Motion Carried: 5-0**

### **Old Business**

231 Freeport trash removed by Public Works – there was trash on the steps for about 5 weeks. We ticketed twice and cited them, but they did nothing, so Manager Ulanowicz had Public Works remove the trash. Solicitor Dalfonso suggested we create a policy for how we charge people in these sorts of situations so Manager Ulanowicz and Assistant Manager McDowell will work on that.

537 Fountain Street Carr Property – The property owner has finished his curb box. We abated the hearing that we had with him for May 11<sup>th</sup>.

Chuvala Sherriff Sale has been Postponed to June 5th.

Trash proposal discussion – Manager Ulanowicz asked solicitor Dalfonso to put together some information so that we would have what's out there and what we need to decide for the bid doc. We have several different options, and we can bid out a few different ways. Council thinks that once we go out to bid it will be a good idea to have a town hall to explain the changes. It is important that we bid with and without recycling because we are not required to recycle. What do we want to bid: Unlimited with and without recycling, limited with and without recycling, leaf/outdoor pickup maybe two months a year, like April and October. Many of the surrounding communities have their trash fees rolled into their taxes. We would have to cut \$170,000 in services or increase our milage by 2.5%. Council is not interested in making this change.

### **New Business**

Recognizing the 2023 high school graduates from Blawnox – Council Woman Carnevali came up with a wonderful idea to recognize the 2023 high school graduates. The Borough office has a list of students and will send a letter.

Motion to Approve Resolution 2023-02 Disposition of Documents

**Moved: Ms. Palmer                      Second: Mr. Simmons                      Motion Carried: 5-0**

**Comments from the Public – Non-Agenda Items** – No Comments

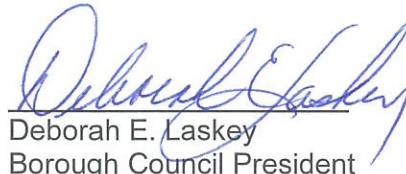
**Adjournment**

Meeting Adjourned at 7:50 p.m.

**ATTEST:**



Kathy Ulanowicz  
Borough Manager



Deborah E. Laskey  
Borough Council President