

MINUTES
BLAWNIOX BOROUGH COUNCIL
SPECIAL MEETING NOVEMBER 23, 2020

Call to Order

Deborah E. Laskey, Council President, called the meeting to order at 6:00PM, at the Blawnox Volunteer Fire Department, due to the COVID 19 Pandemic.

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call

The roll call was to establish a quorum.

Council Members Present, Deborah E. Laskey, Randall Stoddard, Jessica Dayhoff, Katie Coban, John Simmons, Elaine Palmer.

Council Members Not Present: Meghan Kennedy

Also Present: Solicitor, Sam Dalfanso, Borough Manager Kathy Ulanowicz, Junior Council Member, Mona Gerges, and Borough Mayor Anthony Gross.

Comments from the Public: Non Agenda Items

No Comments from the Public

Agenda Items:

1. Mobile Food Trucks in Blawnox

Comment from the Public: Agenda Items

Ron Esser, 364 Freeport Road Owner Operator Moondogs and Starlight Lounge. Mr. Esser wants a compromise, on the where Food Trucks are permitted. Mr. Esser is concerned about the parking on Freeport Road, will sell his property on Spruce Street so the borough can put in a Municipal parking lot. He would also like the borough to investigate putting a traffic light at Maple and Freeport, to slow traffic down through the community. He would also like to see Maple back to 2 way.

Rick Edwards, 330 Freeport Road, Maenam Thai, Mr. Edwards does not want Food Trucks to be able to park close to restaurants, it will take parking away from their restraint.

Ray Hughes, 364 Pine Street, Athletic Club. Mr. Hughes would like to see a traffic light a Maple and Freeport.

Ed Crates, 314 Freeport Road, Sportsman's Club, Mr. Crates asked how the Brewery got the permits since they did not need a variance to load or unload, and for the parking. Mr. Crates was also concerned about the parking on Freeport Road.

Sam Dalfonso, Solicitor commented that at this time Food Trucks are not zoned anywhere in the borough, so they are permitted anywhere. The borough is looking for what the businesses owners want in a licensing/ permitting process.

Josh Taylor, 340 Freeport Road, Old Thunder Brewery, Mr. Taylor wanted to let the other restraint/bar owners know that they had complied with all the permitting processes, they also had to have food to open and serve beer, and they wanted to be a good neighbor. The brewery would place the menus of the other bars/restaurants in the brewery.

Deborah E. Laskey: Borough Council President, Ms. Laskey wanted to see the business owners work together to make our community better. We need new businesses to bring new people into our community, it is up to the business owners to work together.

Randy Stoddard, Vice President Borough Council, we will have to make sure, what ever process we have for Food Truck permitting, that each vendor has all the appropriate licenses to operate.

Pat Goodman: Police Chief, making Maple one way down was well thought out. Chief Goodman said that that intersection is one of the most dangerous in town, and it was changed for the safety of our residents.

Tony Gross, Mayor, Mr. Gross responded to the conversation of a Chamber of Commerce, we tried and did not get much of a response. Now it is up to the business owners to come together to form an organization to improve our community. Mr. Gross will support their efforts but will not head the organization.

There was considerable conversation about parking, the lack of it, and the need for a Chamber of Commerce. By the end of the meeting the business owners seemed to come to an agreement that they needed to work together for the betterment of the community.

Adjournment: 7PM

ATTEST:



Kathy Ulanowicz

Borough Manager



Deborah E. Laskey

Borough Council President