

**MINUTES
BLAWNOX BOROUGH COUNCIL
Regular Meeting October 12th, 2022**

Call to Order

President Laskey called the meeting to order at 6:30 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, Katie Coban, President Deborah Laskey, Vice President Randall Stoddard, and Jessica Dayhoff-Mayo.

Council Members Not Present: Meghan Kennedy

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

Comments from the Public

No Comments from the Public.

Agenda Items

Motion to approve Council Meeting Minutes of the August 10th, 2022 meeting.

Moved: Ms. Laskey

Second: Mr. Stoddard

Motion Carried: 6-0

Motion to approve bills from the General Fund for August in the amount of \$87,464.84.

Moved: Mr. Stoddard

Second: Mr. Simmons

Motion Carried: 6-0

Finance Committee

- 1) Budgeting – Manager Ulanowicz and Assistant Manager McDowell have finalized a proposed budget, it has been sent to council for approval. The Borough will be raising taxes in 2023.
- 2) Mayor Gross looked into tax millage for other local communities and there were 21 municipalities between 9 and 11 mils and 12 municipalities above 12 mils.

Property and Planning

- 1) Wireless Franchise Facilities Ordinance – The Ordinance is generally ready to go but we were waiting on some verbiage that O'Hara Township has asked for, which we received this morning. We hope to have the ordinance ready to advertise next month.
- 2) Zoning Ordinance – We are meeting next week to discuss the Zoning Ordinance changes with Tom Costello.

Strategic Planning

- 1) Borough Sign – Council President Laskey and Councilman Simmons met with someone to begin the discussion about a new sign for the Borough Building in September. The new sign will be approximately 18,000 to 20,000 dollars. There were four different designs given to the Borough, council likes sign design 4 the best although Councilman Stoddard also like design 1. Manager Ulanowicz has contacted Senator Lindsay Williams office and they are looking to see if there are any funding sources available. The current design appears to be allowed under the zoning ordinance, but if it is too large, we will need to file for a variance.

Public Safety

- 1) Motion to Advertise Ordinance #628 Amending the Boroughs Code for the residency requirement
Moved: Mr. Simmons Second: Ms. Dayhoff-Mayo Motion Carried: 6-0
- 2) The Fire Marshall, Fire Chief, Mayor and Councilman Simmons did a walk through inspection on the high rise. The Mayor then met with the County and told them what needed to be done to be in compliance and that if it wasn't done they would be fined. This was all things in the building in general, the apartments are all inspected with the Tenant-Landlord inspections. The County is going to address the issues.
- 3) This group is planning to do a walk through of all the large high-rise apartments in Blawnox.

Public Works

- 1) There was another water break today but the Public Works department has it handled.

Community Events

- 1) Best of Blawnox had a really nice fall festival and they net about \$1,100 in donations. The event was fairly well attended for a rainy day.
- 2) Night of the Lights will be held on Saturday December 3rd, 2022 in conjunction with the Best of Blawnox Cookie Tour. The Cookie Tour will be held from 1:00 to 4:00 pm; Night of the Lights will be from 4:00 until about 6:30 pm with activities from 4:00 to 5:30 and Light up around 5:30 pm.
- 3) Ray has agreed to be Santa and he is already growing his beard.

Reports (Available Upon Request)

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

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

- 1) Wayne Thompson – Water Tank will be finished by the end of the month.
- 2) Question from Council – Water meters, can we get them done?
 - Gordon will look into a change order to get them to mobilize twice.
 - Time is running out and we really want this project done.
 - We are begging residents to read their meters.

Old Business

201 Summit Drive Update – Manager Ulanowicz spoke to the contractor yesterday and they are hoping to go to market by the end of the month.

'CLR' Common Level Ratio – This morning on TV there was something about Pittsburgh Public Schools filing an appeal. We do not know what Pittsburgh Public Schools is appealing. At this point we have no idea what is happening. We got a change order on a property on Riverview just for 2021 and 2022.

New Business

Aspinwall – The Borough has been asked for a letter of support in order to get a grant to improve Aspinwall's Park. Council is okay with sending a letter of support but want to know which park.

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

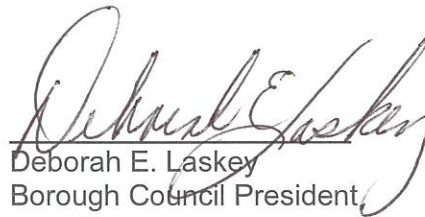
Adjournment

Meeting Adjourned at 7:07 p.m.

ATTEST:



Kathy Ulanowicz
Borough Manager



Deborah E. Laskey
Borough Council President

