

**MINUTES
BLAWNOX BOROUGH COUNCIL
Regular Meeting September 14th, 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.

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: Ms. Coban

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: Ms. Dayhoff-Mayo Motion Carried: 6-0

Finance Committee

- 1) Budgeting – Manager Ulanowicz and Assistant Manager McDowell shared the Borough has begun the budgeting process. They will be meeting with the Finance Committee and hope to have preliminary budget by October.

Property and Planning

- 1) Zoning Ordinance Update – Council Woman Dayhoff-Mayo shared that the Borough received the review back from the County. It was a long email with many things to review. The email has been forwarded to Tom Costello for his review. The Property and Planning Committee will meet next month.
- 2) Wireless Franchise Facilities Ordinance – The Ordinance is generally ready to go but we are waiting on some verbiage that O'Hara Township has asked for in their ordinance.

Strategic Planning

- 1) The Mayor asked the Strategic Planning Committee if they could look into getting a new sign for out front of the Borough Building. The committee will look into it.

Public Safety

- 1) Motion to Approve Ordinance #626 Designating Freeport Road between Lewis Avenue and Alpha Drive a "Break Retarder Prohibition" Zone.
Moved: Mr. Simmons Second: Mr. Stoddard Motion Carried: 6-0
- 2) Motion to Approve Ordinance #627 amending Civil Service Commission Ordinance #534 for Number of Experience Hours and Agility Requirements.
Moved: Mr. Simmons Second: Ms. Palmer Motion Carried: 6-0

Public Works – Nothing at this time.

Community Events

- 1) Best of Blawnox has the Harvest Festival coming up on October 1st from 12-3. About 26 vendors are coming. Also having a shoe collection and are short on shoes, please donate any you might have.

Reports (Available Upon Request)

- A. Manager's Report** – In the packets no questions
- B. Engineer's Report – Gordon Taylor** – In the packets no questions
 - 1) Consent Orders – Working on a progress report.
 - 2) DCNR – We received comments from the state that were a page long Gordon is working on responding to the comments.
 - 3) Water Improvements – Still working on plans for installing/disinfecting
 - 4) Notice to proceed September 29th for the Water Valve Replacement.
 - 5) CDBG 48 Schedule – Get on Bidding Schedule with COG; Bid in October, Our funding was increased more than we asked for, for the project.
 - 6) Councilman Simmons asked what 4 locations we submitted for the ARLEE grant. We submitted for the main intersections.
 - 7) Mayor Gross asked why we were not going through Costars for the park project. We have limited things available on Costars so we decided to just bid out the project.

Old Business

209 Summit Drive Update – The Sheriff Sale was pulled, the mortgage company paid the back taxes for the Borough.

201 Summit Drive Update – They are beginning to landscape now, the project had been on hold because they were waiting for flooring. They are hoping to have it on the market soon.

231 Freeport Road – Last month we authorized having the landscaping done and Overbeck's came and did the work. Ms. Stokes would like the Borough to show some mercy. The Borough and Solicitor Dalfonso would like to see something that is notarized showing that Ms. Stokes is allowed to act as the manager of the property. The Borough will put a lien for the amount of the landscaping and then if the house ever sells the lien will be fulfilled.

New Business

'CLR' Common Level Ratio – There was a class action lawsuit filed against the County. The CLR is used to get the assessed value of a property. The CLR was at 81.1 and now it will be 63.6. This means that a \$100,000 house that sells would have been assessed at \$81,100 and now will be assessed at \$63,600. There is also a possibility that this will be retroactive to 2020 and we will have to give refunds.

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

Executive Session

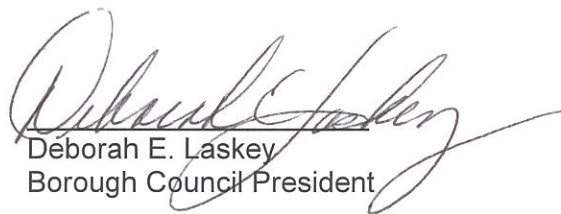
Entered Executive Session at 7:00 p.m.

Adjournment

Meeting Adjourned at 7:05 p.m.

ATTEST:


Kathy Ulanowicz
Borough Manager


Deborah E. Laskey
Borough Council President

