



Borough Council Minutes

August 09, 2022

7:32 pm

1. Call to Order, Salute to the Flag and Roll Call 7:31 p.m.

Mr. Eric Kudrich President	P	Mr. Sean Alessandra Councilman	P	Mr. Jason Ohliger Solicitor	P	Mr. Tom Long Fire Chief	P
Mr. Dave Clark Vice President	P	Mr. John Bush Jr Councilman	P	Mr. Greg Myer Treasurer	P	Mr. Eric Stewart EPRP Asst Chief *ON PATROL	A *
Mr. Dayne Losee Councilman	P	Mr. Jon Maney Councilman	P	Ms. Amy Turner Tax Collector	P	Mrs. Lisa Salvato Recreation	A
Mrs. Janet Clark Mayor	P	Mr. Harry Prey Councilman	P	Mr. Tom Olver EMA	A	Mr. Shawn Bolles Zoning/Code Enforcement Office/Park Mgr	P

Public in attendance: approximately 17 members of the public present.

2. President's Remarks:

Opening of the Street Bids: Hanson Aggregates, Pa, LLC: \$166,854 and Wayco: \$201,524. This is a re-bid from Wayco; the previous bid received was around \$161,000.

Opening of bid for 1990 International Flatbed Truck and Plow: Arthur Trovei & Sons, Inc submitted a bid \$2,300. Minimum bid was advertised at \$5,000

Opening of bid for 1993 Ford Streetsweeper: Arthur Trovei & Sons, Inc. submitted a bid for \$6,500. Minimum bid was advertised at \$8,000.

3. Motion to amend the agenda: NONE

4. Public Comment (When recognized by the president, per Borough Code, state your name and address for the minutes)

a) Marian Keegan Lackawaxen Township: Introduced herself as a write-in candidate for State Representative House District 139 stated she would be available after the meeting to talk to with public.

b) Lynn Homer 501 Ave L:

- Heart of Matamoras is hosting a family fun day Labor Day weekend.
- Received verbal confirmation that the grant application submitted to The Greater Pike County for Christmas lights was approved; the minimum they will receive is \$5,000. She is expecting letters will be mailed later in the week to applicants confirming approval.
- Looking to firm up a date with the Streets Dept to gain access to the holiday wreaths in order to get them ready for the Avenue.
- Would like the Borough/Recreation to consider hiring professional Historical Christmas Carolers for the annual tree lighting ceremony to be held at the Borough Hall on either December 3rd or December 10th. The cost would be \$750 for an hour. Encourage the residents to come dressed in "old-fashioned dress and enjoy an old-fashioned Christmas".

c) Carly Longhenry, on behalf of Davis R. Chant Realtors, presented a check in the amount of \$6,280 to Mr. Jon Maney, head of the Recreation Department, for the

purchase/replacement of a scoreboard at Airport Park. Mr. Maney accepted the generous donation and noted the field will be renamed Chant Field; stated this will be a lifetime sponsorship.

5. Unanimous Consent Agenda **M: Losee/Prey. All in favor.**

Approval of Minutes –July 2022

Approval of Treasurer’s Report –July 2022

Approval of bills to be paid July 2022

Approval of reimbursement to the recreation department for invoices paid on behalf of the Wade Trust Fund, copy of expenditures on file July 2022.

6. Reports:

a. Mayor: Janet Clark:

- Questioned if the Heart of Matamoras was prepared to pay for the Christmas Carolers. Lynn Homer responded that she was hoping the Recreation would be generous and her intent was to present this to the Recreation Board in the upcoming meeting.
- Noted the 9/11 ceremony at Veterans Park would be held on 9/11 at 7:00 pm, bring a chair.
- Asked about reinstating the Jr. Council position; Mayor Clark volunteered to spearhead this as soon as school starts.
- Inquired about a cooling center. President Kudrich and the Secretary noted a resident inquired about where to seek relief and we opened the Annex.

b. General Government Committee: Harry Prey: Noted early garbage pickup complaint against private haulers has been addressed.

c. Fire Committee: Sean Alessandra: Nothing to report.

d. Public Works: Harry Prey:

- Read DPW report, noted large branches and tree stumps are not being accepted at the composting site.
- A fence has been installed at the DPW by Ave Q.
- The crew has been filling potholes in the area and storm drains are being cleaned and repaired as needed.

e. Facilities Committee: John Bush Jr.:

- The garage door opener has been installed.
- A set of drawing for the Borough Hall has been received. Next month Mr. Bush will be asking for a vote on the plans. Mr. Clark and Mr. Bush will set up a meeting with Brian Snyder on the grant application for ADA compliance for the renovation. President Kudrich welcomed residents of the Borough to come to look at the plans, they will be available for public review.

f. Finance Committee: Mr. Clark:

- Framework for 2023 Budget is being set up and at the next meeting all councilmembers will be given a worksheet for completion, if questions please come and talk to him.
- Noted a question came up in last nights Police meeting regarding police fines. Explained that local police fines should be forwarded to EPRP, yet they have not been receiving the proceeds. Mr. Clark will total up the fines that have been received and have a check issued to EPRP as noted in the contract. The amount owed to date is estimated to be just under \$3,000 It is unknown why the practice of giving them the fines they are entitled to has stopped.

g. Planning: Mark Madsen: Nothing to report.

- h. EPRPD: Assistant Chief Stewart: Not present, the report is on file, Mr. Clark read the monthly report. The number of police calls has greatly increased; for the year Matamoras is 24% of calls and Westfall is 76% of the calls/activity.
- i. Recreation Advisory Board: Lisa Silvato/Jon Maney:
 - Mr. Maney thanked Chant Realty for their donation.
 - Noted that YTD the recreation department has spent \$52,965.34 from the Wade account for park improvements. This includes new playground equipment and all of the baseball fields were remodeled. All funds are line itemed.
 - Thanked Shawn for getting the splash pad up and running.
- j. Fire Chief: Tom Long:
 - Mr. Long read the monthly report.
 - Noted there is an EMT class being held at the firehouse and will continue until the end of the year.
 - Stated that the fire department now has Junior Members, they can join at the age of 14. Their hours are limited; they can only respond to calls from 7am to 7pm. Contact the Fire Department for more information.
- k. Emergency Management: Tom Olver: Not present.
- l. Police Commission: Dave Clark and Sean Alessandria:
 - EPRP is still facing a shortage of officers. There are 8 officers filling 24/7 shifts.
 - Working on an activity analysis for the next meeting. The most police activity stems from theft, which is broken into 10 categories. The analysis report will show where the majority of theft is occurring. One store generates more theft than all of Matamoras Borough, Westfall Township and all the other stores combined. This will be included in next month's report.
- m. Code Enforcement: Code Enforcement/Park Manager: Shawn Bolles:
 - Zoning permits have been issued for four (4) temporary permits, 1 sign, 2 above ground pools, and one detached garage that included demolition of the existing garage. There were numerous violation tickets were issued, mostly for grass. There were 6 residents that choose not to pay the \$50 fine. They will now be taken to court and face a fine of \$1,000.
 - Shawn met with the property owner of 507 – 509 Pennsylvania Ave, commonly referred to as the Exxon Station. They discussed what needs to be done and the owner has the necessary applications. Shawn noted that the owner would be contacting the Council for consideration of tax relief to fix up the property. The owner will be sending a concept plan to show what he intends to put on the property.
 - There were two grass violations that were sent and the owners did not pick up their certified mail after 2 weeks so the Borough cut the lawns. If they fail to pay for the service provided a lien will be placed on their property.
 - Attended a Zoning Hearing on August 4th.
 - Reminders were sent to three outside garbage contractors explaining the Borough Ordinance states that work cannot begin before 6:30 am and dumpsters cannot be in the right-a-way, they must be on the property line.
 - The Work Force employee, who works in the Park and with DPW, is working 5 days a week, his hours were cut to 7am to 12pm due to heat.
 - Noted that the splash pad is open, however we are still waiting for a filter, that wrong parts were sent and he is working on other issues. He is making it work for now. It hasn't been officially announced that it is up and working due to these issues. The hours of operation are from 11am to 4pm.

- A memorial softball tournament was held over the weekend that was very successful. Mr. Maney noted it raised \$1475. Eight teams participated.
- n. Sewage: Dave Clark:
- Completed the Act 537 submission to the DEP. Now doing a final review on the changes to the original submission that was rejected, as are the other municipalities. The engineer will formally submit the application to each of the municipalities. The 537 report will be completed for the September meeting and it will then be formally submitted to the Planning Commission for review. The Planning Committee has 60 days to review it.

Police Report X	Recreation X	Police Commission
Planning	Fire Department X	Municipal Authority X
Myer & Meyer Financial Report X	Berkheimer EIT Report X	Pike Tax Maintenance Updates X

7. Correspondence: On file.

8. Added agenda items: None

9. Old Business: None

10. New Business:

- a. Motion to table Rental Property Ordinance presented to Council from the Planning Commission. **M: Losee/Clark**
- b. Motion to accept Hansen Aggregates PA, LLC road paving bid of \$166,854. **M: Losee/Clark.** Discussion ensued. Mr. Maney was concerned about wasting tax dollars and would like to put this off until prices come back down. Mr. Prey noted we have various Phases for different sections of roadway. All were in agreement the bid prices were very high. President Kudrich asked for public comment. Mr. Eric Hupka asked if Phase 1 could be scaled back. Mr. Ohliger stated that it could not be done without rebidding the project. President Kudrich asked for roll call vote.

Mr. Eric Kudrich President	No	Mr. Sean Alessandra Councilman	No
Mr. Dave Clark Vice President	Yes	Mr. John Bush Jr Councilman	No
Mr. Dayne Losee Councilman	Yes	Mr. Jon Maney Councilman	No
Mr. Harry Prey Councilman	No		

- c. Motion to reject the bids from Hansen and Wayco. **M: Maney/Kudrich. All in favor**
- d. Motion to bid and advertise Phase 2 of the road paving project. **M: Maney/Alessandra. All in favor.**
- e. Motion to accept 1990 International Flat Bed Truck bid from Arthur Trovei & Sons, Inc. for \$2,300. **M: Maney/Kudrich.** Discussion ensued regarding the minimum bit and the price of scrap metal. **All in favor.**
- f. Motion to accept 1993 Street Sweeper bid from Arthur Trovei & Sons, Inc. for \$6,500. **M: Kudrich/Alessandra. All in favor.**
- g. Motion to authorize the secretary to send a letter to Pike County Election Bureau requesting a question be placed on the November General Ballot for the increase from 3 mills to 4 mills for the Matamoras Fire Department. **M: Clark/Losee.** Discussion ensued. Mayor Clark questioned what the money was needed for. What isn't the Borough providing for the Fire Department that they need? Fire Chief Long listed the increases they are facing, how much it costs to outfit the members. Mayor Clark noted that everyone is dealing with price

increases and they don't have anywhere they can go for help. Everyone must live within their means. She stressed her concern that the tax increase would burden the taxpayers. Fire Chief Long stressed the importance of maintaining and testing equipment so it doesn't fail. Mr. Maney stated you can't put a price tag on safety, that we are a Democracy and we should put it on the ballot and let the voters decide. President Kudrich stated for the record that the Borough pays 3 mills to the Fire Department, the maximum we can give without a referendum. Mr. Mark Madsen of Ave M was recognized for public comment. He asked for perspective of how much money 1 mill was per household? Quick math came up with a figure of roughly an increase of \$20 per household per year. **All in favor.**

12. Public Comment: None.

ADJOURNMENT:

A motion was made by Mr. Losee and seconded by Mr. Clark to adjourn at 8:36

Respectfully submitted,



Marianne Brown
Borough Secretary