



Borough Council Minutes

December 12, 2023

7:30 pm

Call to Order, Salute to the Flag and Roll Call 7:30 p.m.

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

Public in attendance: approximately 15 members of the public were present.

President's Remarks.

President Kudrich welcomed Carl Will from McAteer & Will who attended this evening to present a check to the Matamoras Recreation Board for \$2,640.21. They had fundraised for new scoreboards in the park during the 4th of July Celebration.

Reminded everyone that the Fire Department is selling Christmas trees. The Annual Rick Drew Parade was a success. The Heart of Matamoras did a great job decorating, hosting Santa and caroling. Our incoming Mayor, Cory Homer, and his wife did a lovely job decorating the planters on PA Ave with Christmas trees donated by the Fire House.

Mr. Kudrich then presented Mayor Janet Clark, Mr. Dave Clark and Mr. Dee Losee with plaques acknowledging their many years of service to the Borough of Matamoras. Mayor Clark, our first female Mayor of Matamoras, has faithfully served the borough for the past 12 years. She was known as the "marrying mayor", performing many wedding services during her first 5 years. She had been instrumental in planning Vets Park 9/11 ceremonies; she was active in planning many festive holiday activities and so much more. Councilman Dave Clark also served the borough honorably for the past 12 years and was instrumental in acquiring financial stability for the borough. He balanced the budget and brought the borough into good financial standing while lowering the taxes. He also served the Police Commission, negotiated the Police Contract and applied for many grants on behalf of the borough. Mr. Dayne "Dee" Losee has tirelessly served the borough for the past 26 years, just 2 years shy of a record for the longest serving Councilman. Highlights include being on council when Eastern Pike Regional Police was formed, he had served as President for many years and was instrumental in the development of Veterans Park. He also volunteered his time siding and roofing the borough annex years ago. It was noted that Dee missed very few of the past 300 council meetings.

Added Motion(s): The following administrative motions were added to the agenda. M: Clark/Prey. All in favor.

Motion to authorize the Solicitor to file a millage petition

Motion to advertise a public hearing regarding the ordinance amendments and to send them to Pike County Planning

Motion to accept the resignation of Tommy Butler Jr.

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

- **Dimitry Roby 105 Pennsylvania Avenue:** Spoke about the Patel Project on PA Ave, their application with the liquor board and wondered what would become of the building if they lose their license to sell alcohol.

Unanimous Consent Agenda M: Clark/Maney. All in favor.

- a. Approval of Minutes –Council meeting November 2023
- b. Approval of Treasurer’s Report –November 2023
- c. Approval of bills to be paid – November 2023
- d. Approval of reimbursement to the recreation department for invoices paid on behalf of the Wade Trust Fund, copy of expenditures: November 2023

Reports:

- Mayor: Janet Clark: Thanked everyone for Saturday night, she thanked everyone involved, especially Kelly, Lisa and Lynn, for making it magical. The mayor then gave thanks to Matamoras for trusting her to serve as the mayor for the past 12 years. She noted she read everything she could to learn what she needed to know to be an effective mayor. It was fun, it was interesting. She was happy to serve the Police Commission. She thanked all for their trust in her.
- General Government Committee: Harry Prey: Noted increase in health benefits. Zoning issues have been addressed with enforcement notices.
- Fire Committee: John Bush Jr/Sean Alessandra: Christmas tree sales going well, and there was a good turnout for the Christmas Parade.
- Public Works: Harry Prey: Read the DPW report. Leaves and brush pickup are completed for the season. The compost facility will be closing soon.
- Facilities Committee: John Bush Jr.: The emergency door in the bingo hall has been fixed. A new hanging heater is installed and working. Smith Plumbing is looking into an issue with the men’s room in the FH, it may be a collapsed septic pipe and the floor may need to be ripped up. Wished the Mayor, Mr. Clark and Mr. Losee well.
- Finance Committee: Dave Clark: Commented on the Water Authority security. Hackers try to hack into many water systems across the US. Mr. Clark noted that our water systems are manually controlled, so and outsider can’t hack our water system to cause harm. Finance: residents will pay 46.2 mils this year. As a comparison, he noted that back in 2015 the milage was 48.7. We are paying less today in property taxes than back in 2015. Current and past councils worked very hard to keep taxes down.
- Planning Mark Madsen: Next week’s meeting may be canceled. Check the website.
- Recreation Advisory Board: Jon Maney/Lisa Salvato: The park is closed, there is nothing to report.
- Eastern Pike Regional Police: Report was read by Asst Chief Stewart. He noted it was a pleasure working with Mayor Clark when she served the commission; Dee was a councilman when he was sworn in as an officer 26 years ago and it was nice working with him; and the current commission Dave and Sean did a great job this year.
- Fire Chief: Todd Kowinsky: Read the report. The rescue truck was returned today. Covid precautions will be in place. Thanks for your support and enjoy your holidays.
- Emergency Management: Tom Olver: Nothing to report
- Police Commission: Dave Clark and Sean Alessandra: The Labor Contract has been signed and will be in place for the next 3 years. The Strategic Planning Committee report was read, and copies were made available for the public to read. Population drives the number of officers needed. FBI calculated that you need 2.8 officers for every 1000 full-time persons.
- Code Enforcement/Park Manager: Shawn Bolles: Not present.
- Sewage: Dave Clark: Representatives of Matamoras, Westfall, Milford Township and Milford Borough met with the DEP on December 5th to discuss the rejection of the sewage application. The DEP agreed that the sewage problem needed to be addressed. The application was rejected

because of the documents submitted. It needs to be condensed. It was 2300 pages. It was recommended that a lean and concise plan be resubmitted. The DEP is expected to send a list of deficiencies to be reviewed. On Jan 8 or 9th, the County Commissioners agreed to host a meeting that includes representatives from the 4 municipalities, State Representative Joe Adams and State Senator Lisa Baker. This will be a new submission, using the data we have. There will be another public hearing regarding this.

- All other Reports on file:

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

Correspondence: On file.

Old Business:

1. Motion to advertise a public hearing on February 13, 2024, at 7:15 regarding 6 proposed amendments to Borough Zoning and send to Pike County Planning for review. **M: Alessandria/Clark.** Mr. Ohliger read the proposed changes. **All in favor**

New Business:

1. Motion to adopt 2024 Matamoras Borough Budget and Tax Resolution **M: Prey/Alessandra**
2. Motion to authorize the Solicitor to file a millage petition with the Court of Common Pleas. **M: Clark/Prey. All in favor.**
3. Motion to advertise the 2024 meeting schedule. **M: Prey/Losee. All in favor.**
4. Motion to approve Special Event application for the Eastern Pike Kids Winter Festival on January 20th from 4:30 to 7:30 pm, fee waived. **M: Clark/Maney. All in favor.**
5. Motion to appoint Michael Mady Jr. to the Recreation Advisory Board term expiry January 1, 2028. **M: Clark/Bush Jr. All in favor.**
6. Motion to accept the resignation of Tommy Butler Jr. **M: Maney/Prey. All in favor.**
7. Motion to form a 3-person committee consisting of President Kudrich, Jon Maney and Harry Prey to look into Marangi's proposal of private waste removal. **M: Maney/Prey. All in favor.**

The President noted he would open the public comment period, after which the Council would meet for an Executive Session to discuss personnel issues. But first, he invited Councilman Losee to share some parting words.

Mr. Losee noted his first meeting was 26 years ago next month, and it was held here in the Annex. It was the 1st meeting held in the Annex, as it was previously held on the second floor of the attached building. There have been many memorable people whom he has worked with over the years and he went on to name a number of them, paying special attention to the women he has worked with. Exclaimed that 26 years is a long time and he hopes that the next 26 are just as memorable. He will miss everyone but assured all those present that he will continue to attend the meetings.

Public Comment: None.

Motion to enter Executive Session 8:15

Meeting reconvened: 8:55

Motion to hire Thomas Van Dunk as a full-time DPW employee at a rate of \$19.50 per hour. **M: Prey/Losee. All in favor.**

Motion to hire Gary Salinovich Jr as a full-time DPW employee at a rate of \$23.00 per hour, effective immediately. **M: Prey/Losee. All in favor.**

Motion to hire Daniel Renna as a part-time DPW employee at a rate of \$19.25 per hour, effective immediately. **M: Prey/Losee. All in favor.**

Public Comment: None.

A motion to adjourn at 8:58 was made by Mr. Losee.

Respectfully submitted,



Marianne Brown
Borough Secretary