



Borough Council Minutes  
 March 12, 2024  
 7:30 pm

Call to Order, Salute to the Flag. 7:42

Mr. Eric Kudrich President	E	Mr. Harry Prey Councilman	P	Mr. Jason Ohliger Solicitor	P	Chief Todd Kowinsky Fire Department	P
Mr. Mark Madsen Vice President	P	Mrs. Lisa Salvato Councilwoman	P	Mr. Scott Myer Treasurer	P	Asst Chief Stewart Eastern Pike Regional Police	P
Mr. Sean Alessandra Councilman	P	Mr. Cory Homer Mayor	P	Ms. Amy Turner Tax Collector	P	Mr. Shawn Bolles Zoning/Code Enforcement Office/Park Mgr	A
Mr. John Bush Jr Councilman	P	Ms. Shannon O'Leary Junior Council	E	Mr. Tom Olver EMA	A		
Mr. Jon Maney Councilman	P	Mr. Nathaniel Carso Junior Council	E				

Public in attendance: approximately 24 members of the public were present.

**Vice-President's Remarks:**

Mr. Madsen asked for a moment of silence to honor and remember Jane Drake. She was a wonderful woman who was involved in many aspects of the Borough and will be dearly missed. She was the Tax Collector for many years, was on the Recreation Board and involved with Veterans Park; she volunteered for everything and put her heart into the community.

President Kudrich and Mayor Homer are unable to attend tonight. Junior Councilmembers Shannon O'Leary & Nathaniel Carso will be sworn in next month by Mayor Homer.

Welcomed guests:

- Bill Fells from the Delaware Valley Youth Sports League Board. Mr. Fells and his board, along with some DVYSL players came to present the Recreation Chair with a check for \$10,000 to be used towards the installation of a new batting cage in the park. Mr. Fells commented on how great the park is looking, the park and fields have improved significantly in the past five years.
- Rose Chicchi, Executive Director of Pike County Library came to share information on the programs the library offers and to give statistics on the resident's usage of the services they provide. The library offers just under 50,000 items, including 20,000 e-books available. They have issued 1,249 adult and 218 youth library cards to Matamoras.  
 The library partners with neighboring counties to offer a larger selection. They offer various programs every day, except Mondays. The library can process passports, offer free Wi-Fi, public commuters, copying and printing is available, there are also toys and games available to borrow as well as Wi-Fi hot spots. She mentioned 2 apps are available to download using your library card number which provides access to e-books, audiobooks etc. Noted the little libraries in town and the drop boxes.
- Mary Beth Sayles, Matamoras Salutes Banner Program stated they are opening up the Veterans Banner Program for anyone who would like to order a banner. May 1<sup>st</sup> is the last day to participate. Any Veteran who has ever lived in Matamoras is welcome to participate. Banners from last year are being cleaned. Some have damage from wear and Mary Beth will reach out as needed. Applications can be found on matamorasborough.com and in the borough office. Checks payable to Matamoras Borough with the memo noting "Veteran Banner Program". They will be put up in May, before Memorial Day and will be taken down in November. No change in price from last year.

**Added Motion(s): None**

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

None

**Unanimous Consent Agenda M: Maney/Alessandra. All in favor.**

- Approval of Minutes –Council meeting February 2024
- Approval of Treasurer’s Report – February 2024
- Approval of bills to be paid – February 2024
- Approval of reimbursement to the recreation department for invoices paid on behalf of the Wade Trust Fund, copy of expenditures: February 2024

**Reports:**

- Mayor Cory Homer: Not present. His report was read by Lisa Salvato. Mayor Homer will need volunteers in the next few weeks to help with the Veteran’s home project and senior citizens’ spring cleanup. His full report is on file.
- General Government Committee: Mark Madsen: Handbook changes will be available for everyone at next month’s meeting
- Fire Committee: John Bush Jr/Sean Alessandra: Nothing to report.
- Public Works: Harry Prey: Report was read. He stated that bush is being picked up. The compost area will be opening on April 1<sup>st</sup>. Please report potholes.
- Facilities Committee: John Bush Jr.: Two hot-water heaters were replaced in the firehouse. There is a 3-4 week wait for parts for the heater in the bingo hall. Summit will be fixing the roof leak again for the DPW.
- Finance Committee Lisa Salvato: PJVA invoices were reviewed with George Ewings and payment was submitted for Dec, Jan & Feb and requested the Pike Commissioners match. The contract is good for 2024-2025. March of 2025 they will discuss the plan moving forward. Matamoras averages 100 calls per month.
- Planning Committee Mark Madson/Eddie Addison: Lot Combo that was reviewed last month is on the agenda. Mr. Maney requested that planning look at a loitering ordinance.
- Recreation: Jon Maney: Park will be opening on April 13 which is the opening day for DVYSL and he hopes the Mayor and Council will be present to throw some pitches out! The borough rented a machine to sift milling that was donated. The raw material will be used for a 1-mile walking trail in the park. The basketball court is under construction, DVYSL gave a donation for the batting cage, and the Recreation Committee is working on grants.
- Eastern Pike Regional Police: Asst Chief Stewart: Read his report. The 2023 yearly report has been completed. The report shows that Westfall continues to trend up as Matamoras is trending down in calls for service.
- Finance: Scott Myer: Noted Liquid Fuels money expected soon, taxes will start rolling in and stated he will be happy to answer any questions Council has.
- Recreation Advisory Board: Angela Clark: Not present.
- Fire Chief: Todd Kowinsky: Upcoming Pancake Breakfast with the Easter Bunny on March 24<sup>th</sup>; upcoming drivers test for 7 new drivers; pump tests upcoming.
- Emergency Management: Tom Olver: Not present
- Police Commission: Dave Clark and Sean Alessandra: Nothing to report
- Sewage: Nothing to report
- Code Enforcement/Recreation Shawn Bolles: Not present, report on file.
- Tax Collector: Amy Turner: Noted \$106k in property taxes have been collected. Office hours are now Wednesdays, 4 pm to 7 pm in the Borough Office. Taxes can be mailed or dropped off in the locked mailbox at 205 Ave N.
- Junior Council: Shannon O’Leary & Nathaniel Carso: Excused for their school concert.
- All other Reports on file:

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

**Correspondence:** On file.

**Old Business:**

- a) Motion to approve Ordinance 2024-001 §124-8 Definitions **M: Prey/Maney. All in favor**
- b) Motion to approve Ordinance 2024-002 §124-30.2 Smoke Shops and Tobacco Stores. **M: Maney/Prey. All in favor.**
- c) Motion to approve Ordinance 2024-003 Attachment One, Chapter 124 Schedule of Development Standards. **M: Prey/Alessandra. All in favor.**
- d) Motion to approve Ordinance 2024-004 Appendix No. 5, Chapter 124 Schedule of Uses C-2 General Commercial District. **M: Prey/Maney. All in favor.**
- e) §124-17 Sign regulations: **Tabled.**
- f) §124-18 Off-street parking and loading: **Tabled.**
- g) Council Assignments: **Tabled.**
- h) Motion to adopt proposed changes to the fee schedule. M: Jon/Alessandra. Discussion ensued regarding the Change of Use fee. Mr. Madsen suggested that the fee be \$100, not \$150 as shown on the proposal. Motion to adopt the fee changes with the Change of Use fee at \$100. **M: Alessandra/Maney. All in favor.**

**New Business:**

- a) Motion to approve a request from Matamoras United Methodist Church for use of the pavilion at Veterans Park on March 31, 2024, at 6:45 am for an Easter Sunrise Service. M: Prey/Maney. All in favor.
- b) Motion to approve Hartey Living Trust Lot Combination, 600 Pennsylvania Ave Lot 38, Lot 40 and Lot 42 to Lot 38-A. **M: Prey/Alessandra.** Mr. Christopher Rinaldi spoke on behalf of the applicant. He noted he has the updated map showing the North arrow and scale. There is no change of use or construction proposed. Mr. Ohliger noted that this was reviewed by the Planning Committee, Pike Planning. He reviewed the map and deed and commented they appear to be in order. **All in favor.**
- c) Motion to approve recreation to promote a town-wide yard sale, approving the waiver of §88-8 Notification to the Borough on Saturday, May 4, 2024. **M: Maney/Prey. All in favor.**
- d) Motion to advertise Spring Cleanup on May 11, 2024, from 9:00 am to 2:00 pm, with no change to the prior fee schedule. **M: Salvato/Alessandra. All in favor.**
- e) Fire Department Fundraising Coin Toss. Mr. Kowinski asked this be removed. The application submitted to PennDOT was not approved.
- f) Motion to grant consent to the Matamoras Fire Department to sublet the parking lot area as defined on the map to Precision Pipeline for a one-year term for \$500 per month. **M: Alessandra/Maney.** Mr. Ohliger explained this required approval from the Fire Department Board at their next meeting. Then, once approved by the FD we will issue an addendum to the 2009 Fire Department Lease granting the authority to sublet to Precision Pipeline. **All in favor.**

Mr. Madsen explained that he will now ask for a motion to adjourn to executive session, but wanted to open the floor for public comment. There will be another public comment period if needed after they return.

**Public Comment:**

**Lynn Homer 501 Ave L:** Asked for clarification on the Precision Pipeline lease. Are they doing work in the Borough or Pike County, how many trucks are there, are our roads incurring wear and tear from this? Mr. Prey noted that it was the gas company replacing pipelines, there are approximately 5 trucks, and they are smaller type trucks.

**Dee Losee 302 Delaware Drive:** Inquired if the hearing was advertised and asked when the last day was to pay taxes.

**Marie Ortiz 402 2<sup>nd</sup> Street:** Who is responsible for abandoned property? She cited issues with overgrown trees, walnuts and animals on the abandoned property next door. Mr. Maney recommended she e-mail Shawn Bolles, Code Enforcement Officer and CC Borough Council.

**Dimitry Roby 105 Pennsylvania Ave:** Stated that if he is recognized in public comment by the Chairman, then he is speaking to the Chairman and Council. In the last planning meeting, he spoke to both Mr. Madsen and Mr. Addison about an issue that was not resolved. Planning does not have a public comment period at the end of the meeting and feels this is wrong and should be put back on the planning board agenda. Mr. Ohliger stated that when comments are made to the board, he is permitted to respond. Mr. Roby tried to interrupt and was advised that our solicitor now had the floor. Mr. Ohliger continued that when a question or comment is raised during public comment, then he is allowed to respond because others in the audience may be interested in the answer. Mr. Ohliger passed the floor back to Mr. Madsen. Mr. Madsen reminded Mr. Roby that his question was addressed in the planning meeting. He advised Mr. Roby to bring his question to the next planning meeting if he didn't recall receiving an answer.

8:49 pm Motion to adjourn to executive session to discuss personnel and contractual issues **M: Prey/Bush Jr. All in favor.**

9:35 pm Regular session reconvened.

- a) Motion advertised for a part-time office assistant 15 hours per week \$17.50 per hour contingent upon an approved job description. **M: Prey/Alessandra. All in favor.**
- b) Motion to appoint Shawn Bolles to the position of Building Code Official of residential uses. **M: Maney/Prey. BIU will be retained for commercial uses. All in favor.**
- c) Motion to remove the title of supervisor for Bob Howard and change his work status to per diem effective March 18, 2024. **M: Prey/Maney. All in favor.**

**Public Comment: None**

**A motion to adjourn was made by Mrs. Salvato, seconded by Mr. Maney at 9:37 pm.**

Respectfully submitted,



Marianne Brown  
Borough Secretary