



Borough Council Minutes

October 08, 2024

7:30 pm

Call to Order, Salute to the Flag. 7:30

Mr. Eric Kudrich President	P	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	Lt. Pflanz Eastern Pike Regional Police	P
Mr. Sean Alessandra Councilman	P	Mr. Cory Homer Mayor	P	Ms. Amy Turner Tax Collector A	A	Mr. Shawn Bolles Zoning/Code Enforcement Office/Park Mgr	P
Mr. John Bush Jr Councilman	P	Ms. Shannon O'Leary Junior Council	P	Mr. Tom Olver A EMA	A		
Mr. Jon Maney Councilman	L: 7:33	Mr. Nathaniel Carso Junior Council	P				

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

President's Remarks:

President Kudrich welcomed Mr. Joe Biondo to the meeting and invited him to speak. Mr. Biondo explained that in 1983 he started a foundation in memory of his wife to help children with disabilities. Firefly Field was built in her memory. At that time, he requested a 2-mil tax to be used for maintenance. He recently met with Councilman Jon Maney who reported that his \$17,000 budget is stretched; not only does he maintain Firefly Field, but he has the rest of the park as well. Mr. Maney explained it cost \$5,000 for mulch, \$12,000 for the splash pad and \$5,000 for the seasonal employee; he's facing a \$5,000 deficit before anything gets started. Mr. Biondo offered to contribute \$10,000 a year, earmarked for Firefly Field and requested the following: 1) The Borough eliminate the \$1.00 entry fee for non-residents. 2) Hire a college student to run an arts and crafts program for young children at a rate of \$20.00 per hour, daily, 3 hours a day for 10 weeks. If things need repair or there's a special project, he will consider additional contributions. The park has been well maintained, but given the age of the park repairs will be needed. Mr. Biondo noted a contribution of \$10,000 was just given to replace 4 tables under the pavilion along with one garbage receptacle. He takes pride in ownership and would like to see it maintained; he is willing to contribute more as needed. Mr. Maney expressed thanks on behalf of the citizens and the Borough of Matamoras for his generosity. Mr. Biondo suggested that some effort be made to involve Port Jervis, Westfall Township and Milford in contributing to the upkeep of the park. He feels it is more of a county park than it is just a community park. The burden of paying for the maintenance of the park and the operation of the park warrants a conversation with the neighboring communities to ask that they contribute a little something annually to offset the park budget. He noted he spoke to Commissioner Osterberg who suggested money from the Vacation Bureau could be used to help the park. He'll keep us posted on any updates he hears from Mr. Osterberg. Mr. Madsen asked if the \$10,000 is contingent upon his suggestions regarding the entry fee and arts and crafts employee. Mr. Biondo acknowledged it was contingent upon those recommendations.

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: Salvato/Prey. All in favor.

- Approval of Minutes –Council meeting September 10, 2024
- Approval of Treasurer’s Report – September 2024
- Approval of bills to be paid – September 2024

Motion to approve reimbursement to the recreation department for invoices paid on behalf of the Wade Trust Fund, September 2024. **M: Prey/Maney. All in favor.**

Reports:

- Mayor Cory Homer: The Heart of Matamoras is hosting a “Haunted Trail” in the park volunteers and donations are welcome. Thursday October 24th is First Responders Appreciation Day. The Tri-state Chamber is planning on doing a Christmas parade on December 8th. Reported he will be meeting with the Mayor of Port Jervis monthly to discuss joint programming adventures. The Matamoras/Port Jervis bridge project start date has been rescheduled to begin in March of 2025.
- Government Committee: Mark Madsen/Harry Prey: Mr. Madsen & Mr. Prey are setting up a meeting with the ambulance, by next month they will have a general idea of the 2026 terms. QuickBooks Time was purchased, and it will be implemented for employees to punch in/punch out either on their cell phones or the computer by the end of the month. The letter regarding the transfer of garbage service to the Municipal Authority was approved and will be mailed with the Municipal Authority bills this month.
- Fire Committee: Sean Alessandra/Lisa Salvato: Nothing to report.
- Public Works: Harry Prey/Jon Maney: 73.12 tons of trash was collected last month. Rake leaves to the edge of the road for pickup. Piles must be free of branches and debris. Piles will not be picked up if they contain anything other than leaves. Brush collection will cease when leaf collection begins. Stop signs are being inspected to see which ones need to be replaced. The two-hour parking sign on 1st Street has been installed.
- Facilities Committee: John Bush Jr./Mark Madsen: A new door opener will be installed in the firehouse for the rescue truck door. Obtaining a quote to have the metal roof over the firehouse doors repainted; it is showing signs of rust and needs maintenance. By the end of October, we should have an answer on the Borough Building LSA grant that we applied for. There have been cameras set up in the building to capture every entranceway into the building. Voltron will install a few new outlets to handle the load.
- Finance Committee: Lisa Salvato/John Bush Jr.: Working on the budget.
- Finance: Scott Myer: Revenue is up, and expenses are in line with what was expected.
- Planning Committee: Eddie Addison: The planning commission is working together with Westfall on the Joint Comprehensive Plan. They are also reviewing the Act 537 Plan so it can be resubmitted and are doing a comprehensive check on the ordinances and updating those as needed.
- Recreation: Jon Maney/Sean Alessandria: Shawn Bolles ordered 4 new tables and a garbage receptacle which are being paid for with the \$10,000 contribution from Mr. Biondo. The crew has been working hard and doing a great job in the park.
- Eastern Pike Regional Police: Attended/participated in the 9/11 Ceremony which was very well attended. EPRP participated in a “bagging for hunger” at the ShopRite store and had a good outcome for “Make a Wish” at Price Chopper which they participated in along with the fire department. The report was read and is on file. Mr. Prey inquired about the miles patrolled in the borough. The report shows total patrolled, it isn’t broken out by municipality.
- Recreation Advisory Board: Nothing to report.
- Fire Chief: Todd Kowinsky: Reported the pumpkin patch is open, the fall festival is this weekend. Recommended everyone change their batteries in their smoke and CO2 detectors. Sean Alessandra requested a motion to transfer the title of the 1991 Federal VIN 3591 to the Fire Department at no charge. **M: Alessandria/Maney.** The unit was titled in the name of the Borough. The fire department would like to consolidate their units to purchase a newer vehicle to service the Borough. **All in favor.**
- Emergency Management: Not present. Nothing to report.
- Police Commission: Dave Clark and Sean Alessandra: Nothing to report.

- Sewage: Mark Madsen: Moving forward.
- Code Enforcement/Recreation Shawn Bolles: 7 zoning permits were issued, 3 enforcement notices and 1 notice of violation for property violations are being sent out. The riverside of the park is not well lit. Working on getting better lighting, putting flood lights on the existing poles. The Tree of Heroes was planted last week. The new batting cages are at 80% completion.
- Tax Collector: Amy Turner: Report was read and is on file.
- Junior Council: Shannon O'Leary & Nathaniel Carso: Shannon and Nate are continuing their work on the "neighborhood packet". DVSD highlights for the month include a report of a successful warrior festival and a blood drive, picture day, cap and gown measurements for seniors, Freshmen election of class officers, schoolwide club fair, the SAT was held last Saturday and the PSAT will be this Wednesday and also noted that the 9/11 Ceremony was covered by "The Del.Aware Student Newspaper". They mentioned community event information could be submitted to them for coverage.
- 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.

- Letter form Mr. John Kupellas regarding "Wreaths Across America"
- E-mail from Lou Cozza – revision to 5th St & Ave C
- E-mail from Pike County Planning - §124 Schedule of Uses "no comment"
- Letter from the Biondo Memorial Foundation to the Recreation Department

Old Business:

- a) Matamoras/Westfall Compost Facility: chipping and access. Mr. Prey noted that he has been in contact with Keith Rodriguez from Westfall DPW. Late December/January they will pull part of the pile apart and see how well it burns.
- b) Motion to approve an amendment to Chapter 124, amending the current Schedule of Uses to change the classification of "retail business" in the C-2 (General Commercial Zone) to a Conditional Use. **M: Madsen/Prey. All in favor.**
- c) Motion to enact and codify Chapter 86 of the Borough Code regulating Loitering. **M: Maney/Madsen. All in favor.**
- d) Comprehensive Plan. No update, this is with the Planning Commission.
- e) Motion was made by Jon Maney to table the Shade Tree Commission discussion.

New Business:

- a) Motion to approve "Wreaths Across America" event December 14, 2024, in Veterans Memorial Park. **M: Prey/Alessandra. All in favor.**
- b) Motion to approve Knights of Columbus Chris Kringle 5K event on 12/08/2024, fee waived. **M: Maney/Alessandra. All in favor.**

Public Comment: None

Motion to adjourn was made at 8:05 by Mark Madsen, seconded by Sean Alessandra. All in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Marianne Brown
Borough Secretary