

Minutes of the Borough Council Zelienople, PA

8/26/2024

7:30 PM

Council-Regular

MasterID: 777

The August 26, 2024, Council Meeting of the Zelienople Borough Council was called to order at 7:30 PM by Council President Mary Hess in the Council Chambers located at 111 W. New Castle St., Zelienople, PA 16063. This meeting was held in an in-person environment as well as remotely through WebEx technology to allow for offsite participation. It still complied with all rules of advertisement and the public had access to the meeting and was able to participate. In-person attendants were Council Members Mary Hess, Andrew Mathew III, Doug Foyle, Steve Schoppe, Spencer Mathew, Dan Fritch, and Mayor Thomas Oliverio. Gregg Semel attended remotely.

Borough Manager Andrew Spencer, Police Chief James Miller, Public Works Director Chad Garland, Borough Solicitor Bonnie Brimmeier, and Borough Engineer Tom Thompson were also in attendance.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mr. Mathew.

VISITORS:

Donna Statzer, Marilyn Evans, Lesa Gallaher, Carol Epsy, Christine Patton, Mike and Carol Sosak, Tony Lee, James Hulings, and Shannon Mich.

Others were in attendance, but they did not identify themselves.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Donna Statzer had concerns about the proposed authority.

Marilyn Evans commended on losing ground to WBCA and concern over proposed stormwater authority.

Lesa Gallagher commented on the WBCA pump station project; concerns over eminent domain.

Christine Patton commented on the proposed stormwater authority.

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CONSENT AGENDA:

A motion was made by Mr. Mathew, seconded by Mr. Spencer Mathew, to approve:

- Minutes of July 29, 2024 Public Hearing
- Minutes of August 12, 2024 Council Meeting
- Transfer of Funds, \$150,000.00 from the Electric Fund to the General Fund, if needed.

Motion carried 7-0.

OLD BUSINESS:

CONSIDER ADOPTION OF PROPOSED RESOLUTION #525-24 SIGNIFYING THE INTENTION TO PARTICIPATE IN A JOINT AUTHORITY KNOWN AS THE SOUTHWEST BUTLER STORMWATER AUTHORITY FOR THE PURPOSES OF STORMWATER MANAGEMENT WITHIN THE INCORPORATING MUNICIPALITIES OF SAID JOINT AUTHORITY.

A motion was made by Mr. Mathew, seconded by Mr. Spencer Mathew, to adopt Proposed Resolution #525-24 signifying the participation in the joint authority known as the Southwest Butler Stormwater Authority for the purpose of stormwater management within the incorporating municipalities of said joint authority.

Over 3 years ago, ten municipalities in the region endeavored to discuss and work together on what options existed to work together to help better control stormwater. The municipalities voluntarily enacted stricter stormwater ordinances and undertook multiple stormwater projects in the respective municipalities. In addition, the municipalities of Zelienople, Harmony, Jackson, and Evans City came together through a steering committee to discuss how to work together in a more focused manner and out of that came the concept of creating a joint stormwater authority. A draft capital improvements plan will be presented to the authority once created.

This item was tabled on July 29, 2024 for further review.

A full and true copy of Resolution #525-24 can be found in the Resolution Book.



Borough Manager

Motion carried 7-0.

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NEW BUSINESS:

BILLS TO BE PAID

A motion was made by Mr. Spencer Mathew, seconded by Mr. Foyle, to accept the "bills to be paid report" for August 26, 2024 totaling \$226,163.85.

Motion carried 7-0.

2025 MINIMUM MUNICIPAL OBLIGATION – POLICE PENSION PLAN

A motion was made by Mr. Mathew, seconded by Mr. Schoppe, to acknowledge receipt of the 2025 MMO for the Police Pension Plan in the amount of \$74,158.

Mockenhaupt has provided us with the 2025 Minimum Municipal Obligation (MMO) calculation for the Police Pension Plan. The calculation was completed using the actuarial data from the January 1, 2023, valuation as well as data supplied regarding 2024 earnings. It is based upon wages for 10 active participants. The 2025 MMO calculation for the Police Plan is \$74,158. This is a significant decrease of \$72,433 over the 2024 MMO which is \$146,591. The 2025 MMO amount will be what is required to be budgeted as an expense in the 2025 budget. The State Aid which is received in September/October of this year will be applied towards the 2024 MMO.

By law, the MMO must be submitted to the Council by the end of September and so noted in the Minutes.

Motion carried 7-0

2025 MINIMUM MUNICIPAL OBLIGATION – NON-UNIFORMED POLICE PENSION PLAN

A motion was made by Mr. Spencer Mathew, seconded by Mr. Schoppe, to acknowledge receipt of the 2025 MMO for the Non-Police Pension Plan in the amount of \$44,910.

Mockenhaupt has provided us with the 2025 Minimum Municipal Obligation (MMO) calculation for the Non- Police Pension Plan. The calculation was completed using the actuarial data from the January 1, 2023 valuation as well as data supplied regarding 2024 earnings. It is based upon wages for 17 active participants. The 2025 MMO calculation for the Non-Police Plan is \$44,910. This is a significant decrease of \$17,258 over the 2024 MMO which is \$62,168. The 2025 MMO amount will be what is required to be budgeted as an expense in the 2025 budget. The State Aid which is received in September/October of this year will be applied towards the 2024 MMO.

By law, the MMO must be submitted to the Council by the end of September and so noted in the Minutes.

Motion carried 7-0.

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AUTHORIZE DRAW ON GENERAL OBLIGATION NOTE (G.O.N.) SERIES A OF 2020 – PAY REQUISITION #12

A motion was made by Mr. Mathew, seconded by Mr. Schoppe, to authorize the submittal of Pay Req. #12 to NexTier Bank for Loan Draw #12 against the GON Series A of 2020 for payment of costs associated with the AMI Project. The amount of Pay Req #12 is for \$56,443.13 The invoices included with this draw is for payment to American Municipal Power; these were funds being held due to water meter delays.

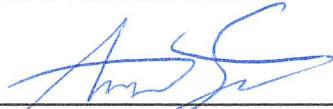
Motion carried: 7-0.

CONSIDER ADOPTION OF PROPOSED RESOLUTION #528-24 SIGNIFYING THE INTENTION TO PARTICIPATE IN AN INTERGOVERNMENTAL EMS STUDY

A motion was made by Mr. Mathew, seconded by Mr. Spencer Mathew, to adopt Proposed Resolution #528-24 to participate in the Intergovernmental EMS Study.

Across the state, EMS services are experiencing financial difficulties and state law provides that the local municipalities are the entity responsible to ensure that their communities have EMS coverage. The study would obligate the Borough to participate at a cost of \$1,200.00, but as with any study, does not obligate the Borough to follow any of the findings or recommendations of the study. Butler County has agreed to fund \$38,000 of this study.

A full and true copy of Resolution #528-24 can be found in the Resolution Book.



Borough Manager

Motion carried 7-0.

OTHER BUSINESS:

COUNCIL REQUEST FOR INFORMATION

Council reviewed the monthly request for information spreadsheet and facilities management schedule with all the items updated as of 8/22/2024. This includes any discussion and removal/addition of items from the previous month.

No action vote was taken.

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REPORTS:

Committees Reports:

Mrs. Hess

- Human Resources: working on salary surveys
- WBCA: no report

Mr. Mathew

- Utilities: Noted need to cancel the next council meeting due to staff shortages. The consensus amongst the council was to cancel the September 9th council meeting and to advertise accordingly.
- Police Matters: no report
- EMA: no report
- Fire Dept. Liaison: Harmony Fire District received two federal grants and discussion in future of administrative help with the Fire Department

Mr. Foyle

- Public Safety/Steer/Sidewalk/Storm water: no report
- Library: no report
- Shared Services Committee: no report

Mr. Schoppe

- Utilities: no report
- Parks & Recreation: meeting next week; pool closing season

Mr. Mathew

- IT: no report
- Shared Services Committee: no report

Mr. Fritch

- Public Safety/Steet/Sidewalk/Storm water: no report
- Community Revit. Committee: no report

Mr. Semel

- Building and Finance: noted budget season is upon us and upgraded to the building – police bathroom and municipal building roof
- Parks & Recreation: no report
- Community Revit. Committee: noted work is slated to begin again after Labor Day
- Noted grant funding is being sought for design/engineering for connector project.
- Noted speaker system being studied for Main Street
- Noted Borough staff is working on pole work on E. New Castle Street to clean up

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Mayor

- Airport Authority: no report
- Noted having a Borough's Association meeting and had airport meeting.
- Complimented council on a job well done doing due diligence.

Manager: no report

Solicitor: no report

Engineer: no report

Police Chief: no report

Public Works Director: noted paving project completed

Zoning/Code Officer: not present

Being no further business, President Hess closed the meeting at 9:04 PM.

ATTEST:



Andrew C. Spencer
Borough Manager



Mary E. Hess
Council President

Approved by me this 30th day of September 2024.



Thomas M. Oliverio
Mayor