

PAXTANG BOROUGH COUNCIL
Regular Business Meeting
November 20, 2007

Vice-President Ninosky called the monthly meeting of the Paxtang Borough Council to order at 7:15 p.m., followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag, led by Mayor Stambaugh.

Roll call was taken.

Council Members Present:

Council Vice-President John Ninosky

Council Members Councilwoman Panza
 Councilman Beaver
 Councilman LaCour
 Councilwoman Seneca

Mayor Keldeen Stambaugh

Borough Manager-Chief Kenneth Beard
Borough Engineer W. Max Shradley
Borough Solicitor Stanley Laskowski
Fire Chief Todd Zwigart

Council Members Absent Council President F. Joseph Spackman
 Councilman John Rowe

Vice-President Ninosky called for a change in the order of the regular business meeting to consider Resolution No. 12-07 recognizing Officer Jay Barrick for his 25 years of active police service.

Fire Chief Todd Zwigart, along with Assistant Fire Chief David S. Turner, presented a letter of appreciation to Officer Barrick for his role in locating and reporting a structure fire in the 3200 Block of Pike Street on October 4, 2007. Officer Barrick's actions undoubtedly prevented a large scale catastrophe from occurring.

Vice-President Ninosky called for a recess at 7:20 p.m. in order for Council and the audience to join with Officer Barrick in celebration of his 25 years of service to the Borough.

Vice-President Ninosky called the regular business back to order at 7:32 p.m.

MINUTES

*1) Councilman Beaver made a motion to dispense with the reading of the Minutes and to approve same. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Panza. Motion carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT

*2) Councilman Beaver made a motion to dispense with the reading of the Treasurer's Report and to approve same. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Panza. Motion carried.

REPORT OF THE FIRE CHIEF

Fire Chief Zwigart presented Council with his written report on the monthly activities for the Fire Company and Fire Police.

Vice-President Ninosky offered his gratitude to Chief Zwigart, Codes Enforcement Officer Ed Wenger, Murv Grunden, and the Uniform and non-uniform personnel for the manner in which everyone worked

together providing a safe environment for the residents of Paxtang during the recent Halloween Parade and Trick or Treat Night.

REPORT OF THE MANAGER

Reorganization Meeting: Manager Beard advised Council that the Reorganization Meeting for 2008 must be scheduled for Monday, January 7th, 2008. Vice-President Ninosky suggested a start time of 6:30 p.m.

Manager Beard asked Council for authorization to advertise the Reorganization Meeting.

*3) Councilman Beaver made a motion to advertise the Reorganization Meeting. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Panza. Motion carried.

Councilwoman Panza asked to be excused from the reorganization meeting, as she will be out of town for personal reasons

DCED Mini Comp: Manager Beard referred Council to a summary from Chris Knarr of Rettew Associates outlining progress of the Mini Comp Plan. The Steering Committee held a meeting on Thursday, November 8. The committee is now in the process of moving from the information and gathering phase to the recommendation and development phase. The next meeting of the Committee is scheduled for Thursday, January 10, 2008, at 4:00 p.m., at the municipal building.

DCED Playground Grant: The Grant money has been received and the playground equipment has been ordered. Installation is scheduled for the Spring of 2008.

PSAB Unemployment Compensation: Manager Beard referred Council to a handout regarding information on Unemployment Compensation from the Pennsylvania State Association of Boroughs. The Borough currently is listed as a reimbursable employer meaning we are liable for 100 percent of any valid claim presented. Manager Beard encouraged Council to review the material from the PSAB packet outlining an insurance policy where the Borough would pay an annual contribution based on a salary percentage and history for each member. Manager Beard encouraged Council to look at the policy and offer it for discussion at the next Workshop if Council so desires.

New Pickup / Snowplow Update: The Borough has taken delivery of the new snowplow, highway truck and salt spreader.

Paxtang Avenue Curb Project: Letters for the Paxtang Avenue Curb project are just about ready for distribution. Engineer Shradley developed projections for 2008 including figures for microsurfacing. These figures would tie into the anticipated reimbursement program through Senator Piccola's office. If there are no objections, Manager Beard along with Mayor Stambaugh will proceed to contact Senator Piccola's office.

Tri County Regional Planning Nomination: Tri County Planning Commission is seeking nominations for representation of the Southwestern area of Dauphin County. Councilman Beaver made a request that his name be considered for nomination.

Dauphin County Planning Commission: Manager Beard received a communication from the commission inviting municipalities to enroll in a Municipal Planning and Advisory Services program for 2008. There is a cost involved for their services. The cost varies with which type of plan one would choose to participate in. The services provided by this commission seem to be already covered by the Borough Engineering firm of Rettew Associates. Manager Beard will be in contact with the Borough Engineer, Mr. Shradley on this matter.

Gym Rental: Suzanne Yeager, the Borough Health Officer, is the Secretary for an organization of Health Officers. Ms. Yeager is requesting to use the gymnasium, without cost, to conduct a meeting in January 2008.

*4) Councilwoman Panza made a motion to approve use of the gym per the request of Suzanne Yeager. Motion seconded by Councilwoman LaCour. Motion carried.

Chesapeake Bay Resolution: Manager Beard referred Council to Resolution 2007-02 from the Capital Region Council of Governments. The COG is expressing their objection to the unfunded cost impact of the Department of Environmental Protection implementing a "Chesapeake Bay Tributary Strategy" which would impose new and costly mandatory upgrades of sewage plants throughout Central Pennsylvania. The COG is seeking support from municipalities to join them in passing this Resolution as well. After much discussion it was decided to table the matter until the December Regular Business Meeting.

Garage Heater: Manager Beard informed Council that a heater for the municipal garage has been installed. at a cost of \$2,050.00.

Humane Society: A communication has been received from the Humane Society inquiring as to if the Borough would be interested in participating in their "Municipal Agreement". Participation in this agreement would guarantee the acceptance of animals dropped off at their facility by borough residents. There would be a cost per animal accepted for this service that the Borough would be responsible for. Mayor Stambaugh recommended seeking the involvement of the Citizen's Advisory Committee for possible suggestions. Officer Barrick, Manager Beard, and several Council members expressed their concerns with this agreement. Much discussion was held on this matter.

*5) Councilwoman Panza made a motion to reject the proposal from the Humane Society. Motion seconded by Councilman Beaver. Motion carried.

Halloween Parade/Trick or Treat: Manager Beard offered his gratitude to the Fire Police, the Police Officers, and the Fire Department for their service put forth for these community events. Manager Beard offered his gratitude to the Police for the apprehension of a felon during the Halloween Parade.

Holiday Tree: Manager Beard suggested that Council entertain a motion to endorse the lighting of the tree and to proceed with decorating. This event is sponsored by the Paxtang Lions Club.

*6) Councilwoman Panza made a motion to proceed with the lighting of the Christmas Tree in front of the Borough Building. Motion seconded by Councilwoman LaCour. Motion carried.

Banner Poles: Manager Beard referred council to the discussion from the October 16th, 2007 Regular Business Meeting regarding purchase options for utility poles for displaying banners. In addition to a previous bid submitted from Bitner Electric in the amount of \$718.50 for wooden poles, the following bids were received:

- Signal Service Inc. from West Chester, PA. for aluminum poles in the amount of \$3,966.00 consisting of two 24 foot 2,000 pound galvanized steel poles with one bolt on clamp and 4 PennDOT anchor bolts per pole.
- A quote from PERCS was received in the amount of \$13,502.49.

Councilman Beaver stated funds through Capital Purchases, Highway account, could be available for this purchase. Solicitor Laskowski indicated proper procedures have been taken regarding the bidding process for the banner poles.

*7) Councilman Beaver made a motion to purchase the aluminum poles for the display of banners across Derry Street at a price of \$3,966.00 from Signal Service Inc. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Panza. Motion carried.

Police Pension Plan: Manager Beard acknowledged that the Borough has received \$25,073.28 in excess interest. Of that amount, \$17,073.28 will be applied to the Municipal Contribution Account. \$8,000.00 will be applied to the active members accounts in increments of \$2,000.00 each.

While the Borough actually has three full time officers, PMRS indicates that we have four active members. The explanation from PMRS is that even though Officer James Hoffman has not worked for the Borough in some and is not officially collecting his pension, he is considered by PMRS to be an active member and is vested.

Councilman Beaver stated that from the years 1997 to 2000 the money was put into the retirement fund for one Officer. This amounted to over \$100,000.00. Vice-President Ninosky indicated the money was not

allocated to the Borough Contribution Account nor was it provided to any of the active officers. There has not been any excess interest stated again until 2006 when the money was allocated to the Municipal Contribution Account. The Committee discussed this matter with the Officers indicating that PMRS dictates where the money can be directed.

Officer Barrick questioned Councilman Beaver as to if the amount allocated to one Officer from 1997 to 2000 was over \$100,000.00. Councilman Beaver replied that this was correct. Councilwoman Panza asked if this individual actually received the money or if it was put into escrow to which Vice-President Ninosky stated the money was put into the Officer's pension account. Officer Barrick expressed his concerns on this matter and asked Council to consider discussing this matter with PMRS.

Vice-President Ninosky made inquiry as to the actions of past Council. Manager Beard offered his findings as follows:

- 1997 - No record of action taken from Council
- 1998 - Motion by Council that all the money be allocated to one retiree
- 1999 - Memo to council asking for their preference. No mention in the Minute book as to any official action taken.
- 2000 - No record of any deliberation on this issue.

After much discussion it was decided that the Committee would meet with Officer Barrick for further discussion.

Police Report: Chief Beard referred Council to the written report for the month of October along with a verbal explanation as well. Chief Beard mentioned that 6 months ago, Council granted a leave of absence to Officer Katrina Fiala. This leave has expired and she has returned to duty.

AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION

Murv Grunden of 3323 Brisban Street presented the following:

- Citizen's Advisory Committee – No Report
- Historical Society – No Report

Mr. Grunden asked if a copy of the police report mentioned in the Minutes is kept in the office for citizens review. A copy is kept in the Borough Office.

REPORT OF THE MAYOR

Mayor Stambaugh informed Council that a "Cookies and Crafts" event will be held in the gymnasium on December 15 at 2:30 for the children living in the Borough, along with Lenker Manor, children attending Paxtang Elementary, and children of those involved in the Paxtang Community.

REPORT OF THE SOLICITOR

Solicitor Laskowski presented Council with Ordinance No., 601, revising and implementing the Local Services Tax for Jan 1, 2008.

*8) Councilwoman Panza made a motion to approve **Ordinance No. 611**. Motion seconded by Councilman Beaver. Motion carried.

Solicitor Laskowski has reviewed the truck purchase agreement and has presented Manager Beard with a copy of the PennDOT curb payment agreement. Solicitor Laskowski informed Council of MUNICIBID.com which is a site where a municipality can post items for sale or purchase items as well. Solicitor Laskowski will be looking further into the matter.

REPORT OF THE ENGINEER

Engineer Shradley acknowledged that due to the fact that items of his concern were already covered earlier, he would not need to present an additional report.

REPORT OF CODES ENFORCEMENT

Manager Beard referred Council to the written report for the month of October.

COMMITTEES

Administration – Councilman Beaver proceeded with the First Reading of the proposed Budget for 2008.

*9) Councilwoman Panza made a motion to accept the **First Reading** of the Borough Budget for 2008. Motion seconded by Councilwoman LaCour. Motion carried.

Vice-President Ninosky proceeded with the **First Reading** of the proposed Tax Ordinance for 2008 setting the Real Estate mills at 8.06, Fire at .38 and Highway at .75 for a total millage of 9.19. There is no increase in the millage from the 2007 Budget.

*10) Councilwoman Panza made a motion to approve Tax **Ordinance No. 612** for 2008 setting the Tax Millage at 9.19. Motion seconded by Councilman Beaver. Motion

Highway – Councilwoman Seneca indicated she did not have anything to report regarding highway concerns but did inform Council of her intentions to step down as the Borough Representative to the Greenbelt Association. Councilwoman Seneca made inquiry as to if anyone had in interest in being the representative to the Greenbelt Association. Vice-President Ninosky suggested that this matter could be brought up at an upcoming Workshop meeting.

Manager Beard updated Council that leaf collection has begun and is running on schedule at the present time.

Property and Recreation – No Report

Public Safety – No Report

Public Relations – No Report

Health and Sanitation – No Report

UNFINISHED BUSINESS – None

NEW BUSINESS – Manager Beard reminded Council of the Workshop meeting scheduled for Monday, November 26, 2007. Due to scheduling conflicts with Council members, it was decided to cancel the Workshop meeting. Notification will be posted at the Borough Building.

COMMUNICATIONS

Manager Beard presented the following:

- December 6th – Dauphin County Planning Commission Quarterly Outreach Meeting – Swatara Township Municipal Building 7:00 p.m.
- Borough News monthly magazine subscription is up for renewal. Council members indicated their desire to renew.
- Solicitation from Alfred Bennish and Company Engineers, Surveyors, and Planners asking for consideration at the Reorganization Meeting.

Vice-President Ninosky offered his gratitude to everyone for their services and their participation in the 100th Anniversary celebration of the Paxtang Elementary School.

Manager Beard along with Vice-President Ninosky extended a Happy Thanksgiving greeting to all.

PRESENTATION OF THE BILLS

*11) Councilwoman Panza made a motion to pay the bills. Motion seconded by Councilman Beaver. Motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT

*12) Councilwoman Panza made a motion to adjourn the regular business meeting. Motion seconded by Councilman Beaver. Motion carried.

Vice-President Ninosky adjourned the regular business meeting at 9:05 p.m.

Secretary

1. Minutes
2. Treasurer's Report
3. Advertise Reorganization Meeting
4. Suzanne Yeager – Use of Gym
5. Humane Society Municipality Agreement
6. Christmas Tree and Decorating
7. Banner Poles
8. **ORD 611** – Local Services Tax
9. **FIRST Reading** – Budget 2008
10. **FIRST Reading** – Tax Ordinance **No. 612**
11. Pay Bills
12. Adjourn