

PAXTANG BOROUGH COUNCIL
Regular Business Meeting
November 18, 2008

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.

Roll call was taken

Council Members Present:

Council President	John R. Ninosky, Sr.
Council Vice-President	E. Denny Beaver

Council Members	Sheilah Borne Fuller – entered at 7:35 p.m.
	Heather LaCour
	Virginia Panza
	John Rowe
	Deborah Seneca

Mayor	Keldeen Stambaugh – entered at 7:17 p.m.
-------	--

Borough Manager-Chief	Kenneth E. Beard
Borough Engineer	W. Max Shradley
Borough Solicitor	J. Stephen Feinour
Fire Chief	Todd Zwigart

Mayor Stambaugh entered at this point.

Minutes

*1) Vice-President Beaver made a motion to dispense with the reading of the Minutes from the Regular Business Meeting of October 21, 2008 and to approve the same. Motion seconded by Councilman Rowe. Motion carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT

*2) Vice-President Beaver made a motion to dispense with the reading of the Treasurer's Report from the Regular Business Meeting of October 21, 2008 and to approve the same. Motion seconded by Councilman Rowe. Motion carried.

Mayor Stambaugh entered at this point – 7:17 p.m.

REPORT OF THE FIRE CHIEF

Chief Zwigart referred Council to his written report for the month of October and offered a verbal explanation as well. The Fire Company will be involved in a "Fill the Helmet" fundraiser and the Ladies Auxiliary will have a Soup and Bake on Saturday, November 22nd. On behalf of Mr. Grunden, Chief Zwigart requested use of Council Chambers for the Dauphin County Fire Police Association to hold a meeting on Monday, January 19th. Chief Zwigart recognized that Mr. Grunden will preside as President of this association for the next two years.

*3) Councilman Rowe made a motion to allow the Dauphin County Fire Police Association use of Council Chambers on Monday, January 19th, 2009. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Panza. Motion carried. President Ninosky offered his gratitude for the services provided by the Fire Department, Fire Police, Police Department and Staff during Trick-or-Treat.

REPORT OF THE MANAGER

Manager Beard acknowledged that Council members were sent information regarding upcoming seminars and offered Council an opportunity for discussion.

Halloween: The Paxtang Halloween Parade was canceled due to adverse weather conditions but judging of costumes did take place in the municipal gymnasium. Trick-or-Treat was conducted as usual with no problems noted. Discussion was held on finding ways of dealing with the high volume of participants that pass through the Borough in order to take part in Trick-or-Treating. It was the decision of Council to take this matter up at a Workshop meeting.

Manager Beard offered his gratitude to the Fire Company, Fire Police and Public Works employees for their services put forth for this community event.

Building Renovations: Installation of carpet in Council Chambers has been completed. Manager Beard invited Council to stop in and see the newly refinished gymnasium floor.

Paxtang Curb Project: Of 35 bills that have been sent out to homeowners, payment has been received for 18 properties.

Surplus Property: Mr. Don Wood, the successful bidder for the surplus GMC pick-up truck, has been notified and given until November 26th to claim the truck. Arrangements will be made to contact the next-in-line bidder if Mr. Woods does not choose to follow through.

Vacation of Right-of-Way: The clearing of brush and rubbish at a property located on Brookwood Street should begin shortly.

Codification: Manager Beard has notified General Code that Council wishes to proceed with the Codification process and is waiting to hear from them regarding arrangements to start the project.

CDBG: Unofficially Manager Beard has received word that the Borough will be receiving a CDBG Grant in 2009 for \$25,000.00. This grant requires a \$5,000.00 match and will be used to restructure the Borough Zoning and Subdivision and Development.

School Crossing Guard: Public Works employee, Saul Schmolitz will be on vacation for a period of time in December and his station will need to be filled. Anyone interested in offering assistance may contact Manager Beard for dates and times.

Councilwoman Borne Fuller entered at this point – 7:35 p.m.

Highway Vests: Manager Beard informed Council of new Federal regulations that require anyone working within the right-of-way of federally funded highways to wear “high-visibility safety apparel”. Manager Beard is extending the scope of this regulation to require all personnel wear the “high-visibility apparel” anytime they are working within the right-of-way of any Borough street, highway, or at anytime outside the Borough when asked for assistance by a mutual aid agency. Safety vests that meet the requirements (Class 2 or 3 ANSI/ISEA 107-2004) have been ordered and will be provided to all employees. Other persons, including volunteers, needing vests to conduct their work should contact the Borough office.

Police Report: Chief Beard referred Council to the written report for police activities for the month of October and offered a verbal explanation as well.

Executive Session: Manager Beard asked Council to consider an Executive Session for the purpose of discussing labor issues. President Ninosky suggested honoring this request at the end of the Regular Business Meeting.

Councilwoman Seneca made inquiry to Manager Beard as to the status of donations received for future playground equipment for the lower field and made a request of Manager Beard to email monthly reports to Mayor Stambaugh, Councilwoman LaCour, Fundraiser Chair, Ms. Matthey and to herself. Manager Beard

indicated he would email the request to the Mayor Stambaugh, Councilwoman LaCour, and to Councilwoman Seneca as he is responsible to Council.

Councilwoman Seneca asked if anyone reviewed the plans for the Eagle Scout project located at the "Greenbelt Commons" area before it was built. Manager Beard indicated the plans were in exact conformity with the Engineer's drawings that were submitted to Council for their approval several years prior. Councilwoman Seneca expressed her opposition to the choice of design of benches for the park, questioned why picnic tables were not incorporated, and requested that she be included in the decision making process regarding this project.

President Ninosky questioned if the installation of a pavilion was part of the original master plan. Mayor Stambaugh commented that when the initial plans were drawn up there was thought of a pavilion but with the spacing that was left there did not seem to be enough room for a full pavilion. Manager Beard suggested that a pavilion could possibly be installed towards the other end of the park where existing equipment is located.

AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION – No Report

REPORT OF THE MAYOR

Mayor Stambaugh informed Council she will be traveling out of the Country from November 27th through December 6th on a missions trip. Mayor Stambaugh informed Council that the Christmas Tree lighting ceremony will take place at the Municipal Building on Sunday December 7th at 7:00 p.m.

REPORT OF THE SOLICITOR – No Report

REPORT OF CODES ENFORCEMENT

Codes Enforcement Officer referred Counsel to his written report for the month of October and offered a verbal explanation as well

REPORT OF THE ENGINEER

Engineer Shradley has submitted a draft for the 2009 street project. Data from this report will be used to target streets for maintenance for the next three years.

COMMITTEES:

Administration – Vice-President Beaver offered for Council's consideration a detailed presentation of the proposed budget for 2009. The proposed tax Ordinance for 2009 would set the Real Estate mills at 9.26, Fire at .38 and Highway at .36 for a total millage of 10 mills. Sewer charges will show a decrease from \$140.00 to \$50.00. Solid Waste charges will show an increase from \$220.00 to \$230.00. President Ninosky and Councilwoman Panza offered their appreciation and gratitude to Vice-President Beaver for his dedication in preparing the 2009 budget. Vice-President Beaver acknowledged information is being gathered regarding possible options relating to the future direction of the Borough. This information is being prepared in order to offer a public meeting sometime in February for Borough residents to voice their ideas and to offer feed back with regard to the future of the Borough, particularly in the are of finance. Some options for consideration could be the merging of the Police Department with another municipality, continuing to raise taxes, or have the Borough annex with another municipality. Councilman Rowe questioned who was gathering information for this meeting and suggested placing an article in the Patriot-News in order to inform residents that a public meeting will be taking place.

*4) President Ninosky stated that ordinances for Real Estate, Highway, Fire, Sewer, and Solid Waste will need to be advertised for 2009. Councilman Rowe made a motion to advertise the amended ordinances for 2009. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Borne Fuller. Motion carried.

Highway – Vice-President Beaver extended his gratitude to the Public Works employees for the excellent efforts they put forth regarding the collection of leaves.

Councilwoman Panza voiced her concerns about a school bus leaving children off at 31st and Derry and the lack of a crosswalk at that intersection. Council members suggested that matters regarding school bus stops should be directed to the school district.

Property and Recreation – Councilman Rowe acknowledged that while he is the Chairman for the Property and Recreation Committee, he has not been receiving information from the Borough office or other parties involved with the playground project.

Public Safety – No Report

Health and Sanitation – No Report

Public Relations – Councilwoman LaCour stated that the deadline for the Paxtang Post will be around the beginning of January 2009, with delivery anticipated for the end of January.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS – No Report

NEW BUSINESS – No Report

COMMUNICATIONS – Manager Beard has received word from PennPRIME (the Borough's insurance carrier) indicating that the Borough will be receiving a member credit but at this point in time the amount has not been determined.

A thank you note from Pat Appleby for the flowers sent in sympathy of her husband's recent passing.

A thank you from the Penbrook Police Department for the assistance offered to them during their Halloween Parade

A letter of resignation has been presented from Part-Time Police Officer Wade Bloom.

PRESENTATION OF THE BILLS

*5) Councilwoman Borne Fuller made a motion to pay the bills. Motion seconded by Vice-President Beaver. Motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT

At 8:30 p.m. President Ninosky announced that Council would retire to Executive Session for the purpose of discussing labor matters and potential litigation.

At 8:53 President Ninosky reconvened the Regular Business Meeting with the announcement that Council discussed labor and potential litigation issues.

*6) Councilman Rowe made a motion to proceed with contract negotiations and if an impasse is declared that we proceed to arbitration. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Borne Fuller. Motion carried.

*7) Councilman Rowe made a motion to adjourn the Regular Business Meeting. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Borne Fuller. President Ninosky adjourned the Regular Business Meeting at 8:54 p.m.

Faye A. Clark, Secretary

1. Minutes
2. Treasurer's Report
3. Dauphin Co. Fire Police –Council Chambers Jan 19, 2009
4. Advertise Amended Ordinances 2009
5. Pay Bills
6. Contract Negotiations – Proceed with Arbitration if necessary - Police
7. Adjourn