

PAXTANG BOROUGH COUNCIL
Regular Business Meeting
December 18, 2007

President Spackman called the monthly meeting of the Paxtang Borough Council to order at 7:19 p.m. followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag, led by Mayor Stambaugh.

Roll call was taken.

Council Members Present:

Council President	F. Joseph Spackman
Council Vice-President	John R. Ninosky
Council Members	Councilman Beaver Councilwoman LaCour Councilwoman Panza Councilman Rowe Councilwoman Seneca Mayor Stambaugh
Mayor	Keldeen Stambaugh
Borough Manager-Chief	Kenneth Beard
Borough Engineer	W. Max Shradley
Borough Solicitor	Stanley Laskowski
Fire Chief	Todd Zwigart

MINUTES

Councilwoman Panza would like the November 20, 2007 Minutes to read that she made a request for and was granted an excused absence for the January 7, 2008 Reorganization Meeting.

*1) Vice-President Ninosky made a motion to approve the November 20, 2007 Minutes with the modification as requested by Councilwoman Panza. Motion seconded by Councilman Rowe. Motion carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT

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

REPORT OF THE FIRE CHIEF

Fire Chief Zwigart presented Council with his written report on the monthly activities of the Fire Company and Fire Police. Chief Zwigart acknowledged the Fire Company was involved in 8 trainings instead of 9 as indicated in his report. The Fire Company held a "Fill the Helmet" drive. The Ladies Auxiliary held Sandwich and Soup fundraisers during the Paxtang Art Show and Election Day. Chief Zwigart made note that he has received notification that the grant application for Engine has been denied. Chief Zwigart offered his gratitude to the Police Department for their assistance during the recent visit from Santa and extended a Merry Christmas to everyone in attendance.

REPORT OF THE MANAGER

Reorganization Meeting: Manager Beard advised that the Reorganization Meeting for January 7th, 2008 has been advertised and will commence at 6:00 p.m.

2008 Meeting Schedule: Manager Beard referred Council to the preliminary meeting dates for 2008. Meeting dates for Civil Service and Shade Tree Commissions have not been received as of this date. Upon notification from these commissions advertising will be carried out. It was called to the attention of Council that due to TMI training on Tuesday, May 19th, the Regular Business Meeting will take place on

Wednesday, May 20th, 2008. Due to the observance of Memorial Day on Monday May 26th, it was decided that the May Workshop would be scheduled for Tuesday, May 27th.

*3) Vice-President Ninosky made a motion to advertise the meeting dates for 2008. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Panza. Motion carried.

Borough Design/Logo: Mr. Beard suggested an the idea of developing a new Borough Logo. While each patch would signify the representation of a specific department, the logo itself would be consistent with all units of service associated within the Borough. Suggested possibilities for developing a logo would be to offer notice through the Paxtang Elementary School, the Paxtang Art Association and posting on the Borough web site. Discussion was held to refer this to an upcoming workshop meeting.

Engineer's Contract: Manager Beard noted that the contract for Rettew Associates, the Borough Engineer, is up for renewal and that they have submitted a proposal for review. Manager Beard is of the opinion that for all intents and purposes, this contract appears to be the same contract that has served the Borough in the past. Manager Beard reminded Council that Alfred Bennish and Company has offered a proposal for Council' consideration as well.

*4) Councilwoman Panza made a motion to retain Rettew Associates as the Borough Engineer. Manager Beard made a suggestion to amend the motion to execute the contract with Rettew Associates contingent upon the Solicitor's approval. Manager Beard will forward the proper information to Solicitor Laskowski.

*5) Councilwoman Panza amended the motion to accept the suggestions offered by Manager Beard to authorize the contract of Rettew Associates upon the Solicitor's approval. Motion seconded by Councilman Beaver. Motion carried.

Leaf Pickup: Collection of leaves is of top priority at this time and collection will continue as long as the weather permits. The weather has not been very favorable to the Borough this season. A"chipper" will be rented to facilitate with the task of clearing fallen branches due to the recent ice storm. Vice-President Ninosky asked about the status of the Borough regarding the recent ice storm. Manager Beard acknowledged that there are still roads blocked due to fallen wires and that the appropriate utility companies are looking into clearing these areas.

DCED Mini Comp Plan: Manager Beard referred Council to a summary for the month of December from Chris Knarr of Rettew Associates outlining the progress of the Mini Comp Plan. The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, January 10, 2008 at the Municipal Building. The meeting will begin at 4:00 p.m.

DCED Playground Grant: The playground equipment has been delivered. While some of the equipment is being stored at the back of the municipal parking lot, Hornung's True Value Hardware has graciously offered to store the bulk of the equipment at their facilities.

Paxtang Avenue Curb Project: Manager Beard called attention to the amended grant proposal indicting the grant would be for \$40,000.00. He suggested it might be wise to withhold sending out letters advising residents of a quoted price until the funds are actually received. Discussion was held to possibly posting the status of this project on the web site.

PSAB Unemployment Comp Program: Manager Beard referred Council to 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. This is an insurance policy against unemployment compensation claims that might be filed against the Borough. After much discussion, Vice-President Ninosky suggested to table the matter and that Manager Beard obtain a cost analysis for the Borough.

Manager Beard explained, for the benefit of Council, a solvency fee was paid to the state in order for the Borough to make claims against unemployment work claims. This check was received in their office past the due date and therefore our request has been denied. The staff has taken steps to appeal this ruling.

Tri-County Regional Planning Nomination: Manager Beard stated that per the request of Councilman Beaver, his name has been submitted for this nomination.

COG 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 DEP implementing a "Chesapeake Bay Tributary Strategy" which would impose new and costly mandatory upgrades of sewage plants throughout Central PA. The COG is seeking support from municipalities to join them in passing this Resolution as well. Vice-President Ninosky asked the opinion of Engineer Shradley as to what action surrounding municipalities have taken on this matter. Engineer Shradley stated basically others have signed the Resolution.

*6) Vice-President Ninosky made a motion to adopt **Resolution 13-07**. Motion seconded by Councilman Beaver. Motion carried.

Saul Schmolitz: Manager Beard reported that Public Works Employee Saul Schmolitz injured himself on the job which will require that he be off work starting January 7th, 2008. Mr. Schmolitz feels he will be off work for approximately a week or two.

Lions Club Breakfast: Manager Beard made a suggestion to allow the Paxtang Lions use of the Gymnasium for their annual Pancake Breakfast to take place in February.

*7) Vice-President Ninosky made a motion that if and when the Paxtang Lions Club requests use of the Gymnasium for their Pancake Breakfast that we authorize the Borough Manager to approve their request. Motion seconded by Councilman Rowe. Motion carried.

Banner Poles: Last month Manager Beard reported a price of \$3,966.00 for two aluminum poles from Signal Service Inc. of West Chester, PA for the purpose of displaying banners across Derry Street. Manager Beard pointed out that this price was for the poles only and does not include installation. A company was contacted that will install the poles for \$2,600.00 for a total of \$6,566.00. Discussion was held to revisit the proposal from Signal Service and to consider the possibility of installing wooden poles as originally proposed at the Regular Business Meeting of October 16, 2007.

As a side note, Vice-President Ninosky and Councilman Rowe commented that the American Flag at the Paxtang Cemetery is quite pleasing.

*8) Vice-President Ninosky made a motion not to go forward and to rescind all prior motions for the installation of aluminum poles and proceed with the purchase of the wooden poles and have them installed at a cost of \$718.50. Motion seconded by Councilman Beaver. Councilman Rowe inquired that since a motion was made to go forward with the purchase, is the Fire Company's original offer to make that purchase being rejected. Solicitor Laskowski explained that the motion was to rescind the motion from November 20th regarding the purchase of aluminum poles. After this discussion, motion carried.

*9) Vice-President Ninosky made a motion to authorize the Borough Manager to proceed with the purchase of the \$718.50 wooden poles and have them installed. We approve half of that cost and the Fire Department has graciously agreed to pay the rest. Motion seconded by Councilman Rowe. Motion carried.

Police Report: Chief Beard referred Council to the written report for the month of November along with a verbal explanation as well. Councilman Rowe asked if we have a current Municipal Agreement with Penbrook in writing. Chief Beard acknowledged that we are covered under the Municipal Police Jurisdiction Act.

AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION

Murv Grunden of 3323 Brisban Street presented the following:

- Paxtang Crime Watch – Bank balance is \$591.13. Mr. Grunden commented that the account is kept open in anticipation of the Crime Watch being reactivated at a later date.

Vice-President Ninosky asked if Mr. Grunden would entertain the idea of making a donation to the Police, Fire Co, Fire Police or EMS and then reopen the account when the need would arise. After much discussion Mr. Grunden stated that he would call an Executive meeting of the Crime Watch and seek their opinion on the status of the account and the future direction of the Crime Watch.

- Paxtang Historical Society will hold their meeting on Sunday, January 13th at 3:00 at the National Civil War Museum. Members will be admitted free. Anyone interested in attending should contact Bill Ilgenfritz before January 6th.

REPORT OF THE MAYOR

Mayor Stambaugh reported that "Crafts and Cookies with the Mayor" was a success. Mayor Stambaugh expressed her appreciation for the use of the gymnasium. Approximately 31 children were in attendance. Mrs. Claus made an appearance and there is interest in scheduling this event for 2008.

REPORT OF THE SOLICITOR

Solicitor Laskowski will prepare an Amendment to **Ordinance No. 611**, the Local Service Tax. The amended Ordinance will read that individuals earning less than \$12,000.00 will be exempt from the \$52.00 Local Service Tax. Solicitor Laskowski offered his apologies indicating that he will prepare, advertise, and have the document ready for the January 7th 2008 Reorganization meeting. Solicitor Laskowski acknowledged there would not be a fee assessed to the Borough for this service and wished all a Merry Christmas.

REPORT OF CODES ENFORCEMENT

Codes Enforcement Officer Ed Wenger referred Council his to written report for the month of November and offered a verbal explanation of his report.

REPORT OF THE ENGINEER

Engineer Shradley asked Council to consider authorizing Rettew Associates to start surveying streets for reconstruction in 2008. The streets for consideration are: the unnamed street south of Sharon Street extending west from Elm St., and Walnut St., between Derry and Pike.

*10) Vice-President Ninosky made a motion to authorize the Borough Engineer to conduct a survey of the streets for reconstruction at his convenience. Motion seconded by Councilman Beaver. Motion carried.

COMMITTEES

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

*11) Councilwoman Panza made a motion to accept the **Second Reading** of the Budget. Motion seconded by Councilman Rowe. Motion carried.

Highway – No report.

Vice-President Ninosky offered a suggestion to purchase four portable Stop Signs to utilize when power is out in the Borough. Manager Beard commented that plans have been made to have Stop Signs available. Mayor Stambaugh made inquiry as to the status on the Pedestrian Signs. Manager Beard stated the signs are on back order. Councilman Rowe asked if an Ordinance or Resolution would need to be passed in order to enforce the use of portable Stop Signs. Manager Beard indicated there would not be a need for this type of action.

Property and Recreation – No Report

Public Safety – No Report

Public Relations – No Report

Health and Sanitation – No Report

Manager Beard reported that the Sewer Pump Trailer is in but we have not formally taken delivery of the trailer at this time. A fuel problem has been detected and the trailer is being stored at Penbrook Borough waiting for repair work to begin. Manager Beard has been in contact with Councilman Beaver and they feel it would be prudent for Council to consider authorizing the television of the sewer lines on a rotating basis. Manager Beard explained that this has been put aside this past year with the understanding that we were going to outfit the trailer with a camera unit and that did not materialize. Council members felt that they already authorized the television of sewer lines on a rotating basis at an earlier Council meeting of this year and that the project could proceed.

At 8:18 p.m. President Spackman announced that Council would retire to executive Session for the purpose of discussing personnel matters.

At 8:48 President Spackman reconvened the Regular Business Meeting.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS – None

NEW BUSINESS – Councilman Rowe would like to echo the comments made from Vice-President Ninosky earlier in the meeting concerning the fine workmanship regarding the flag pole at the Paxtang Cemetery. Councilman Rowe expressed his sincere and significant regret that we as a Council could not “get our act together” in order to have the flag pole on Borough property and currently be enjoying the income of \$12,000.00 a year. Councilman Rowe would like the Minutes to reflect that he is proud of the fact that he was the one dissenting vote against shooting that motion down.

COMMUNICATIONS

Manager Beard presented the following:

- January 10th - PA Public Officials Day Luncheon at the Farm Show Complex
- January 21st - Capital Region Council of Governments – Annual meeting an dinner at the Radison-Penn Harris Convention Center. Reception at 6:00 Dinner at 6:30
Councilman Beaver and Mayor Stambaugh will represent the Borough
- February 22-23 - Training for Newly Elected Borough Officials Training
- Board Meeting of the PA One Call System
- Letter from Jay Barrick regarding pension matters
- Dauphin County Planning Commission – Asking for representation for a study committee for the Dauphin County Parks and Recreation Open Space and Greenway Study that will inventory parks, open spaces and greenways existing in Dauphin County.
- Letter from Makeshia L. Spotts – Reference to the manner in which an accident was handled.

Manager Beard advised Council that there are no vacancies for the start of 2008.

Vice-President Ninosky expressed his regret that this would be President Spackman’s last meeting to preside over Council as President. Vice-President Ninosky also expressed his appreciation to President Spackman and expressed his gratitude for the service he provided during his term on Council.

President Spackman thanked the members of Council for working together and for the excellent service expended by this Council.

PRESENTATION OF THE BILLS

*12) Vice-President Ninosky made a motion to pay the bills. Motion seconded by Councilman Rowe. Motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT

*13) Councilman Rowe made a motion to adjourn the regular business meeting. Motion seconded by Councilwoman LaCour. Motion carried. President Spackman adjourned the regular business meeting at 8:55 p.m.

Secretary

1. Minutes
2. Treasurer’s Report
3. Advertise 2008 meeting dates
4. Retain Rettew Associates - Borough Engineer
5. Amend motion – Retain Rettew upon Solicitor Approval

6. Adopt Res. 13-07 Chesapeake Bay Tributary Strategy
 7. Gym use – Lions Pancake Breakfast
 8. Rescind motion Nov. 20, 2007 to purchase aluminum banner poles
 9. Purchase wooden banner poles
 10. Engineer to survey streets for reconstruction
 11. Second Reading of the 2008 Budget
 12. Pay the Bills
 13. Adjourn
-