

**PAXTANG BOROUGH  
Workshop Meeting  
3423 Derry Street  
October 4, 2022**

**COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT**

Council President	Kathleen Bloss
Council Vice President	Christopher Spackman
Council President Pro-Tempore	Jack Thomas

Thomas Wingert  
Jennifer Britten  
Corbin Bower  
Eric Fillman

Mayor	Nathan Martin
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**BOROUGH OFFICIALS**

Borough Manager	Keldeen Stambaugh
Borough Solicitor	Joshua Bonn
Borough Engineer	Jeremy Smith

President Bloss called to order the October 4, 2022, Workshop meeting at 7:00 p.m.

On the advice of Counsel, President Bloss stated the following would be read at the beginning of each Council meeting:

Public comment is an opportunity for residents and taxpayers to voice their opinions on matters of public concern. Borough Council will listen to each speaker and should not interrupt or engage speakers in debate. Public comment is not a question-and-answer session. Borough Council handles complex issues and further research may be necessary to insure accurate dissemination of information. Certain matters such as legal proceedings, contractual negotiations, or investigations may involve privileged or confidential information that cannot be publicly disseminated without adverse legal consequence to the Borough and its taxpayers. Ordinarily questions raised during public comment will be referred to the appropriate committee or the Borough Manager. The Council President may ask or permit other members of Council or Borough staff to ask clarifying questions of the speaker to obtain information necessary for an appropriate referral. The Borough Manager shall respond as appropriate generally by contacting the individual speaker directly. The Council President retains discretion to respond to questions that do not require further research such as the dates of upcoming events or services available to Borough residents. And with that as we have been stating, we allow 3 minutes per speaker for general public comment. You may approach the microphone and state your name and address. Everyone who would like to share comments is welcome to do so. We will begin with comments from the Paxtang Borough residents, business, or property owners. If there are no additional comments from Paxtang Borough residents, business, or property owners, we will proceed with comments shared by any other concerned individuals, and with that, it is open for public comment.

President Bloss opened the floor for audience members to share their comments. Hearing none, President Bloss proceeded with the meeting.

**REPORT OF THE MAYOR**

Mayor Martin took this opportunity to commend the Paxtang Fire Company on a successful Crabfest fundraiser. A Proclamation will be brought forth at the October Council meeting for Breast Cancer awareness month .

## **REPORT OF COMMITTEES**

**ADMINISTRATION** – Vice-President Spackman presented an overview of the proposed 2023 Budget while highlighting items as follows: **A.** Fire Tax fund will be applied towards contracted fire services to Swatara Township. **B.** increase for information technology services (IT) **C.** Parks and Recreation – increase in Engineer fees relating to the Saussaman Park improvement project. **D.** Department of Conservation and Natural Resources – Park Grant. **E.** Capital Complex Improvement Project – improvements to municipal building. **F.** no tax increase is anticipated at this point.

Council members took this opportunity to express their gratitude to Vice-President Spackman and Manager Stambaugh for the time and effort put forth in preparing the proposed 2023 Budget.

**Health and Sanitation** – No Report from Councilman Thomas

### **Highway**

\*1) Councilman Bower made a motion authorizing the road closure of Montour Street from Kelso Street to Elm Street on October 9, 2022, from 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. for a neighborhood get together. Motion seconded by Councilman Wingert. Motion carried.

**Property and Recreation** – Councilman Fillman stated the following: **A.** comments with regard to the draft policy for use of the municipal gymnasium have been well received. **B.** revisions for use of the pavilion at Saussaman Park will be forthcoming. **C.** rules and regulations along with a lease document and waiver will be reviewed, revised, and presented to the Borough Solicitor for comment.

**Public Relations** – Councilwoman Britten stated The Paxtang Post is in the works.

**Public Safety** – Councilman Wingert voiced the following: **A.** lack of water pressure on 30<sup>th</sup> Street and Prince Street. **B.** Request fire hydrants be flushed in this area. **C.** possible installation of flashing pedestrian warning signage in front of the municipal building and at the intersection of Park Terrace and Derry Street.

Manager Stambaugh is researching a possible grant for pedestrian signage along with Public Works employee Brian Rotolo. Recommendation is for the Highway Committee to discuss the consideration of devoting \$25,000.00 for a unit in front of the municipal building and to research units for the intersection of Derry Street and Park Terrace. Any devices would need to be approved by PennDOT since Derry Street is a State road, the situation is under review, and everyone is working towards a solution with safety at the forefront.

## **REPORT OF THE SOLICITOR**

No Report from Solicitor Bonn

## **REPORT OF THE ENGINEER**

### **2022 STREET PROJECT**

Engineer Smith stated a pre construction meeting was held with the contractor, New Enterprise Stone & Lime Company and Borough staff. Work would begin the week of October 17, 2022, with submission of a change order to extend the contract to October 31, 2022.

### **MUNICIPAL SEPARATE STORM SEWER SYSTEM (MS-4)**

Engineer Smith stated the 2021-2022 Annual MS-4 Report, the Stormwater Ordinance amendment, and the Pollutant Control Measures Report has been submitted to the Department of Environmental Protection. DEP has extended their MS-4 General Permit to March 15, 2025.

## **REPORT OF THE MANAGER**

### **FIRE HOUSE SIREN**

Manager Stambaugh has received requests to deactivate the fire house siren and stated the following: **A.** There is no longer a need to test the siren since the closing of Three Mile Island, or to test the siren every Saturday. **B.** Firefighters were, at one time, notified through pagers but now are notified by cell phones which deploy firefighters before the siren actually sounds. **C.** Siren would sound for major weather emergencies, and the National Weather Service provides public notifications of weather emergencies by way of television, radio, and cell phone. **D.** Numerous surrounding municipalities no longer utilize their house siren.

With no objection from Council to have the siren turned off for regular day to day use, Manager Stambaugh will submit a letter to Dauphin County Department of Public Safety requesting the siren be turned off for regular day to day use. The Paxtang Fire Company will be notified as well. The siren will still function and could be activated manually for parade notifications and other warnings if necessary.

### **OTHER BUSINESS**

No business was brought forth

### **AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION PROTOCOL**

President Bloss read the protocol for public comments for the benefit of anyone arriving after the initial reading was offered this evening.

### **AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION**

**Mr. Stephen Roth, 3642 Derry Street** voiced the following: **A.** The increase in traffic along with safety issues in the vicinity of Derry Street and Wilhelm Road, **B.** Requested a status on the possible installation of a traffic light at Wilhelm Road. **C.** Would like public comment regarding the use of Borough property and Borough facilities. **D.** Concern with outsourcing of services, **D.** Concern with silencing the fire house siren, **E.** Possibly proceeding with a petition to dissolve the Borough and pose the question on the upcoming May ballot.

President Bloss suggested Mr. Roth provide the Borough Manager with his contact information and work out an appropriate time for the Manager to provide any updates that are presently available.

**Mr. Matthew Lemmon, 2444 Parkway Boulevard, Harrisburg** voiced the following: **A.** Recommended a pedestrian crosswalk push button activation device as an alternative to a flashing device to avoid false activations. **B.** The Borough still has an active fire company responding to all calls within the Borough since the change in fire services, **C.** The house siren is an effective method of alerting volunteers of a call for service. **D.** Due to the inconvenience of having to carry a separate paging device, many of the volunteers now utilize a cell phone. **E.** Many volunteers live within the area and can clearly identify the Paxtang fire house siren. **F.** Numerous municipalities in the area maintain and continue to utilize house sirens. **G.** Even when members carry pagers, there are times when pagers fail to activate leaving the house siren to provide an effective repetition of notification.

**Mr. Gavin Ford, 3731 Rutherford Street, Swatara Township** voiced the following: **A.** Appreciates hearing the house siren as it is a notification device affirming an urgent situation taking place in the area with an emergency response to follow. **B.** Would like the Borough to continue operating the house siren.

### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

At 7:42 p.m. President Bloss announced Council would be retire to Executive Session to discuss potential legal matters, potential litigation, and would reconvene after the Executive Session. The Borough Manager, Borough Solicitor, Borough Engineer, and Mayor were invited to attend.

Secretary Clark was excused for the remainder of the meeting

At 8:20 p.m. President Bloss reconvened the meeting stating discussions were held on potential litigation and legal matters.

**ADJOURNMENT**

\*) Councilman Thomas made a motion to adjourn the October 4, 2022, Workshop meeting. Motion seconded by Vice-President Spackman.

Meeting adjourned at 8:21 p.m.

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Secretary

1. Approve Road Closure – Montour from Kelso St. to Elm Street
2. Adjourn