

PAXTANG BOROUGH
Regular Business Meeting
3423 Derry Street
May 21, 2024

President Bloss called to order the monthly meeting of the Paxtang Borough Council at 7:00 p.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance led by Mayor Nathan Martin.

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT

Council President	Kathleen Bloss
Council Vice-President	Eric Fillman
Council President Pro-Tempore	Jack Thomas
Mayor	Nathan Martin

Thomas Wingert
Jennifer Britten
Corbin Bower
Matthew Leonard

BOROUGH OFFICIALS

Borough Manager	Keldeen Stambaugh
Borough Solicitor	Joshua Bonn
Borough Engineer	Jeremy Smith
Borough EMA Coordinator	Robin Bloss

President Bloss called to order the May 21, 2024, Council meeting at 7:00: p.m.

PUBLIC COMMENT

President Bloss presented an opportunity for residents and taxpayers to voice their opinions on matters of public concern. Borough Council would listen to speakers and should not interrupt or engage speakers in debate. Public comment is not a question and answer session. Questions raised will be referred to the appropriate committee or to the Borough Manager. Three minutes per speaker for general public comment would be allotted. Comments would begin with Paxtang Borough residents, business, or property owners and then proceed with comments from other individuals.

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

PUBLIC COMMENT

President Bloss opened the floor for anyone wishing to share comments.

Mr. Gary Harvey 105 South 47th Street, Swatara Township stated he was concerned that the independent Paxtang Fire Company was not included on the Swatara Township fire call boxes especially since Lawnton Station No. 44 was closed. Mr. Harvey thanked Council for their time.

MINUTES – APRIL 16, 2024, REGULAR BUSINESS MEETING

*1) Vice-President Fillman made a motion to dispense with the reading of the Minutes from the April 16, 2024, General Business Meeting and to approve the same. Motion seconded by Councilman Thomas. Motion carried.

MINUTES – MAY 7, 2024, WORKSHOP MEETING

*2) Vice-President Fillman made a motion to dispense with the reading of the Minutes from the May 7, 2024, Workshop Meeting and to approve the same. Motion seconded by Councilman Thomas. Motion carried.

TREASURER’S REPORT – MONTH ENDED APRIL 30, 2024

Secretary Clark read the Report of the Treasurer for the month ending March 31, 2024, as follows:

GENERAL FUND	\$1,093,481.39
SEWER ACCOUNT	\$1,061,819.67
LIQUID FUELS	\$ 147,600.70
SOLID WASTE	\$ 203,430.43
CAPITAL RESERVE	\$ 514,492.47

*3) Vice-President Fillman made a motion to accept the Treasurer’s Report as presented. Motion seconded by Councilman Wingert. Motion carried.

PUBLIC SAFETY REPORT

Swatara Township Lieutenant Dennis Krahling stated 84 calls for service were placed for Paxtang in the month of April. Officers conducted 0 traffic citations, 8 traffic warnings, 4 parking violations and 2-foot patrols.

COMMUNITY SERVICE

Various officers participated in the 7TH Annual Bro2Go Bowling Against Bullying event held at the ABC East Bowling Lanes, Swatara Township Clean Up Day in the 5000 and 5500 block of Derry Street alongside Township Commissioners, 2nd Annual Citizens Resource Fair at the Lives Changed By Christ Church, 4150 Chambers Hill Road, and the Citizens Police Academy. Matthew Allen completed his internship with the Department. An Aggressive Driver event was held March 18 through April 28.

DRUG DROP BOX

Residents are encouraged to deposit expired and or unused medications at the drop box located at the Swatara Township Municipal Building 599 Eisenhower Boulevard.

CHILD SAFETY SEATS

Three child passenger safety seats were installed by officers certified as car seat installation technicians.

MOTOR CARRIER SAFETY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (MSCAP)

The MSCAP commercial driver vehicle inspection program is ongoing with inspections of commercial motor vehicles.

YOUTH POLICE PROGRAM

The Swatara Township Youth Police Program will run from June 10 -14. The program is designed to educate youth about the field of law enforcement.

ACADEMY GRADUATES

Two cadets have graduated from the Academy in Lackawanna County. Cadets will participate in two weeks of internal training and then proceed with patrol duty.

REPORT OF FIRE SERVICES

Due to the absence of Swatara Township Fire Chief Michael Ibberson, Swatara Township Lieutenant Dennis Krahling presented the following report: 132 calls for service were placed in the month of April including 19 fires, 39 medical incidents, 13 hazardous conditions, 11 service calls, 22 good intent calls, and 27 false alarms. The team of 55 active members committed a total of 2,013 staffing hours and 321 training hours with an average of 8.1 responders per incident resulting in an average response time of 4 minutes and 44 seconds from dispatch to arrival. Mutual Aid was provided 16 times and received 37 times. Two calls for service in Paxtang were placed. One smoke detector was installed, participated at the Wilhelm Paxtang Baseball opening day, Rutherford Youth Club Baseball parade, 717 Armory Veterans Ride, Capital Region Council of Governments Grant Press Conference and the Swatara Township Senior Fair. Lieutenant Krahling reported that Fire Chief Michael Ibberson sent his sincere gratitude to each member of the team for their commitment to continuing to provide exceptional service in safeguarding the well-being of the community.

REPORT OF THE BOROUGH MANAGER
CAPITAL AREA GREENBELT ASSOCIATION

With no objection from Council, Manager Stambaugh will move forward with a request for a letter of support from the Capital Area Greenbelt Association. The Association is completing a grant application for a Department of Environmental grant for the Paxtang Parkway Restoration Project. No financial commitment would be placed on the Borough. Representatives have an interest in attending an upcoming Council meeting to provide an official update.

MEMORIAL DAY COMMUNITY PICNIC

The Memorial Day picnic is scheduled for 12 noon Monday, May 27 at Saussaman Park. Due to anticipated adverse weather conditions, the Chairperson of the Property and Recreation Committee will make a decision on Friday, May 24 to move forward or not. Notification of a cancellation would be made through Borough social media.

BOROUGH WIDE SIDEWALK INSPECTION FROM 2023

Citations will be filed with the Magisterial District Judge Michael Smith for properties found to be in non-compliance with regard to the completion of repairs. Letters are anticipated to be mailed June 6 or June 7. Discussion was held that no extensions would be offered by the Borough.

TENNIS COURT UPDATE

Borough Public Works employees will be involved in clearing the tennis courts in anticipation of paving, sealing and painting.

AWARD BID – 2024 ROAD PAVING PROJECT

To be addressed under the Report of the Engineer.

MUNICIPAL BUILDING ROOF PROJECT

The Municipal Building roofing project is expected to begin Tuesday, May 28.

AWARD CURB CUT RAMPING PROJECT

Three estimates were received and sent to Council for consideration. To be addressed later this evening.

SHADE TREE REMOVALS/TRIMMING

Quotes for the removal and trimming of Shade Trees were provided to Council for their consideration. To be addressed later this evening.

ADDITIONAL SHADE TREE REMOVAL – 3210 BRISBAN STREET

A quote of \$7,250.00 was received for the removal of a large Pin Oak. The removal is considered an emergency and was not originally planned for. To be addressed later this evening.

TECHNOLOGY UPGRADE

To be addressed by the Chairperson of Property and Recreation later this evening.

CODES AND ZONING REPORT

One Street Cut, three Building Permits, and four Zoning Permits were issued in the month of April.

29TH STREET BRIDGE TEMPORARY CLOSURE – DERRY STREET PAVING

The temporary closure of the 29th Street Bridge is scheduled to begin mid June. Residents will be notified with regard to the Derry Street-PennDOT project and the 29th Street Bridge project. The paving project will impact vehicular parking along Derry Street.

REPORT OF THE MAYOR

Mayor Martin expressed his gratitude to all that were able to attend the Arbor Day Celebration at the Paxtang Elementary School last April. Mayor Martin proceeded to read the Arbor Day Proclamation recognizing Paxtang as

a Tree City USA for the 37th consecutive year. Weather permitting, Mayor Martin stated he hoped to see everyone at the Memorial Day Picnic.

REPORT OF THE SOLICITOR

No Report from Solicitor Bonn

REPORT OF THE ENGINEER

SAUSSAMAN PARK IMPROVEMENT PHASE 1

Engineer Smith reported that construction is progressing. Paving has been completed, plantings have been delivered, and the contractor is working towards completion this week.

2024 STREET PROJECT

The 2024 Road Project was advertised for bids, three bids were received, and the tabulation sheet was provided to Council for consideration. Quotes were received from Pennsy Supply with a base bid of \$97,013.50, CPA Pavement Services with a base bid of \$108,648.90 and Construction Masters Services with a base bid of \$93,845.00. Construction Masters Services was the lowest responsible bidder at a base bid of \$93,845.00. Engineer Smith reviewed the documents submitted, found them to be in accordance with the requirements. Engineer Smith recommended awarding the contract to Construction Masters services for the base bid as well as considering the award of alternate bid number 1 for paving of the intersection of Duke Street at 32nd Street. Alternate bid number 2 is for curb ramp replacements on Greenwood Street. Quotes for the curb cuts were obtained separately by the Borough. Curb Cuts to be done prior to the paving project with placement of yellow truncated dome pads at ramps.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Administration – No Report from Vice-President Fillman

Highway and Stormwater – No Report from Councilman Leonard

Property, Recreation, and Shade Tree Advisory – No Report from Councilman Bower

Public Safety – Councilman Wingert said with the temporary closure of the 29th Street Bridge, there could be a tendency for people to disregard the No Left Hand Turn at 30th Street onto Derry Street and that this area will likely have the potential for a rise in accidents.

Public Relations and Grants – No Report from Councilwoman Britten

Health, Sanitation and Codes – No Report from Councilman Thomas

NEW BUSINESS

AWARD OF 2024 ROAD PROJECT

*4) Councilman Leonard made a motion to award the base bid and alternate bid to Construction Masters Services to be paid from the Liquid Fuels Fund and to award the Americans With Disabilities ramp project for Greenwood Street and Walnut Street to Fogle Masonry at an amount of \$16,700.00 to be paid from the Liquid Fuels Fund. Motion seconded by Vice President Fillman. Councilman Wingert suggested alerting the public through all means of communication available to the Borough with regard to altered traffic patterns and a high volume of vehicular traffic.

*5) Councilman Leonard amended his motion to read: motion to award the base bid and alternate bid to Construction Masters Services at an amount totaling \$111,841.50 to be paid from the Liquid Fuels Account. Motion seconded by Vice-President Fillman. Motion carried.

AWARD OF SHADE TREE REMOVALS

*6) Councilman Bower made a motion to award the removal of Shade Trees to Snyder's Tree Service at \$1,800.00 and the alternate to Shull's Tree Service \$1,890.00. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Britten. Motion carried.

AWARD OF SHADE TREE TRIMMING

*7) Councilman Bower made a motion to award the trimming of Shade Trees to Shull's Tree Service at \$9,180.00. Motion seconded by Councilman Thomas. Motion carried.

ALTERNATE TREE NUMBER ONE

*8) Councilman Bower made a motion to award Snyder's Tree Service for the removal of a tree at 206 Paxtang Avenue, and 3118 Duke Street for \$1,000.00 and the trimming of a tree at 444 N. 32nd Street at \$650.00 for a total of \$1,650.00. Motion seconded by Vice-President Fillman. Motion carried.

SHADE TREE EMERGENCY REMOVAL – 3210 BRISBAN STREET

*9) Councilman Bower made a motion to award the emergency removal of a Shade Tree at 3210 Brisban Street to Snyder's Tree Service at \$7,250.00. Motion seconded by Councilman Thomas. Motion carried.

TECHNOLOGY UPGRADE

*10) Councilman Bower made a motion to approve the quote from ET&T and authorize a transfer of \$7,800.00 from the General Fund for additional upgraded computer components. Motion seconded by Councilman Thomas. Motion carried after a discussion to choose a monthly payment of \$412.00 as opposed to a one-time payment of \$7,800.00.

COMMUNICATIONS

No Communications were brought forth.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Austin Schrader 123 Suedberg Road, Pine Grove Township, voiced the following: is disappointed with the lack of sense of community and public relations that had previously been provided by the Paxtang Fire Company to residents and businesses of the Borough, response time from outside fire and rescue services due to the temporary closing of the 29th Street Bridge, the independent Paxtang Fire Company not being authorized to provide and respond to incidents in the Borough, and would like Council to consider the importance of public safety.

Linda Follett 3625 Brisban Street voiced the following: is concerned with altered access and response time to the Borough by fire and rescue services when the 29th Street Bridge is temporarily closed and is concerned for public safety.

Shaun Edan 2430 Parkway Boulevard, Penbrook as a member of the independent Paxtang Fire Company No. 1 voiced the following: is committed to assist and serve the Borough, would like Council to communicate more with the public with regard to their inability to run calls, noted the addition of new crew members that are willing to serve, and is hopeful that Council develops a plan with the best interest of the community in mind.

Gavin Ford 3731 Rutherford Street, Swatara Township as President of the independent Paxtang Fire Company No. 1 voiced the following: is concerned that the independent Paxtang Fire Company No. 1 is not authorized to respond to incidents in the Borough, response time from outside fire and rescue services, appropriate dispatch of apparatus, and expenditure of Solicitor fees.

Donald Follett 3625 Brisban Street voiced the following: requested heightened transparency from Council directed to Borough residents and businesses, is concerned and not pleased that fire services have been outsourced.

MUNICIPAL SEPARATE STORMWATER SEWER SYSTEM PROGRAM (MS-4)

President Bloss opened the floor for anyone wishing to share comments. Hearing none, President Bloss proceeded with this evening's meeting.

PRESENTATION OF BILLS

*11) Vice-President Fillman made a motion that the Borough pay its just and lawful debts. Motion seconded by Councilman Thomas. Motion carried.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

At 7:59 p.m. President Bloss announced that Council would retire to Executive Session to discuss matters of litigation. Members of Council, Borough Manager, Borough Solicitor, and Borough Mayor were invited to attend. Meeting would reconvene after the Executive Session.

At 8:36 p.m. President Bloss reconvened the Regular Business Meeting were matters of litigation were discussed. Members of Council, Borough Mayor, Borough Manager, and Borough Solicitor attended.

ADJORNMENT

*12) Councilman Thomas made a motion to adjourn the Tuesday, May 21, 2024, Regular Business Meeting. Motion seconded by Councilman Bower. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 8:37 p.m.

Secretary

- 1.Minutes April 16 Regular Business Meeting
- 2.Minutes May 7 Workshop Meeting
- 3.Treasurer Report
- 4.Award 2024 Road Project – Construction Masters Services
- 5.Amended to include at a cost of \$16,700.00
- 6.Award Shade Tree removals to Snyders Tree Service/Shulls Tree Service
- 7.Award Shade Tree Trimming – Shulls Tree Service
- 8.Award Shade Tree Removals/Trim to Snyders Tree Service
- 9.Award Shade Tree Emergency Removal – Snyders Tree Service
- 10.Technology Upgrade Additional Quote ET&T Transfer Funds
- 12.Adjourn