

PAXTANG BOROUGH
Regular Business Meeting
March 21, 2023

President Bloss called to order the monthly meeting of the Paxtang Borough Council at 7:03 p.m. noting that prior to this evening’s meeting, Council held an Executive Session stating at 6:30 p.m. and ending at approximately 6:55 p.m. Matters of litigation were discussed, and Council sought the advice of legal Counsel. Present at the meeting were Solicitor Bonn, Manager Stambaugh, Mayor Martin, and members of Council. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mayor Martin.

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT

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

Councilman Thomas Wingert
Councilwoman Jennifer Britten
Councilman Eric Fillman

COUNCIL MEMBERS ABSENT

Corbin Bower

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, businesses, or property owners and then proceed with comments from other individuals.

AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION

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

Steven Roth – 3643 Derry Street, voiced his concerns on what impact the adoption of Ordinance 686, an Ordinance amending the Zoning Ordinance specific use regulations related to multifamily dwellings would have on the student population at the Paxtang Elementary School.

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 the meeting.

ORDINANCE 686 – AMENDMENT TO THE ZONING ORDINANCE

President Bloss presented for Council’s consideration **Ordinance No. 686**, an amendment amending the Borough of Paxtang Zoning Ordinance Specific Use Regulations related to multifamily dwellings to eliminate the cap on the total number of dwelling units on a lot and reduce the minimum lot area per unit.

*1) Councilman Fillman made a motion to adopt **Ordinance No. 686**. Motion seconded by Councilman Wingert.

Councilman Wingert stated he is looking forward to having the retirement community here in the Borough while also being able to provide employment opportunities. Vice-President Spackman noted this project involves those of the 55-plus community, so school overcrowding would not be an issue. Councilman Fillman stated while this is unlikely, there could be instances where multiple generations would be living under one roof. Councilman Fillman

stated he was in support of the amendment due to the following: was satisfied with meeting advertising requirements, for receiving positive comments from Swatara Township for the development of apartments, and for the ability for economic growth. Councilman Fillman acknowledged this only effects the Mixed Neighborhood Business Zoning of the Borough and while any other enactments for the future is not known, it seems appropriate at the time and would not affect other residential areas.

President Bloss instructed Secretary Clark to call the roll as follows:

Councilman Fillman	Aye	President Bloss	Aye
Councilwoman Britten	Aye	Councilman Wiingert	Aye
Vice-President Spackman	Aye	Councilman Thomas	Aye

Motion carried unanimously

MINUTES – FEBRUARY 21, 2023 – REGULAR BUSINESS MEETING

*2) Councilman Thomas made a motion to dispense with the reading of the Minutes from the February 21, 2023, Regular Business Meeting and to approve the same. Motion seconded by Councilman Fillman. Motion carried.

MINUTES – MARCH 7, 2023 – PUBLIC HEARING – QUEEN ALLEY

*3) Councilman Thomas made a motion to dispense with the reading of the Minutes from the March 7, 2023, Public Hearing and to approve the same. Motion seconded by Councilman Fillman. Motion carried.

MINUTES – MARCH 7, 2023 – WORKSHOP

*4) Councilman Thomas made a motion to dispense with the reading of the Minutes from the March 7, 2023, Workshop Meeting and to approve the same. Motion seconded by Councilman Fillman. Motion carried.

TREASURER’S REPORT – MONTH ENDED FEBRUARY 28, 2023

<u>GENERAL FUND</u>	\$530,223.91
<u>SEWER</u>	\$841,714.24
<u>LIQUID FUELS</u>	\$ 36,427.59
<u>SOLID WASTE</u>	\$ 73,306.82
<u>CAPITAL RESERVE</u>	\$486,369.82

*5) Vice-President Spackman made a motion to approve the Treasurer’s Report for the month ended February 28, 2023. Motion seconded by Councilman Thomas. Motion carried.

PUBLIC SAFETY REPORT

Swatara Township Lieutenant Dennis Krahling stated 83 calls for service were placed for Paxtang Borough for the month of February. Five traffic citations, 9 motor vehicle code violation warnings, 2 non-traffic criminal citations, 12 parking violations, 4 foot patrols, 5 mobile patrols, and 4 school foot patrols were carried out.

COMMUNITY SERVICE

CITIZENS POLICE ACADEMY

Swatara Township will be hosting a Citizens Police Academy for residents and non-residents. The academy will offer citizens a look at different aspects of policing.

INTERNSHIP PROGRAM

A university student will be participating in a month-long internship with an interest in becoming a Canine handler.

TEACHING, EDUCATING, AND MENTORING (T.E.A.M)

Officers presented curriculum covering topics relating to student safety in grades Kindergarten through grade 12 in the Central Dauphin School District and the Steelton-Highspire School District.

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 PASSENGER SAFETY SEATS

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

MOTOR CARRIER SAFETY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (MSCAP)

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

SENIOR CITIZENS RESOURCE FAIR

Swatara Township is hosting a Senior Resource Fair on April 26 at the Lives Changed by Christ (LCBC) Church at 4150 Chambers Hill Road. The event is designed for those 60 years and older or for those involved as a care giver for that of a senior citizen.

CANINE REPORT

The Canine Unit participated in a requested-on site narcotic search at the St. Catherine Laboure School and the Dauphin County Prison.

CANINE HANDLING POSITION

The Swatara Township Canine unit has announced an opening for its 4th canine handling position.

EMPLOYMENT OPENINGS

A total of 76 candidates recently applied for openings in the Swatara Township police department. Interviews and background checks will be administered to those who have progressed to and completed the written examination portion of the testing.

REPORT OF FIRE SERVICES

Lieutenant Krahlung presented the February 2023 Swatara Fire Rescue Report as follows: 87 calls for service were placed, mutual aid was provided 19 times and received 10 times. Average response time from dispatch to arrival was 6 minutes and 7 seconds. Members responded to 5 fire incidents, 22 rescue and emergency medical incidents, 7 hazardous conditions, 10 service calls, 22 good intent, and 16 false alarms. The average turnout per incident was 8.8 firefighters with a total of 70 active responders. Staffing hours were 2,009 and 759 hours of training. Firefighters completed their annual hazmat refresher training, ropes 1, water rescue awareness, Emergency Vehicle Operator Course (EVOC), and 2 new firefighters completed their fire ground support class.

Firefighters attended the Paxtang Lions Club Pancake Breakfast and thanked the Lions Club for their hospitality and generosity. The new Insurance Service Office (ISO) rating for Paxtang improved from a 5 to a more favorable 3.

Calls for Paxtang were 1 mutual aid received, 1 rescue/emergency medical service, 1 hazardous condition (no fire) service call, good intent call, and a false alarm/false call.

INSURANCE SERVICES OFFICE (ISO) LETTER

Lieutenant Krahlung read a letter from Swatara Fire Chief, Michael Ibberson with regard to a recent evaluation of services by the ISO which resulted in an improvement of the Paxtang Borough's fire suppression rating. A low ISO rating is important for economic development, attracting new businesses, decisions by insurance companies with regard to insuring properties, coverages, and premiums. The letter from Chief Ibberson recognized accomplishments which would not have been possible without well-trained officers and firefighters of the Swatara Township Fire-Rescue and is extremely grateful that they choose to serve the communities of Swatara Township and Paxtang Borough. It was noted that Chief Ibberson was not able to attend this evening's meeting due to recently being elected as the President of the Dauphin County Fire Chief's Association and would be attending said meeting.

REPORT OF THE MANAGER

MUNICIPAL COMPLEX IMPROVEMENT PROJECT

Manager Stambaugh reported work is currently being performed on the exterior of the municipal building. Brick maintenance and repair along with the replacement of back hallway windows will occur over the next few weeks.

GATE WAY SIGN – 29TH AND DERRY STREET

Borough staff is researching sign replacement options for the gateway or “Welcome to Paxtang” sign at 29th and Derry Street that was recently damaged due to a traffic incident.

BOROUGH WIDE SIDEWALK INSPECTIONS

The 2023 sidewalk inspection plan had been presented to Council prior to this evening’s meeting. Plans are to educate property owners through the Paxtang Post, the Borough website, and Borough social media of Facebook. Inspections will be carried out in April and May. Letters will be sent to property owners in June. Deadline for repairs are to be completed by November 1, 2023.

RADAR SOLAR POWER SIGN

Manager Stambaugh thanked Lieutenant Krahlung for his assistance with the installation of a solar radar sign. The sign will be rotated throughout the Borough with the intention of raising awareness and encourage proper vehicular speed.

CERTIFICATION OF SEWER OFFICER – SEPTIC TANK – SAUSSAMAN PARK

Borough Staff is moving forward with the review and approval from our certified sewer officer for the replacement of the septic tank at Saussaman Park. This is in preparation for the playground and pathway project from a grant with the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources to take place later in 2023.

REPORT OF CODES

1 Building Permit, 1 Sewer Permit, and 2 Street Cut Permits were issued in February.

REPORT OF THE MAYOR

Mayor Martin invited all to attend the Paxtang Lions Club Easter Egg Hunt at Saussaman Park at 10:00 a.m. on Saturday, April 1. Rain date is April 8. Mayor Martin thanked the Paxtang Lions for hosting this long standing tradition in the Borough.

Mayor Martin thanked all those involved with the work put into **Ordinance 686** and views this as a good opportunity for the Borough to bring an additional tax base into the community.

Mayor Martin took this opportunity to thank the Swatara Fire Department for their dedication and service to the Borough. Mayor Martin stated the ISO rating is a determining factor in how insurance premiums are set for homeowners and businesses and explained the many factors taken into consideration for determining rates.

REPORT OF THE SOLICITOR

No Report from Solicitor Bonn

REPORT OF THE ENGINEER

CHAPTER 94 REPORT

Engineer Smith reported the Chapter 94 Municipal Wasteload Management Annual Report for 2022 has been completed and submitted to Capital Region Water.

DERRY STREET CROSSWALK SIGNALS

Fieldwork has been completed, data has been collected to prepare a plan for this area, and the plan/permit application was reviewed with the Borough staff for signing. Without objection from Council, Engineer Smith will follow through with submitting the permit application.

Councilman Wingert asked if anyone is conducting a traffic study on 30th Street. Manager Stambaugh reported she would look into this matter.

REPORT OF COMMITTEES

Administration – No Report from Vice-President Spackman

Highway – No Report due to the absence of Councilman Bower

Property and Recreation

USE OF THE PAVILION – PAXTANG ELEMENTARY PTO

*6) Councilman Fillman made a motion authorizing a request for gratis use of the pavilion by the Paxtang Elementary PTO. Motion seconded by Councilman Thomas. Motion carried.

EAGLE SCOUT PROJECT – GAGA BALL COURT

Councilman Fillman has been in contact with Eagle Scout, Gregory Pitzner with the Boy Scouts of America who is proposing to construct a Gaga Court for his Eagle Scout project. This project is a modified version of Dodge Ball and was discussed at several previous meetings. Councilman Fillman thanked Borough Public Works employee Brian Rotolo for providing information on this new sport. Location to be discussed at a later date.

Public Safety – Councilman Wingert reported he is extremely pleased with the ISO rating that the Borough received.

Public Relations – Councilwoman Britten reported the Paxtang Post will be ready for delivery shortly.

Health and Sanitation – Councilman Thomas reported on a blockage on the eastern end of Derry Street. The issue was resolved through assistance from Swatara Township.

COMMUNICATIONS

No Communications were brought forth

AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION

Linda Follett, 3625 Brisban Street stated her thoughts from an insurance perspective was that businesses could see a change but that homeowners may not due to personalized practices from individual insurance companies with regard to ISO ratings.

Steven Roth 3642 Derry Street expressed his concern with the outsourcing of services, would like Paxtang represented at Swatara Township meetings, commented on the Borough losing its identity, and would proceed with a petition to bring before Council for the November ballot regarding a possible merge with Swatara Township.

Gavin Ford 3731 Rutherford Street, Swatara Township, Harrisburg stated in 2019 a comment was made that former Paxtang Fire Chief, Todd Zwigart, was not present at a Council meeting due to attending the Dauphin County Fire Chief's Association meeting when Mr. Zeigart was President of that Association. Mr. Ford stated this is a similar situation tonight with Chief Ibberson not attending this evening's meeting.

PRESENTATION OF THE BILLS

*7) Vice-President Spackman made a motion that Council pay its just and lawful debts. Motion seconded by Councilman Fillman. Motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT

*8) Councilman Thomas made a motion to adjourn the March 21, 2023, Regular Business Meeting. Motion seconded by Vice-President Spackman. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 7: 47 P.M.

Secretary

1. Adopt Ordinance 686
2. Minutes February 21, 2023, Regular Business Meeting
3. Minutes March 7, 2023, Hearing
4. Minutes March 7, 2023, Workshop
5. Treasurer's Report
6. Use of Pavilion – Paxtang Elementary PTO
7. Pay Bills
8. Adjourn