

**AGENDA**  
**Borough of Elizabeth—Regular Meeting of Council**  
**August 22, 2023. 7:00 PM**  
**Amended at Meeting**

**EXECUTIVE SESSION – Litigation & Personnel Issues**

**President Guffey calls to order the meeting at approximately 7:20pm**

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**ROLL CALL**

Present: Mr. Buchina, Mr. Rager, Mr. Smith, Ms. Turner, Pres. Guffey, Mayor Boucher

Others Present: Solicitor Matta and Mr. Craighead, Business Manager

Absent: Ms. Cress and Ms. Gephart

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

This meeting is being recorded for transcription of the minutes only.

**Motion to amend the agenda add Item 13 under New Business.**

**All in favor** of adding Motion 13 to this evening's agenda – motion passed

**VISITORS**

**Andy Miklos** – He suggests that council needs to look at the numbers and see what is in the best interest of the community in order to move forward. This has been needed for over 20 years and something needs to be done.

**Jerry LaFrankie** – He wants to know who is responsible for “policing” the ordinances in the Borough? Mr. Matta responded by saying that both our code enforcement officer and our police dept. take on that responsibility depending on what ordinance it is that needs enforced. Jerry said it's concerning dumpster permits. Mr. Craighead spoke up to say that we have a procedure that when there is a dumpster without a permit then the company is notified and the owner is researched then a letter is sent. Mr. Matta states

that usually the resident isn't even aware of there being a fee for a permit to have a dumpster so the letter solves the problem and if not then more steps are taken.

**Chrissy from EADC** – She wanted the council to take note that the Elizabeth Borough's Light Up Night has been scheduled for Nov. 16, 2023 and a rain date is scheduled for Nov. 19, 2023.

**Andy Miklos** – added that when he had a nonregistered dumpster in his neighborhood, he spoke with Chief Sombo about it and was told that "we no longer do that". So, who is exactly enforcing these ordinances?

## **PUBLIC COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS**

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Motion to approve the minutes of the July 19, 2023 Workshop Meeting and the July 25, 2023 Council Meeting.

1<sup>st</sup> Mr. Buchina

2<sup>nd</sup> Mr. Smith

All in favor – Motion passed

### **PAYMENT OF BILLS**

Motion to pay the bills as presented.

1<sup>st</sup> Ms. Turner

2<sup>nd</sup> Mr. Buchina

All in favor – Motion passed

## **REPORTS**

**Mayor** – He states how nice and vibrant the town is looking and that we will closing up the year with a lot of activities including the Light Up Night. The town is looking good.

**Treasurer** – Reports are in the packet / President Guffey asked if the money from the magistrate ever came that they owed us? Mr. Craighead responded No.

President Guffey asked once we get it, on what budget item will that get credited too? Mr. Craighead said it falls under "state fines".

**Solicitor** – Nothing for public knowledge

**Building Inspector** - Nothing

**Chief of Police** – Reports are in the packet / Chief Sombo comments on Andy Miklos' comment earlier...Chief Sombo stated that he never made that comment to Andy.

**Animal Control** – President Guffey asks if the dogs on 7<sup>th</sup> street are gone yet? Mayor Boucher responded with yes, they have been gone for a number of years now.

**Borough Manager** – Report is in the packet / He speaks on the progress or lack of progress concerning the Army Corp of Engineers. They stated they are in a state of confusion right now but assures the borough that the work that needs done before the locks are taken out in July 2024, will be completed on time. We are working with Glenn Engineering to prepare engineer plans to put out bids for the Maple Avenue project. We received word that we were approved for the 20,000 dollar CD49 application. We are still waiting on a signed contract for the work to be done from Walnut to Williamsport. We are asking for approval to submit a pre-application for CDBG 50 which will enable us to do some additional paving and address some drainage issues which needs to be submitted just after Labor Day. It is getting very disappointing as to when we get approved for these grants and then not being able to start the work for 2 to 3 years down the road. The citizens get frustrated waiting to get this work completed. Some of our budget issues is due to losing the 70,000 dollar grant that we had for the past 3 years and we will not have moving forward.

## REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

**Budget & Finance** – President Guffey points out that we are putting numbers together concerning the police dept but as of right now no determination has been made as far as where we are going. We will have an answer come December,

**Public Safety** – None

**Public Works – West Elizabeth wants a quote for the price of the 2007 Public Works dump truck for purchase.** After going back and forth between Mayor Boucher, Mr. Matta, Mr. Craighead, Mr. Buchina and Mr. Rager a price of \$13,000 was decided and that is not including the salt spreader. Mr. Rager thinks that

should be kept for a backup in case the one the borough has breaks. Mr. Craighead will follow up with West Elizabeth to see if they are still interested.

**Parks and Recreation – Duke Park camera system update.** System has been purchased for around \$500 and Mr. Craighead and Chief Sombo are getting it set up along with the help from T-Fab who will be donating the casing box for the system. Mr. Rager asked what are we doing about the mulch? Mr. Craighead told them about mulch that is willing to be donated so Mayor Boucher is going to look into the donation.

**Ordinance - None**

**Personnel – Part-time police officer update.** President Guffey states that the part time officer will come on board after we receive a release from his doctor.

**Economic Development – CD 50 grant application**

**Planning –** President Guffey states that we will be adding people to the planning commission in the next month's meeting

**Old Business - None**

### **New Business**

1. Motion to accept the resignation of part-time police officer Matthew Resser effective July 31, 2023.
2. Motion to accept the resignation of part-time police officer Tobias Yuhouse effective July 31, 2023.
3. Motion to accept the resignation of part-time police officer James Santucci effective July 31, 2023.
4. Motion to approve payment to Officer William Tomosky for reimbursement of training costs in order to certify our officers on firearms. The cost of the training was \$600.00.
5. Motion to appoint Cynthia Morris to the Planning Committee for a 1-year term starting September 1, 2023 and ending August 31, 2024.
6. Motion to appoint Gerald LeFrankie to the Planning Committee for a 1-year term starting September 1, 2023 and ending August 31, 2024.

7. Motion to appoint Charles Smith to the Elizabeth Borough Planning Committee for a 2-year term starting September 1, 2023 and ending August 31, 2025.
8. Motion to appoint Jeremy Rager to the Elizabeth Borough Planning Committee for a 2-year term starting September 1, 2023 and ending August 31, 2025.
9. Motion to appoint William Boucher to the Elizabeth Borough Planning Committee for a 3-year term starting September 1, 2023 and ending August 31, 2026.
10. Motion to approve the final invoice from A Folino for the 2020 street paving project in the amount of \$756.79.
11. Motion to accept the CD 49 grant in the amount of \$20,000 to pave 7<sup>th</sup> Ave from Walnut Street to Williamsport Road.
12. Motion to approve the Borough Manager to work with Glenn Engineering and submit a CDBG Yr-50 pre-application for needed projects.
13. Motion to accept the proposal from TranSystems to provide the engineering services for the Riverfront Walking Trail grant and project. The fees for engineering services are included in the grant and are not to exceed \$20,660.

**Motion to accept all motions 1-13**

1<sup>st</sup> Mr. Smith

2<sup>nd</sup> Mr. Rager

All in favor – motion passed

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

**GOOD OF THE ORDER** – President Guffey wanted to be transparent and let the community know that it was decided in the executive session that for September's meeting research will be brought back on the Business Tax and what steps are needed to bring that to Elizabeth Borough and looking into getting GPS devices in all borough vehicles. Ms. Turner wants to thank Chief Sombo for handling the situation. She feels that it would not have been handled the way it did if it was the Township enforcing here.

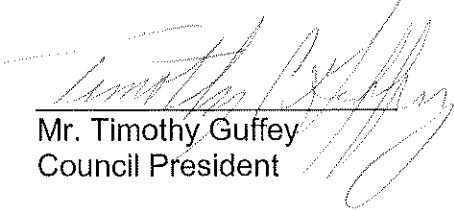
**ADJOURNMENT**

1<sup>st</sup> Mr. Smith

2<sup>nd</sup> Ms. Turner

All in favor – motion passed

Prepared by:

  
Mr. Timothy Guffey  
Council President

  
Scott Craighead  
Borough Manager