

Borough of Elizabeth - Regular Meeting of Council - August 27, 2024 7:00 PM

Call to order August 27, 2024 at 7:00pm - by Tim Guffey

Pledge of Allegiance

IN ATTENDANCE

Mr. Jason Berman
Mrs. Dana Cress
Mr. Cole Buchina
Mr. Chuck Smith
Mr. Tim Guffey
Solicitor Gina Rosso
Chief Ken Honick
Borough Manager Scott Craighead

ABSENT

Mrs. Desiree Gephart
Mr. Chad Rager
Mayor Boucher

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

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

VISITORS:

Larry Ross—The Last concert on Plum will be on Sept. 5th, and the tent and stage will be removed by Sept. 7th. September 12th Murder Mystery Dinner at Youghiogheny Country Club will raise funds for Light-Up Night. September 14th is Saturday Market.

Carl Folk—Residents on 6th St. toward Grant St. are asking that trees be removed as there are communication wires through them. They are unable to utilize their yard and pool due to the nuisance of the trees and the Lantern Flies that are infesting them.

The council board addressed the removal of trees and made an addendum to the agenda:

Motion to approve item #9 for new business to have removal of trees by JD Landscaping
Motion Chuck Smith
2nd Cole Buchina
All in favor --- Approved

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS:

None

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Motion to approve the minutes of the July 23, 2024 Council Meeting.

Motion: Jason Berman

2nd: Cole Buchina

All in favor --- Approved

PAYMENT OF BILLS:

Motion to pay the bills as presented.

Motion: Chuck Smith

2nd: Cole Buchina

All in favor --- Approved

REPORTS

Mayor – Not Present – Nothing to report

Treasurer – Report is in the packet

REPORTS – Continued

Solicitor – Nothing for public session

Building Inspector – Not Present – Nothing to report

Animal Control – Nothing to report

Chief of Police – Report is in the packet

- Reports of overnight activity that cars in the area are being tampered with. The Chief along with the township manager and overnight officers will be devising a plan to remind residents to secure cars.
- Question presented by Borough Manager Scott Craighead: Once PennDOT signs go up redirecting large truck traffic, will there be a different approach to how those who violate the signs be handled? Per the Chief this would be an official violation and if damage is done to any properties, the necessary steps will be taken to ensure the proper agencies are contacted and repairs made.
- Question presented by President Tim Guffey: Being that this is the first year that the township has been involved in our events in town (Plum St. Concerts, Markets, Riverfest, and other events) do you have any thoughts? The chief feels that all the community involvement has been positive. For Riverfest itself he feels that the snow-fencing is a great utilization to have pedestrians not go into certain areas. He would like to meet with organizers to discuss ideas prior to next years events.

Borough Manager –

- Construction is progressing on the sidewalks and green space project. The agenda tonight is seeking approval to make a partial payment for the completed sections. This week the walls and sidewalk construction in the greenspace will begin.
- We will be applying for three grants (GEDTF for riverwalk, LSA for roads, and CDBG for additional sidewalk replacement.
- Bids will go out for the 2 current GEDTF grant projects and hopefully bid opening will be around October 1 st .
- We are working on the webpage redevelopment and codification project currently and hope to have the web done in the next month and have the codification project done by June of 2025.
- The 5-year agreement with PennDot will reimburse us approximately \$7,000 per year.

Public Works – Report is in the packet

OLD BUSINESS:

Nothing to report

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Motion to make a partial payment to Pugliano for grant projects 19-GEDF-025 and 2020-GEDTF-147 in the amount of \$126,671.00.
2. Motion to apply for a Local Share Account Statewide Grant for 2024.
3. Motion to apply for a Community Development Block Grant 2024.
4. Motion to approve Resolution 2024-04 to apply for a Gaming Economic Development and Tourism Fund Grant 2024 in the amount of \$500,000 for the River Walk Trail.
5. Motion to put out bids for the grant for the VFD Parking Lot.
6. Motion to put out bids for the grant for Maple Avenue reconstruction.
7. Motion to have Coursevector provide ADA compliance for the borough website for a fee of \$1,100 annually.
8. Motion to approve Resolution 2024-05 to enter into a 5 year Winter Maintenance Service Agreement with Penndot.

At the beginning of this public meeting, a motion was made to add the following to the agenda.

9. Motion to accept the quote from JD Landscaping and Grass Cutting for \$2,000 to remove trees at the end of 6th Avenue.

Council Member Jason Berman asked: Is the quote presented for \$2000 for removing all trees necessary, or should the council increase this amount? Per Scott Craighead, Borough Manager, this quote is for removing the trees discussed at tonight's meeting. However, if there are trees that need to be removed or addressed to be removed, then we can come back to the council and amend this amount as needed.

Motion to approve all 9 motions as one motion:

Motion: Chuck Smith

2nd: Cole Buchina

All in favor --- Approved

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

No Comments

GOOD OF THE ORDER:

No Comments

A brief Executive Session will follow this meeting – Legal and personnel matters.

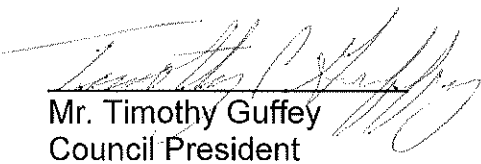
ADJOURNMENT:

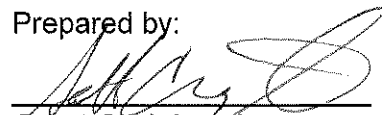
Motion to adjourn council meeting at 7:24pm

Motion: Chuck Smith

2nd: Jason Berman

All in favor --- Approved


Mr. Timothy Guffey
Council President

Prepared by:

Scott Craighead
Borough Secretary