

**Borough of Elizabeth—Regular Meeting of Council Minutes
February 25, 2025 7:00 PM**

Call to order February 25, 2025 at 7:00pm - by Tim Guffey – President

Pledge of Allegiance

IN ATTENDANCE:

Mrs. Dana Cress
Mr. Jason Berman
Mr. Tim Guffey
Mrs. Desiree Gephart
Mr. Chuck Smith
Solicitor Matta
Borough Manager Scott Craighead

ABSENT:

Mr. Cole Buchina
Mr. Chad Rager
Mayor Boucher
Chief Ken Honick

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

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

VISITORS:

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS:

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Motion to approve the minutes of the January 15, 2025 Workshop Meeting and January 28, 2025 Council Meeting.

Motion made by: Chuck Smith

2nd by: Jason Berman

All in favor: Approved

PAYMENT OF BILLS:

Motion to pay the bills as presented.

Motion made by: Chuck Smith

2nd by: Desiree Gephart

All in favor: Approved

REPORTS

Mayor: Not present

- Nothing to report

Treasurer:

- Report is in the packet for review.

Solicitor:

- Nothing for public session

Building Inspector: Not present

- Nothing to report

Chief of Police: Not Present

- Report is in the packet of services provided in the borough.

Animal Control:

- Nothing to report

Borough Manager:

- I met with the engineer to review the bids for the Maple Avenue Project to finish the retaining wall, provide guide rails and pave Maple Avenue. We will award the bid tonight on the agenda.
- The planning committee and myself reviewed the request for qualifications for the engineering services for the Riverwalk project. We feel that LSSE submitted the best qualifications and most detailed plans. They are also involved with the outflows that have to be redone during this project since they are the current engineer for the Municipal Authority.
- Other grant work that will begin over the next few months include road paving, sidewalk replacement and fire department parking lots.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

Budget & Finance:

- Nothing to report currently; however over the next few months we will start to gear up for the 2026 budget and therefore any requests should be

Public Safety:

- Hazard mitigation plan, will need to be adopted and would need to discuss if a new ordinance is needed.

Public Works:

- During the manager's reporting, Scott discussed the projects that the Public Works team was working on, which included:
 - o We had 2 or 3 snow events this month. Our salt is still in good shape for the season.
 - o All equipment has been inspected and overhauled to be ready for current and upcoming season.
 - o Patching roads as needed.
 - o Cleaning out catch basins and streams to minimize the possible flooding issues.
 - o Meeting with PennDot to put requests in for more visible truck signs. The requests have been submitted.
 - o Working with Elizabeth Township to store and replace damaged and worn military banners.

Parks & Recreation:

- Nothing to report

Ordinance:

- The codification project has over 300 questions that need to be answered. To properly go through each ordinance that has questions we are applying for a 6-month extension with the STAMP program.

Personnel:

- Nothing to report

Economic Development:

- Nothing to report

Planning:

- The planning committee met last week to review the Request for Engineer plans for the Riverwalk project. After reviewing several proposals LSSE is being recommended because of their detailed plans, overall expertise to accomplish the needs of the project and local experience with Elizabeth Borough.

Old Business:

New Business:

1. Motion to approve the request for engineering services for the Elizabeth Borough Riverfront Walking Trail Design and Project Plan from LSSE with a budget of \$100,000 provided from ARPA Grant.
2. Motion to approve applying for a DCNR grant for the River Walk project for approximately \$500,000 for construction,
3. Motion to accept the lowest bid for 2023-GEDTF-181 Maple Avenue Retaining Wall Phase 4 and award the bid to A. Folino Construction, Inc. as the low bidder for the amount of \$345,360.

A motion was made to accept Motions #1 - #3 as one full motion: Jason Berman

2nd: Desiree Gephart

All in Favor: Approved

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Andy Miklos asked questions:

1. Maple Ave: Is there any monies in the grants that are being sought out to remove the dead trees that hang over the road? Some of those trees are on personal properties, so will property owners be talked with in regard to tree maintenance? Also, there is a property where there is dirt and rocks falling from the property onto the road. There is also no drain on Maple Ave., except for at the bottom near McKeesport Rd.

Per Scott: There will be some additional funds within the grants, and we will work with the company who won the bid to make those necessary improvements. We will have our engineers look into the road and drain.

2. Riverwalk: where is going to start and end and is this grant for the entire project.

Per Scott: What we are currently working on is the engineering part of the project. After meetings with COG and others, we felt it was best to have a well laid out plan with an engineering firm that will provide us with support when we apply for federal and state funding. We want to tie everything together, because much of the time costs can be largely tied up into permits for construction along a riverfront.

GOOD OF THE ORDER:

Chrissy with the EADC has provided a preliminary calendar of events and once everything has been approved, she will provide a full calendar to the council. Many events will be utilizing the new greenspace park space.

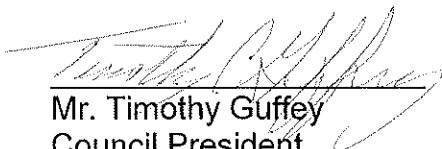
ADJOURNMENT:

Motion to adjourn council meeting at 7:19 PM

Motion: Chuck Smith

2nd: Desiree Gephart

All in favor --- Approved



Mr. Timothy Guffey
Council President

Prepared by:

Scott Craighead
Borough Secretary