

Minutes
Borough of Elizabeth - Regular Meeting of Council
October 24, 2023. 7:00 PM

EXECUTIVE SESSION – Litigation & Personnel Issues

President Guffey called the meeting to order at approximately 7:00 pm

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ROLL CALL

Present: Mr. Buchina, Mrs. Cress, Mrs. Gephart, Mr. Rager, Mr. Smith, Mr. Guffey
Others Present: Solicitor Matta, Mayor Boucher, Mr. Craighead

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

VISITORS

Mary Ann Chisco had comments on dissatisfaction with the enforcement of curfew at Duke Park. She observes a lot of bad activity going on in the park, and wants to know what council is going to do about it.

President Guffey informed Mrs. Chisco that cameras are being installed to monitor the park. He also indicated that patrols will be increased. He suggested that if suspicious activities are observed to call 911 to report it.

Presentation

Kim Turnley from Mark Turnlley, CPA presented the audit report for the borough. There were not any findings or recommendations for the year 2022 audit. There were not any control issues that were found. For the year 2022 we were positive by about \$38,000 in the general fund.

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion to approve the minutes of the September 20, 2023 Workshop Meeting and the September 26, 2023 Council Meeting.

1st Mr. Rager

2nd Mr. Smith

All in favor – Motion passed

PAYMENT OF BILLS

Motion to pay the bills as presented.

1st Mr. Buchina

2nd Mr. Smith

All in favor – Motion passed

REPORTS

Mayor – Indicates he will meet with the Chief and Borough Manager to discuss the plan for Duke Park. The town is doing well with all the activities that are going on in town.

Treasurer – Report is in the packet.

Solicitor – Nothing for the public session

Building Inspector - Nothing

Chief of Police – Report is in the packet. Karen Turner requested stop signs on Ekin Avenue. He suggests a three way stop sign. Solicitor Matta, Mr. Craighead and the Chief will work on the ordinance. Chief indicated the fines should be released because the UCR reports are caught up. He gave an update on Duke Park camera system, and it should be installed by next week. The entire park will be monitored with cameras. Chief is looking into grant funding for full-time police officers.

Animal Control –

Borough Manager – We are going to be beginning a lot of construction projects over the next few months. A lot of projects need to be done by June 30, 2024. The Maple Avenue Project will be starting soon for the top section, We put in for an additional grant to finish the bottom of Maple Avenue. We also have the grant project for the park and sidewalks at Market Street, Second and third Avenue in the next six months. Bids will begin in December. The Army Corp is still working on the contract for waterfront park.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

Budget & Finance – We are looking at preliminary budget numbers for 2024.

Public Safety –

Public Works – Report is in the packet.

Parks and Recreation – Duke Park Camera Update earlier.

Ordinance – We will be advertising the ordinance for the Volunteer Fireman Tax Credit ordinance. Public meeting will be held November 15th. Ordinance will be passed on November 28th.

Personnel – A new Part-time police officer will be starting once we receive all required documentation.

Economic Development – Construction will be starting on the Maple Avenue Project. We have applied for a CD 50 grant application for street projects. In November or December, we will be putting bids out for the Market Street projects. Got an update from the Army Corp that they want to meet with us sometime this week.

Planning – We will be setting up a meeting for a lot revision.

Old Business -

New Business

1. Motion to make the final payment on the TAN Loan for approximately \$28,224.
2. Motion to submit a letter of interest for the flood mitigation assistance.

3. Motion to apply for the LSA grant for 2024.
4. Motion to sign off on the release for PA American Water and Constitution State Services, LLC in order to receive final payment for contents in the amount of \$20,149.97. (Upon Solicitor Review)
5. Motion to approve the concurring resolution for the CDBG 50 grant for street reconstruction on Birch Alley and Walnut Street (from 7th to 9th).
6. Motion to authorize the Chief of Police, Borough Manager and Solicitor to take appropriate actions to advertise an ordinance for 3 stop signs for a 3-way stop at the corners of 4th Avenue and Ekin Avenue. (as added by Solicitor Matta)

Motion to accept motions 1 through 6 in one motion.

1st Mr. Smith
2nd Mr. Rager
All in favor – motion passed

PUBLIC COMMENTS

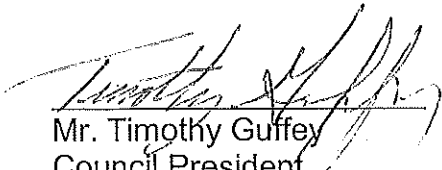
Andy Miklos – Does Street Reconstruction take care of Birch Alley and the Dead end. Mr. Craighead indicated CD48 will take care of the dead end, and the CD50 Grant will take care of the center part of Birch Alley.

GOOD OF THE ORDER

ADJOURNMENT

All in favor

Prepared by:


Mr. Timothy Guffey
Council President


Scott Craighead
Borough Manager