

Lafin Borough Council Mtg.
January 12, 2021
6:00 P.M.

MEETING MINUTES

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER and PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG RECITED.

Roll Call:

Present: Paul Benderavich, President – Carl Yastremski, Vice President – Anthony D’Eliseo – Matthew D’Elia –
Kyle Costello – Mayor William Kennedy

Absent: None

Also Present: Solicitor Samuel Sanguedolce, Esq. (by telephone) and Charles Boyd, Borough Manager

Special Presentations: None

Minutes: December 8, 2020 Meeting

Mr. Benderavich asked for a motion to approve the meeting minutes.

Motion to Approve: Anthony D’Eliseo

Second: Carl Yastremski

Roll Call:

Ayes were unanimous and motion passed.

Treasurer’s Report:

Mr. Benderavich asked for a motion to accept the report.

Motion to Accept: Anthony D’Eliseo

Second: Carl Yastremski

Roll Call:

Ayes were unanimous and motion passed.

List of Bills for Approval:

Mr. Benderavich asked if anyone had any questions or comments then asked for a motion to approve the bills.
\$82,645.36 plus payroll \$8,528.61.

Motion to Approve: Carl Yastremski

Second: Kyle Costello

Roll Call:

Councilman D’Eliseo abstained on the CVI invoice due to employment.

Ayes carried and motion passed.

Correspondences (e-mailed to Council during the month): No discussion.

Reports:

State Police and Laflin Volunteer Fire Dept. reports were emailed to councilmembers. No discussion.

Manager’s Report –

Mr. Boyd spoke on the continuing process for the Williams Transco gas pipeline expansion proposed for Laflin Borough. A borough property owner, Robb Sieminski, is unhappy with the proposed route through his land and will engage an attorney to deal with the gas company. Also noted was a problem with the current deed to the borough owned property that could affect the compensation offer from Williams Transco for right-of-way rights. It was mentioned again that the borough would be offered monetary compensation along with negotiating work projects like finishing the surface of the gas pipeline right-of-way to allow for a walking trail or in-kind services work around the pole barn building. The recent deed transfer problem will need to be remedied first. Councilmen Costello and Benderavich spoke on the need to obtain an attorney, or two attorneys, with experience in that field to review the gas company offer. Kyle Costello had an acquaintance in that line of work and Mr. Benderavich noted Leonard Sanguedolce, Esq. that might have knowledge on the subject.

Mr. Boyd stated that the Earned Income Tax and Local Services Tax collections stayed on budget even through the pandemic economic shutdown.

Mr. Boyd noted the COVID Cares Grant reimbursement funds have been received from Luzerne Co. at \$21,938.72.

Mr. Boyd brought to the attention of the elected officials, as a reminder, that two (2) council seats, the tax collector and constable positions are open for the 2021 primary elections.

Mayor’s Report –

Nothing to report from Mayor Kennedy.

Mr. Benderavich asked for a motion to approve the reports.

Motion to Approve: Anthony D’Eliseo

Second: Carl Yastremski

Roll Call:

Ayes were unanimous and motion passed.

Unfinished Business:

A) Tax Anticipation Note 2021 (TAN) Resolution –
Resolution #2 of 2021

Mr. Benderavich asked for a motion to approve the TAN resolution.

Motion to Approve: Anthony D’Eliseo

Second: Carl Yastremski

Roll Call:

Paul Benderavich Yes

Kyle Costello Yes

Matthew D’Elia Yes

Anthony D’Eliseo Yes

Carl Yastremski Yes Motion passed.

B) Refuse & Recycling Collection Fee 2021 –

Councilman Yastremski reviewed his Laflin Borough Refuse Fund analysis that he prepared for councilmembers. An increase to \$280.00 per year or an increase to \$290.00 per year were discussed as possible options due to the increase on the new four-year garbage contract with County Waste. The analysis was reviewed in detail.

After much discussions, Councilman D’Eliseo made a motion to increase the yearly refuse collection fee to \$290.00 face amount and \$280.00 discount amount for four years.

Motion to Approve: Anthony D’Eliseo

Second: Carl Yastremski

Roll Call:

Paul Benderavich Yes

Kyle Costello Yes

Matthew D’Elia Yes

Anthony D’Eliseo Yes

Carl Yastremski Yes

Motion passed.

New Business:

Councilman Paul Benderavich made a motion to appoint Carly Costello to the Laflin Recreation Board.

Motion to Appoint: Paul Benderavich

Second: Carl Yastremski

Roll Call:

Paul Benderavich Yes

Kyle Costello Abstained

Matthew D’Elia Yes

Anthony D’Eliseo Yes

Carl Yastremski Yes

Motion passed.

Mr. Benderavich asked Councilman Costello to thank Carly Costello for joining.

A) Salary Resolution 2021 –

Resolution #1 of 2021

Mr. Benderavich asked for a motion to approve the resolution.

Motion to Approve: Anthony D’Eliseo

Second: Carl Yastremski

Roll Call:

Paul Benderavich Yes

Kyle Costello Yes

Matthew D’Elia Yes

Anthony D’Eliseo Yes

Carl Yastremski Yes

Motion passed.

B) 2021 Commercial Liability Package Renewal Proposal –

Mr. Benderavich asked for a motion to approve the Assured Partners Northeastern PA renewal proposal.

Motion to Approve: Anthony D’Eliseo

Second: Carl Yastremski

Roll Call:

Paul Benderavich Yes

Kyle Costello Yes

Matthew D’Elia Yes

Anthony D’Eliseo Yes

Carl Yastremski Yes

Motion passed.

C) Pennoni Associates Annual Engineering Agreement 2021 –

Mr. Benderavich asked for a motion to approve the Pennoni agreement.

Motion to Approve: Anthony D’Eliseo

Second: Carl Yastremski

Roll Call:

Paul Benderavich Yes

Kyle Costello Yes

Matthew D’Elia Yes

Anthony D’Eliseo Yes

Carl Yastremski Yes

Motion passed.

D) Hire Part-time Borough Plow Drivers –

Joseph Boos

Scott Seeherman

After some discussion on the urgent need for additional plow drivers and the \$15.00 per hour rate, Mr. Benderavich asked the councilmembers or mayor, that may know of someone willing to plow, to have them contact Borough Manager Chuck Boyd for an application.

Mr. Benderavich asked for a motion to hire part-time plow driver Joseph Boos.

Motion to Hire: Anthony D’Eliseo

Second: Carl Yastremski

Roll Call:

Paul Benderavich Yes

Kyle Costello Yes

Matthew D’Elia Yes

Anthony D’Eliseo Yes

Carl Yastremski Yes

Motion passed.

Mr. Benderavich asked for a motion to hire part-time plow driver Scott Seeherman.

Motion to Hire: Anthony D'Eliseo

Second: Carl Yastremski

Roll Call:

Paul Benderavich Yes

Kyle Costello Yes

Matthew D'Elia Yes

Anthony D'Eliseo Yes

Carl Yastremski Yes

Motion passed.

E) Smith Blacktopping Contracted Backup Snowplow Service –
\$95.00 /hr. for Driver & Truck

Mr. Benderavich noted that this would be similar to the contracted plow services with Stell Enterprises, Inc. that was previously approved at a prior council meeting.

Mr. Benderavich asked for a motion to approve Smith Blacktopping at \$95.00 per hour for driver and truck for contracted plow services.

Motion to Approve: Anthony D'Eliseo

Second: Carl Yastremski

Roll Call:

Paul Benderavich Yes

Kyle Costello Yes

Matthew D'Elia Yes

Anthony D'Eliseo Yes

Carl Yastremski Yes

Motion passed.

F) Laflin Borough Proclamations –
Bernie Bartoli and Raymond Lauer

Mr. Benderavich asked councilmembers if they would be interested in doing a proclamation in honor of Bernie Bartoli and Ray Lauer. Mr. Benderavich noted that Mr. Bartoli, and the Bartoli family, donated the property the borough building is on along with the playground and baseball fields and church property. The original A-framed library was donated by Mr. Bartoli. He was a pillar of the community for many years.

Mr. Benderavich talked about the many years of service Ray Lauer provided for the Laflin community as a plow driver and many donated hours for the landscaping services through Midway Garden Center.

Mr. Benderavich instructed that Solicitor Sanguedolce, Esq. could prepare a proclamation and Mr. Boyd will provide a frame for the same. The proclamations could be presented to the families at a later date.

Mr. Benderavich asked for a motion to prepare the proclamations.

Motion to Approve Proclamations: Anthony D'Eliseo
Second: Carl Yastremski
Roll Call:
Ayes were unanimous and motion passed.

Mayor Kennedy stated that his wife, Suzanne, would be willing to volunteer and be appointed to the Laflin Rec Board.

Mr. Benderavich asked for a motion to appoint Suzanne Kennedy to the Laflin Rec Board.

Motion to Appoint: Anthony D'Eliseo
Second: Kyle Costello
Roll Call:
Paul Benderavich Yes
Kyle Costello Yes
Matthew D'Elia Yes
Anthony D'Eliseo Yes
Carl Yastremski Yes
Motion passed.

Public Comments: None

Executive Session: None

Adjournment: Motion to adjourn at 6:33pm.
Motion: Anthony D'Eliseo
Second: Carl Yastremski
The motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,



Charles Boyd, Borough Manager
Laflin Borough

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