

Laflin Borough Council Mtg.  
November 12, 2024  
6:00 P.M. Regular Meeting  
**MEETING MINUTES**

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

**Roll Call:**

Present: Marc Malvizzi, President – Joseph Boos, Vice President – Drew Malvizzi – Melissa Werner –  
Carl Yastremski – Mayor William Kennedy

Absent: None

Also Present: Solicitor Leonard A. Sanguedolce, Esq. and Charles Boyd, Borough Manager

Mr. Boyd read to meeting attendees the Sunshine Act notification as stated on the council meeting agenda.

**Special Presentations:** None

**Minutes:** October 18, 2024 Rescheduled Postponed Meeting

Mr. Marc Malvizzi asked if everyone reviewed the meeting minutes and if anyone had any questions or comments. He asked for a motion to approve the meeting minutes.

Motion to Approve: Drew Malvizzi

Second: Melissa Werner

Roll Call:

Ayes carried with Councilmember Carl Yastremski abstaining (due to absence) and motion passed.

**Treasurer's Report:**

Mr. Marc Malvizzi asked for a motion to accept the report.

Motion to Accept: Drew Malvizzi

Second: Joseph Boos

Roll Call:

Ayes were unanimous and motion passed.

**List of Bills for Approval:**

Mr. Marc Malvizzi asked if anyone had any questions or comments then asked for a motion to approve the bills.  
\$ 29,380.25 plus payroll \$ 10,160.02

Mr. Yastremski asked for clarification on the GP Sewer & Water invoice. Mr. Boyd explained the situation on a sewer backup at 1 Hickorywood Drive where a bilateral cleanout was installed to access the lateral after the tank.

Motion to Approve: Melissa Werner

Second: Drew Malvizzi

Roll Call:

Ayes were unanimous and motion passed.

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

**Reports:**

**Fire Department Report** – Drew Malvizzi

For the month of October 2024 the fire department responded to 18 alarms that included 5 medicals, 2 fire alarms, 3 motor vehicle crashes, 1 gas leak, 1 confirmed structure fire, 5 reported structure fires, and 1 car fire. The total calls for the year were reported at 169.

**Manager's Report** – Charles Boyd

Mr. Boyd reported receiving the Williams Gas Company pipeline grant proceeds at \$20,000 for the pavilion installation labor. However, no word was received from the contractor on completing the project. The contractor did promise to get the foundation work completed before the cold weather prevents pouring concrete.

The ARPA Generator grant will need to be extended again due to the delay in receiving the generator. Mr. Boyd is working with Luzerne Co. and will attend an upcoming county council meeting in November to confirm the extension request. Some additional information was discussed on the generator grant.

**Mayor's Report** – No report presented.

**Library Association Report** – Melissa Werner

Mrs. Werner noted that the book discussion for the book *The Inmate* by Freida McFadden was taking place in the library, at the same time as the council meeting, for the monthly book club. On Tuesday, November 19, 2024 at 6:30pm the monthly Laflin Library Association meeting will be held in the library. Currently, the children's November Book of the Month is *Mother Bruce* by Ryan Higgins. The annual Gingerbread House program will be on December 6<sup>th</sup> from 3 to 6pm.

Mr. Marc Malvizzi asked for a motion to accept the reports.

Motion to Accept Reports: Joseph Boos

Second: Melissa Werner

Roll Call:

Ayes were unanimous and motion passed.

**Public Comments Relating to the Agenda:**

Joseph McCabe, Pinewood Drive – volunteered Mr. Joseph Spagnuolo from Ashwood Drive as a potential replacement for the resigning member of the Laflin Borough Recreation Board. The resignation will be discussed later in the council meeting and he believes Mr. Spagnuolo would be a good addition to the rec board. Recently, Mr. McCabe spoke to Mr. Spagnuolo and he would be available for any position council had open and wants to be involved in the community. Mr. Spagnuolo has a good character and would be a good fit for the position, stated Mr. McCabe.

He spoke in favor of the No Nonsense Neutering TNR contract renewal and would like to see someone, that has the time, take the lead on feral cats for the community.

He asked for clarification on the DEP permit termination for the Creekside Park ballfields. Mr. Boyd explained the situation where Williams Gas Co. applied for a DEP permit to install the under-field drainage pipes that required a DEP permit for the work to be done. The permit was in the name of Laflin Borough and will need to be terminated since the drainage project is completed.

He asked for clarification on the contracted snow plow companies noted on the agenda. He wanted to ensure the fire drivers hired earlier in the year would be utilized as plow driver. In response, council indicated that would be the case with the companies only called if a problem arose. Mr. Boyd also noted that the backup companies in the past haven't been reliable when needed due to their own snow plow work that they also undertake during snowstorms.

**Unfinished Business:**

- A) Local Share Account (LSA) Statewide Grant Submissions –  
Resolution #13 of 2024    New 2025 DPW Ford F550 Plow Truck  
Resolution #14 of 2024    Ashwood Drive Stormwater Improvement Project

Mr. Marc Malvizzi reviewed the resolutions and asked for a motion to approve both resolutions.

Motion to Approve: Melissa Werner

Second: Drew Malvizzi

Roll Call:

Joseph Boos	<u>Yes</u>
Drew Malvizzi	<u>Yes</u>
Marc Malvizzi	<u>Yes</u>
Melissa Werner	<u>Yes</u>
Carl Yastremski	<u>Yes</u>

Motion passed.

- B) New Laflin Borough Quality of Life Ordinance Discussion –  
Dumpster/POD Storage – Noise Issues – High Grass – Etc.

After reviewing the proposed ordinance and ordinance notes, Mr. Marc Malvizzi requested that all councilmembers review the rough draft and contact Mr. Boyd with any questions or comments. The proposed ordinance will be more fully reviewed at upcoming council meetings. Discussion only and no vote was taken.

- C) Bid Results for LSA / ARPA Grants for Lower Laflin Stormwater Project –

Mr. Marc Malvizzi reviewed the bid results and stormwater project scope of work. He noted borough engineer Don Totino, Pennoni Associate's recommendation of Gaver Industries, Inc. doing business as Barker & Barker Paving at \$221,081.80.

Mr. Yastremski asked for clarification on the total project cost with engineering and what grants would be used to pay for the project. After some discussions, Mr. Boyd noted that the grant proceeds not utilized could be used for another project.

COMPANY NAME	Base Bid
Gaver Industries Inc. dba Barker & Barker Paving	\$ 221,081.80
Stell Enterprises	\$ 234,072.00
Sikora Brothers Paving, Inc.	\$ 262,326.00
RLE Enterprises Inc.	\$269,554.50
Multiscape, Inc.	\$273,059.95
Pioneer Construction Co., Inc.	\$293,609.90
Leeward Construction, Inc.	\$310,765.00
American Asphalt Paving	\$320,823.10
Don E. Bower, Inc.	\$332,251.11
M & J Excavation Inc.	\$348,507.00
Latona Trucking Inc.	\$349,037.75
James T. O'Hara, Inc.	\$493,068.00

Mr. Marc Malvizzi asked for a motion to approve Gaver Industries Inc., dba Barker & Barker Paving for \$221,081.80.

Motion to Approve: Drew Malvizzi

Second: Joseph Boos

Roll Call:

Joseph Boos Yes

Drew Malvizzi Yes

Marc Malvizzi Yes

Melissa Werner Yes

Carl Yastremski Yes

Motion passed.

D) Bid Results for PennDOT Green Light-Go Grant for Rt.315 / Laflin Road Traffic Signal –  
Kuharchik Construction, Inc. \$127,096.75

Mr. Marc Malvizzi noted that the project only received one bidder, Kuharchik Construction, Inc., with a total bid of \$127,096.75. This amount exceeds the grant award. Mr. Malvizzi and Mr. Boyd are in discussions with PennDOT Green Light-Go representatives to work on other options available to the borough, including additional funding.

Mr. Marc Malvizzi noted that \$47,000 of the total is a radar traffic detection unit in place of the looped wired system in the road to control the traffic signal. This may need to be eliminated. Also noted was the potential problem of receiving only one bidder for a state grant project.

Mr. Marc Malvizzi asked for a motion to TABLE the bid results until further information becomes available from PennDOT.

Motion to TABLE: Drew Malvizzi

Second: Melissa Werner

Roll Call:

Ayes were unanimous and motion passed.

E) 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading of the Laflin Borough 2025 Operating Budget –

Mr. Marc Malvizzi reviewed the entire proposed operating budget second reading for 2025 with revenues and expenditures of \$1,638,237.00. No property tax or service fee increases were proposed. No tax anticipation note loan will be required.

Mr. Marc Malvizzi mentioned franchise fee changes; grant funding revenues; electric rate increases; HVAC system potential upgrades; general fund transfer to support the refuse account that will require additional money to support the contracted increased cost in collections for 2025; lower playground parking lot paving; and MS4 stormwater budget funding.

Mr. Yastremski commented on the use of general fund money to support the garbage account. He wondered if a small increase in refuse fees now, along with a smaller increase later when the new contract is negotiated, would be a better choice. Some additional discussions continued with Mr. Marc Malvizzi opting to use funds from the general account to offset the next two years of cost increases in garbage. This will save the taxpayers money, since the general fund has a surplus balance.

After much review, Mr. Marc Malvizzi asked for any questions or comments then asked for a motion to approve the second reading.

Motion to Approve: Melissa Werner

Second: Drew Malvizzi

Roll Call:

Joseph Boos Yes

Drew Malvizzi Yes

Marc Malvizzi Yes

Melissa Werner Yes

Carl Yastremski Yes

Motion passed.

### **New Business:**

#### A) Accept Laflin Borough Recreation Board Resignation of Holly Courter –

Mr. Marc Malvizzi expressed his thanks for her service on the board and then asked for a motion to accept the resignation of Holly Courter.

Motion to Accept: Drew Malvizzi

Second: Joseph Boos

Roll Call:

Ayes were unanimous and motion passed

Mr. Marc Malvizzi expressed his delight that the Trunk or Treat event recently held by the Laflin Borough Recreation Board, along with church members, was fantastic and a well-run event. The rec board is doing a great job. All agreed.

#### B) No Nonsense Neutering TNR Contract Renewal for 2025 –

Feral Cat Trap-Neuter-Return Program                      \$40 Voucher Program

After some discussions on the program usefulness and past history, Mr. Marc Malvizzi asked for a motion to approve the No Nonsense Neutering agreement again for 2025.

Motion to Approve: Drew Malvizzi

Second: Joseph Boos

Roll Call:

Ayes were unanimous and motion passed

C) Creekside Park Ballfield DEP Permit Termination –  
Williams Gas Pipeline Ballfield Drainage Permit Notice of Permit Termination

Mr. Marc Malvizzi explained the situation were Williams Gas Company received a DEP permit to complete the ballfield drainage work. Since the work is completed, DEP requires a permit termination. Mr. Marc Malvizzi asked for a motion to approve the DEP permit termination.

Motion to Approve: Melissa Werner  
Second: Joseph Boos  
Roll Call:  
Ayes were unanimous and motion passed

D) Approve Contracted Emergency Back-up Snow Plow Companies for Winter Service Work –  
Stell Enterprises / Semyon Trucking / JR Evans Transport / Smith Blacktopping

Mr. Marc Malvizzi asked for a motion to approve back-up snow plow companies in case of an emergency.

Motion to Approve: Melissa Werner  
Second: Drew Malvizzi  
Roll Call:  
Ayes were unanimous and motion passed

E) Laflin Borough Electricity Supplier New Contract 2025 –  
Mantis Innovation Proposal                      SFE Energy    \$0.0840 /kWh    12 Month Term

Mr. Marc Malvizzi asked for a motion to approve the new proposal for energy rates with SFE Energy at \$0.840 per kilowatt hour.

Motion to Approve: Drew Malvizzi  
Second: Joseph Boos  
Roll Call:  
Joseph Boos                      Yes  
Drew Malvizzi                      Yes  
Marc Malvizzi                      Yes  
Melissa Werner                      Yes  
Carl Yastremski                      Yes  
Motion passed.

F) Cedarwood Drive Sewer Manhole Repairs and Adjustments –  
Stell Enterprises, Inc.                      \$ 7,490 (total for 3 units)  
Sikora Brothers, Inc.                      \$10,550 (total for 3 units)

Mr. Marc Malvizzi asked for a motion to approve Stell Enterprises, Inc. at \$7,490 for manhole repairs.

Motion to Approve: Melissa Werner  
Second: Drew Malvizzi  
Roll Call:  
Joseph Boos                      Yes  
Drew Malvizzi                      Yes  
Marc Malvizzi                      Yes  
Melissa Werner                      Yes  
Carl Yastremski                      Yes  
Motion passed.

- G) Set & Advertise Laflin Borough Council Meeting Dates for 2025 –  
Retain 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of the Month at 6pm  
Conflict Date: Tuesday, November 11, 2025 - Veterans Day (reschedule to Tuesday 11/18/24)

Mr. Marc Malvizzi asked for a motion to approve the 2025 meeting dates as noted.

Motion to Approve: Joseph Boos  
Second: Drew  
Roll Call: Malvizzi  
Ayes were unanimous and motion passed

**Council Comments / For the Good of the Order:**

Next Council Meeting: December 10, 2024 at 6pm.

**General Public Comments:**

Joseph McCabe, Pinewood Drive – asked if the porch pirate was apprehended and did the borough security cameras play a role in identifying the individual. Mr. Marc Malvizzi answered in the affirmative and indicated the Pennsylvania State Police identified the person with the help of the borough cameras, but that person was from out-of-state and it was unknown if they have been apprehended.

Mr. McCabe asked about a rumor in the community that the fire department entered the home at 74 Pinewood Drive due to an alarm call. He asked if that was true and that only 5 cots and a chair were found in the home. A close friend of Mr. McCabe is in law enforcement and he believes that is the hallmark of what is called a ‘trap house’ where illegal drugs are processed. Mr. McCabe’s friend advised him to watch out for turf wars. Mr. Marc Malvizzi responded to say, if anything would have been found the police would have been contacted. However, nothing was observed and they seemed to be a good family.

Some discussions continued on the crumbing pavement and curbs on Pinewood Drive that are only two (2) years old. Also, he asked if the fire hydrant across from 1 Pinewood Drive is decommissioned or not operational since it has a red mark on it. Mr. Drew Malvizzi responded to say that the hydrant was leaking and repaired but the red cap was added for low water flow rate. Further discussions continued on other issues.

Betty Szumski, Cedarwood Drive – asked if ppl Electric was contacted on the power line that broke from the accident on Cedarwood Drive on November 6, 2024. Mr. Marc Malvizzi responded and advised the county was contacted the day of the accident to notify the electric company. The wire was identified as a ground wire without any power to it.

**Executive Session:** No Executive Session.

**Adjournment:** Motion to adjourn at 6:53pm.

Motion: Drew Malvizzi      Second: Joseph Boos      The motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,



Charles Boyd, Borough Manager  
Laflin Borough

\_\_\_\_\_ <<< END >>> \_\_\_\_\_