

Laflin Borough Council Mtg.  
February 11, 2025  
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 –

Absent: Mayor William Kennedy

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:** January 14, 2025 Meeting

Mr. Marc Malvizzi asked for a motion to approve the meeting minutes as emailed to everyone.

Motion to Approve: Drew Malvizzi

Second: Joseph Boos

Roll Call:

Ayes were unanimous and motion passed.

**Treasurer's Report:**

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

Motion to Accept: Melissa Werner

Second: Drew Malvizzi

Roll Call:

Ayes were unanimous and motion passed.

**List of Bills for Approval:**

Mr. Marc Malvizzi asked for a motion to approve the bill list as given to everyone for the month.

\$ 94,730.00 plus payroll \$ 17,722.02.

Resident Walter Wrazien interjected from the audience to ask to speak on the bill list as public comments prior to a vote being taken by council. Mr. Wrazien indicated he had some concerns on the bill list that he received from Mr. Boyd the day prior. Mr. Boyd noted that the bill list was revised by one (1) additional invoice being added since that time.

Mr. Wrazien voiced his concerns and asked councilmembers questions on individual bill list items. He asked if all elected officials received the bill list and reviewed each bill listed. He specifically asked councilmembers questions regarding individual invoices.

One of the noted concerns Mr. Wrazien had was the amount of the UGI gas service invoice for the borough building heat at \$877.24. He asked why the invoice was voted to be approved since it only includes the borough building meeting room, borough office and library and believed it was a very high cost for just those areas. Much discussion continued on the gas invoice with Mr. Marc Malvizzi noting that the fire department side and fire bays are included in the gas invoice cost.

Mr. Wrazien continued questioning other invoices listed and questioned if the volunteer fire department should be separated from borough expenses for financial accountability.

After much discussion, Mr. Marc Malvizzi asked for a motion to approve the list of bills.

Motion to Approve: Drew Malvizzi

Second: Melissa Werner

Roll Call:

Ayes were unanimous and motion passed.

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

### **Reports:**

#### **Fire Department Report – Drew Malvizzi**

In January 2025 the fire department responded to 12 alarms with 4 medicals, 4 motor vehicle crashes, 1 working structure fire, 2 reported structure fires, and 1 carbon monoxide incident.

#### **Manager's Report – Charles Boyd**

Mr. Boyd reported on the status of delinquent sewer maintenance and trash collection fees that have been turned over to Elite Revenue Services for collections and lien filings. It was noted the same residents are on the list as prior years.

Mr. Boyd will be on vacation for the week for February 17<sup>th</sup> but available by phone, if needed.

Certified blown-in playground mulch is scheduled to be installed at both borough parks in March at 90 cy. Each councilmember received a Costar proposal from the company that will install at a cost of \$5,355.

Mr. Boyd spoke on the reported road salt issues on lack of availability. Although there is a shortage nationwide, Laflin Borough is guaranteed 5 to 13 triaxle trucks. Laflin Borough ordered the first of two loads recently.

Plains Baseball will be using the ballfields for little league practices and will provide the necessary liability insurance to Laflin Borough. Field fertilization is also scheduled for the year but the lack of water may present a problem in the summer months.

The 2016 plow truck was repaired after having an issue with the dump body. Mike Dudeck, DPW found a local repair shop and it was quickly repaired. Mr. Boyd noted that the repair invoice for \$890.00 was the last-minute bill added to the revised list of bills as indicated during prior discussions under bill approvals.

Nominating petitions for the upcoming primary elections are available from the county and can be circulated starting the week of February 18<sup>th</sup>. They must be returned to the Luzerne Co. Election Bureau by March 11<sup>th</sup>.

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

**Library Association Report** – Melissa Werner

The next scheduled Laflin Library Association meeting is set for March 18, 2025 at 6:30pm. Currently, the library is working on Valentine's Day crafts. On Saturday, February 15, 2025 the library will have a special Beatles Bash which is a read-aloud program activity for kids.

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

Motion to Accept Reports: Joseph Boos

Second: Drew Malvizzi

Roll Call:

Ayes were unanimous and motion passed.

**Public Comments Relating to the Agenda:**

Joseph McCabe, Pinewood Drive – asked if the new gas service line, needed for the generator, is included under the Luzerne Co. ARPA Grant proceeds. Mr. Marc Malvizzi responded by indicating it would be paid from the general fund since it wasn't known, when the generator was quoted, that the gas service line was inadequate for the borough building with the potential additional gas loads.

Mr. McCabe asked if the borough considered using rubberized mulch for the playgrounds instead of wood mulch that needs to be replenished every year. Mr. Boyd responded that he would provide information to Mr. McCabe on the pros and cons of rubber mulch that isn't recommended by the company for Laflin Borough. The rubber mulch doesn't tie-in very well and would need weekly maintenance to keep it under the swings and other play areas. It is kicked out easily and removed from the areas it is suppose to protect.

Mr. McCabe asked for clarification on the property maintenance appeal board fee. Much discussion continued on the appeals process for Laflin Borough and how the fee is needed to pay for attorneys and sonographers.

Michael Dudeck, DPW Employee – attended the council meeting to personally thank the elected officials for supporting him during the recent passing of his mother in hospice care. He greatly appreciated what the councilmembers did for him, as they went above and beyond. He also thanked Jody Reinard, Marc Malvizzi, and Joseph Boos for helping during inclement weather by plowing and salting while he was out.

Joseph Niemiec, Concord Drive – commented on hearing positive comments from a new resident, that just moved to Laflin, on how the roads are maintained in town during snow events.

**Unfinished Business:**

- A) Luzerne Co. Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Payment Request –  
Motion to Submit Request for Reimbursement at \$15,800 - 877 Rear Union Str. Demolition

Mr. Marc Malvizzi asked for a motion to approve the request for reimbursement from Luzerne Co. Community Development for the demolition work at 877 Union Street.

Motion to Approve Request for Reimbursement for Demolition: Drew Malvizzi  
Second: Joseph Boos

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) Luzerne Co. ARPA Generator Grant Gas Service Line –  
UGI Gas Meter Relocation & New 1” Gas Service Line to Building \$5,500  
Yellow Bollards for Gas Meter & Generator / No Decorative Fence

Mr. Marc Malvizzi asked for a motion to approve the \$5,500. Mr. Boyd added that the yellow bollards would be installed in place of the proposed decorative fence around the generator. Since the relocation of the gas meter would require installation of two yellow bollards at an additional cost; two additional bollards (total of four) will now be installed in place of the proposed fence. The newly installed gas generator looks pretty good without the need to hide it behind a fence.

Motion to Approve: Melissa Werner  
Second: Joseph Boos

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.

**New Business:**

- A) Certified Playground Mulch Installation for Borough Playgrounds –  
River Valley Landscapes                      Blown-In                      \$5,355 at 90 c.y.

Mr. Marc Malvizzi asked for a motion to approve the mulch installation at \$5,355.

Motion to Approve: Drew Malvizzi  
Second: Melissa Werner

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) Property Maintenance Code Enforcement Appeals Board Hearing Fee –  
Resolution #2 of 2025                      \$550 Fee

Mr. Boyd asked Solicitor Sanguedolce if the proposed resolution should be revised to include wording for both appeals. Although it does seem to cover both types of appeals for the Building UCC Construction Codes and Property Code Enforcement Codes, Mr. Boyd would like to see the titled revised to clearly state both. Solicitor Sanguedolce agreed to revise.

Mr. Marc Malvizzi asked for a motion to approve the resolution with revised wording.

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.

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

Mr. Marc Malvizzi noted the next scheduled council meeting will be held on Tuesday, March 11, 2025 at 6pm.

Mr. Boyd requested time to speak on clarifying a section of the agenda indicated as Correspondences. He received a few questions from the public last month about why nothing is stated about correspondence during the council meetings. He explained that this section would be for councilmembers to address any emails or documents that Mr. Boyd sends to elected officials throughout the month. So, if they have a question, then it could be discussed. Since these are usually general emails and documents sent, we don't have much to discuss under Correspondences. Mr. Marc Malvizzi added that certain letters or public correspondences could also be read under that section of the agenda.

Mr. Drew Malvizzi asked Mr. Boyd to speak on the changes to the worker's compensation proposal, that was questioned in the January meeting by Councilmember Yastremski, where there was a large increase in the cost of that insurance. Mr. Boyd responded to say that the insurance company lowered the cost of the worker's compensation coverage by approximate \$1,000 after he followed up as requested. The remainder of the increase still in place was attributed to higher classification codes for local governments across the board. The insurance company only attributed about 3% of the increase to additional employees being added to the payroll. Some discussions followed.

**General Public Comments:**

Joseph McCabe, Pinewood Drive – asked who is responsible for the fallen trees and limbs on the wires on Route 315. He indicated it was a scary situation with the branches laying on the wires that are ready to fall. Mr. Marc Malvizzi responded to say that they are Verizon cables and the company was notified several times. Mr. Boyd

added that Verizon will retort by saying they will reattach any cable wires after the tree falls completely since it isn't their responsibility but the responsibility of the property owners to remove the trees. Some discussions continued with Mr. Yastremski asking Mr. Boyd to contact the Public Utility Commission (PUC) to file a complaint and noting that the trees are probably in the PennDOT right-of-way but the state won't do anything about the trees either.

Mr. McCabe asked if PennDOT gave an update on the status of tar and chipping Laflin Road as was stated last year in a council meeting. Mr. Boyd responded to say that PennDOT often doesn't complete the projects that are scheduled, but the last update has Laflin Road starting with milling sections to complete base repairs this spring and oil /chip work this summer. Some discussions continued on the need to chip and tar the road as it is a poor substitute for standard milling and paving work.

**Executive Session:** No Executive Session.

**Adjournment:** Motion to adjourn at 6:40pm.

Motion: Drew Malvizzi

Second: Joseph Boos

The motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,



Charles Boyd, Borough Manager  
Laflin Borough

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