

BOROUGH OF WHITAKER
MINUTES
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
December 10, 2024

CALL TO ORDER

Mike Bogesdorfer, President of Council, called the regularly scheduled council meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mike Bogesdorfer, President of Council, led the Pledge of Allegiance.

RECORDING OF MEETING

Mike Bogesdorfer, President of Council, read the following statement, "This meeting is being recorded for a matter of record and in assistance in the preparation of the minutes."

ROLL CALL

Council Present: Mike Bogesdorfer, President of Council; David Funk, Vice President of Council; Dan Urban; Matt Pasquantonio; Richard Lassige; Albert Race; Christopher Prilla.

Others Present: Gina Rosso, Solicitor; Michele Lippert, Borough Secretary

Council Absent: Dawn Jensen, Mayor

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mike Bogesdorfer, President of Council, announced that an Executive Session was held on December 3, 2024 regarding litigation and personnel issues.

CITIZENS' COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS

None

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion to accept the minutes of the November 12, 2024 Council Meeting:

- Motion – Rich Lassige
- Second – Chris Prilla
- Voice Vote – All in Favor
- Abstained – Dan Urban & Matt Pasquantonio

MOTION CARRIES

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Finance: The financial report for November 2024 was presented by David Funk.

Motion to accept the financial report and pay the bills as presented.

- Motion – Al Race
- Second – Chris Prilla

ROLL CALL:

Dan _Y_ Matt _Y_ Rich _Y_ Mike _Y_ Dave _Y_ Al _Y_ Chris _Y_

MOTION CARRIES

Streets, Roads & Property:

Al Race salt spreading PW did a good job. Both trucks & backhoe are in good working condition. Dan Urban stated PW concentrated on the hills and intersections as the snow was not making the roads bad and they were conserving the salt that we have on hand.

Recreation:

None.

Police & Personnel:

None.

Health & Sanitation:

Rich Lassige reported with Christmas on Wednesday the trash pick up will be Thursday and if not on Thursday it will be Friday

Fire & EMS:

Dan Urban read the report – November Calls = 22 Baldwin EMS calls & 9 Fire Department calls.

AD HOC COMMITTEE REPORTS

Whitaker Sewage Committee: Rich Lassige reported that since September there have been 20 notices, 10 complied, 8 citations & 2 are pending. Hearing for November was a no show and resident was fined.

Planning Committee:

No report.

Tax Collection Committee:

Secretary Lippert reported next meeting September 2025.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Rich Lassige reported 120 calls for the month of November 2024.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT

Gina reported that she spoke with Jennifer from the SRCOG and as long as there is movement on the PW building, we should be able to obtain another extension on the grant.

ENGINEER'S REPORT

Dave Funk read the report for November 2024.

BUILDING INSPECTION/CODE ENFORCEMENT REPORT

Secretary Lippert read the report for November 2024.

OLD BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

- **Motion to adopt the 2025 budget as advertised in The Valley Mirror on November 21, 2024.**
 - Motion – Chris Prilla
 - Second – Dave Funk

Dan _Y_ Matt _Y_ Rich _Y_ Mike _Y_ Dave _Y_ Al _Y_ Chris _Y_

MOTION CARRIES

- **Motion to adopt Resolution 12 of 2024 setting the 2025 millage at 11.5 for general purposes and 1 for special purposes, fire equipment and firehouses.**
 - Motion – Matt Pasquantonio
 - Second – Chris Prilla

Dan _Y_ Matt _Y_ Rich _Y_ Mike _Y_ Dave _Y_ Al _Y_ Chris _Y_

MOTION CARRIES

- **Motion to approve bonuses of \$50 for employees with less than six months of borough employment and \$100 for employees with more than six months of borough employment in the December 13, 2024 pay.**
 - Motion – Chris Prilla
 - Second – Dan Urban

Dan _Y_ Matt _Y_ Rich _Y_ Mike _Y_ Dave _Y_ Al _Y_ Chris _Y_

MOTION CARRIES

- **Motion to authorize the Secretary to advertise the meeting dates for 2025.**

- Motion – Al Race
- Second – Rich Lassige

Dan _Y_ Matt _Y_ Rich _Y_ Mike _Y_ Dave _Y_ Al _Y_ Chris _Y_

MOTION CARRIES

- **Motion to authorize the Secretary to confirm with SRCOG to be added to the Street Sweeping schedule.**
- - Motion – Matt Pasquantonio
 - Second – Rich Lassige

Dan _Y_ Matt _Y_ Rich _Y_ Mike _Y_ Dave _Y_ Al _Y_ Chris _Y_

MOTION CARRIES

- **Motion to renew cleaning contract with Stacey Vreeland for \$200 per month (\$40 per cleaning) includes 5 cleanings, 1 – borough building & 4 – police department.**
- - Motion – Al Race
 - Second – Dan Urban

Dan _Y_ Matt _Y_ Rich _Y_ Mike _Y_ Dave _Y_ Al _Y_ Chris _Y_

MOTION CARRIES

- **Motion to accept estimate # 1590 from Urban Construction in the amount of \$16,500 to repair the storm drain located on 837 by Bob's Autotorium.**

- Motion – Dan Urban
- Second – Rich Lassige

Dan _Y_ Matt _Y_ Rich _Y_ Mike _Y_ Dave _Y_ Al _Y_ Chris _Y_

MOTION CARRIES

- **Motion to raise the sewage surcharge from \$11.89 to \$12.89.**

- Motion – Rich Lassige
- Second –

THERE WAS NO 2ND & THE MOTION FAILED

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Whitaker Community Cares meetings and events:

- Regular – The next meeting is December 19, 2024 at 7 p.m. at the fire-hall.
- Breakfast with Santa December 14, 2024. Cost is \$5.00 per person, see any WCC member for details.
- Santa on the Fire Truck Saturday the 21st at 10 am handing out candy to the kids.
- Rich announced the Magistrate Christmas Party on December 13, 2024 at 5:30pm at the Duquesne Volunteer Fire Department.

CITIZENS' PARTICIPATION

Irene Antol, 121 E. Mifflin Street, she would like to have clarified the motion that was passed, which she is not against, but would like to know what for the Fire Tax is for; what does special purposes, equipment & firehouses mean. The solicitor, Gina stated it is mainly for the operation and maintenance of firehouses, certain special purposes under the borough code that you can pass a special tax for and firehouses and maintenance fall under that. Then Irene asked what is firehouse maintenance, she asked is it their utilities, their upkeep or what. Mike Bogesdorfer replied, like paving their driveway, everything like that, practically for everything. Secretary Lippert stated if they needed a new roof, new plumbing electrical, Gina stated new equipment, another council person stated new garage doors. Irene stated then it is for equipment or repairs, not for them to use. Mike stated equipment yes, if they need equipment they can go buy it. Irene understands equipment but it says firehouses, is that the maintenance of the firehouse, or is that paying their utility bills or what? Since she paid the tax, she wants to know. Mike stated it is to take care of the whole thing really, maintenance and all that, whatever they need up there. Irene asked so the utility bills are included in that? Mike stated yep. Several others were heard stating that is should not include utilities. Irene stated they don't do any fund raising other than the hoagies and they do not have enough members to fund raise, they need the money to pay their bills then...Mike stated yes, she said thank you.

Ken Mack, 171 Grant Avenue, for most of you that have been around, I wanted to let you know that my sister-in-law Kathy Ratay who once was on council passed away on November 30th, due to complications of ALS, several on council gave condolences, and Rich mentioned John Chuha past councilman, also passed away and Rich & Al spoke of giving donations of books in their memory to the West Mifflin Area School District Library.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn the meeting:

- Motion – Matt Pasquantonio
- Second – Dave Funk
- Voice Vote – All in Favor