

**MAYFIELD BOROUGH COUNCIL**  
**Wednesday, December 13, 2023**

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**Call to order** at 7:00p.m. by President Diana Campbell followed by Pledge of Allegiance.

**Roll call:** Diana Campbell, Ron Ryczak, Wendy Bochnovich, Mary Rosler, Jennifer Rossi, Tiffany Casey were present. Bridget Boettcher- absent ( family obligation). Atty. Coleman and Mayor Chelik were present.

**Public input**– Jack Clark of 214 Whitmore Ave. asked if anything is being done to have the property he complained about, get cleaned up. He said some vines were cut but garbage is still there. Jerry Lacotta said the property at 211 Depew Ave. has not been improved.

**Administration – Diana Campbell**

**Motion** by Diana Campbell, second Mary Rosler to approve the minutes of November 8, 2023. Passed 6-0.

**Motion** by Diana Campbell, second Jennifer Rossi to accept the Treasurer’s report for November, 2023. Passed 6-0.

**Motion** by Diana Campbell, second Mary Rosler to pay all bills listed in packet and all others mentioned if funds are available. Passed 6-0.

**Streets and bridges – Tiffany Casey**

Tiffany Casey reported the borough truck has been inspected,

Northeast Signal is preparing an estimate for lights to be repaired on the Casey Highway.

Mayor Chelik said he received a complaint from a worker stating that when coming from Jermyn and going toward Carbondale on Business Route 6, the traffic light at the intersection at Perry Plaza does not indicate at left turn into the plaza.

**Buildings and parks – Jennifer Rossi**

Jennifer Rossi reported she completed and submitted the 2023 Recycling Grant but has not heard anything more on it so she assumes everything is OK.

**Athletic complex and playgrounds – Mary Rosler**

Mary Rosler reported the County Arts & Culture Grant for \$500.00 for the Concert in the Park, sponsored by the Mayfield Lions Club, has been approved.

Mary will apply for reimbursement of the \$5,000.00 the borough paid for mulch on the playground after she receives a copy of the paid check.

**Public safety – Bridget Boettcher**

Fire Chief Joe Tomcavage listed 14 calls in November, 2023. He is still waiting for the hydrant at Hudson Street and Chestnut Street.

Zoning Officer Jason Smith listed 4 zoning and 13 UCC permits issued in November, 2023.

Planning commission – Mayor Chelik

The commission received a request from Mark Bednash requesting an address for his recently divided property and was given R-130 Fifth Street.

**Motion** by Diana Campbell, second Ron Ryczak to approve assigning the address R103 Fifth Street to Mark Bednash for his recently divided property. Passed 6-0.

**Motion** by Diana Campbell, second Wendy Bochnovich to make the annual tax payment allowance to the three borough fire companies. Passed 6-0.

**Motion** by Diana Campbell, second Wendy Bochnovich to approve the three borough fire companies to conduct their “Santa Rides Around Town” on Saturday, December 16<sup>th</sup>. Also the Whitmore Hose Co. will conduct a “Take Out Only” Chicken Parm Dinner Saturday, January 20, 2024. Passed 6-0.

Refuse & recyclables will be collected on Tuesdays Dec. 26 and Jan 2 due to holidays.

**Flood control – Wendy Bochnovich**

Wendy Bochnovich reported Our Emergency Action Plan was approved by PEMA. They asked that we get the document signed with all the appropriate signatures and return to them. Jim Perry got the signatures and the plan has been emailed to PEMA. He is now in the process of seeing that all necessary organizations are receiving a copy.

On Thursday, December 7, 2023 Wendy, Mayor Chelik, Diana, Ron and Tony had a zoom meeting with Tom Hughes from PEMA and Megann Mielke and Erin Hagan from FEMA. They were once again asking KBA for information on what exactly the levee project is going to involve. Tony once again said he will get on it.

On December 12, 2023 an email was received from FEMA with a quarterly progress report form attached. It was filled in with the response that KBA is in the process of arranging core boring to determine how the freeboard deficient parts of the levee will be raised.

KBA did contact Joe Murphy Drilling to do the core drilling. We don't need the levee grant money for this. This will be paid for by a flood mitigation grant we received on April 21, 2021 and will expire on June 30, 2024. Total was \$43,286.00. (\$4,165.00 paid to KBA in the past \$39,121.00 remaining).

No news on the \$258,000.00 grant from DCED for the levee match money. Liz Henry, from DCED said the next meeting was November 21 and that maybe then they would review the grant applications, but we haven't heard anything yet.

On Thursday, November 16, 2023 Lakeland Superintendent Marc Wyandt said Wendy made a PowerPoint presentation at the Jessup 911 center for the TASA (Transportation Alternative Set-Aside) sidewalk safety funding from PennDOT. It went well, but there were questions on providing a bike path along with repairing and updating the sidewalks. On December 5, we received notification that we did not receive this funding. They said that our grant was now sent to the state, where there is another source of funding and we could possibly receive that. Also we can apply next year. Next year. If we are awarded the sidewalk funding from PennDOT, we have to make sure the sidewalks we are putting in will be properly maintained during snowy weather.

#### **Stormwater – Ron Ryczak**

Ron Ryczak reported the total pave cut permit summary totaled \$8,040.13 with Borough administrative fee receiving \$661.38.

#### **Mayor's report – Mayor Alexander J. Chelik**

Police report lists 353 calls in November, 2023.

The police assisted in a drug raid in Carbondale recently.

Mayor Chelik spoke out against the PA American Water Co. requesting a water rate increase.

The mayor stated a Right to Know law is making it more difficult to enter additional motions on the agenda at the meeting unless the issue is very important.

#### **Solicitor's report – Atty. Owen M. Coleman**

Atty. Coleman reported he is in contact with the bank regarding the TAN for 2024.

#### **Old business**

**Motion** by Diana Campbell, second Jennifer Rossi to adopt the 2024 Borough Budget. Passed 6-0. (Borough taxes remain at 36.5 mills with refuse fee also remaining at \$322.00 per household)

**Motion** by Diana Campbell, second Wendy Bochnovich to adopt the 2024 Tax Ordinance. Passed 6-0.

#### **New business**

**Motion** by Diana Campbell, second Ron Ryczak to apply for a \$75,000.00 Tax Anticipation Note for 2024. Passed 6-0.

**Motion** by Diana Campbell, second Mary Rosler to advertise the Reorganization meeting for Tuesday, January 2, 2024 at 7:00p.m. Passed 6-0.

**Motion** by Diana Campbell, second Ron Ryczak to advertise the 2024 scheduled borough council, planning commission and zoning board meetings. Passed 6-0.

**Public input**

Borough Secretary Phyllis Jaskowiec asked President Diana Campbell why, after all borough employees received a letter on October 17, 2023 stating all borough employees must use their annual vacation days by the end of 2023 or lose them, why was only the police chief allowed to get paid for his 3 weeks vacation along with his regular salary, but she and Paul Natishak could not. Discussion followed.

**Motion** by Diana Campbell, second Jennifer Rossi to adjourn. Passed 6-0.

At the January 10, 2024 meeting Diana Campbell wanted this comment added to the December 13, 2023 minutes: "This should be added to the record under public comment. Council responded by saying that the borough needs police coverage and has been unable to get coverage all the time to cover the vacation. The clerk is scheduled for vacation as per the contract."

"For the record, after council adopted the Leave Policy at the October 11, 2023 meeting, employees were provided with the policy and a form to be filled out when requesting time off. Borough employees were spoken to on May 26, 2021 re: using their vacation time."