

Borough of Mayfield

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ALEXANDER J. CHELIK
Mayor

DIANA CAMPBELL
Council President

PHYLLIS A. JASKOWIEC
Borough Secretary

OWEN M. COLEMAN, ESQ
Solicitor

MAYFIELD BOROUGH COUNCIL Wednesday, May 8, 2024

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

Motion by Diana Campbell to appoint Wendy Bochnovich as recorder of the minutes due to the absence of secretary Phyllis Jaskowiec. Second by Mary Rosler. Passed 6-0.

Roll Call: Diana Campbell, Wendy Bochnovich, Mary Rosler, Bridget Boettcher, Jennifer Rossi, Tom Hartman were present. Tiffany Casey was absent. Atty. Coleman and Mayor Chelik were also present.

President Diana Campbell announced there would be an executive session on personnel at the end of the meeting before adjournment.

Public Input

Mark Cordelli, Lackawanna County Director for Community Relations, informed all about upcoming events in the county and left fliers to be posted.

Joe Tomcavage reported that the water company did find a water leak at the corner of Poplar Street and Hudson Street and they fixed it.

Jerry Lacotta asked if the new property maintenance code is in effect. The mayor told him it was. He reported there has been a refrigerator on its side on the property at the corner of Glenwood Street and Whitmore Avenue for 3 weeks. The mayor further said that Chief is working on it with the property owner.

Administration – Diana Campbell

Motion by Mary Rosler to amend the agenda to add the appointment of an Assistant Secretary due to the illness of Secretary Phyllis Jaskowiec. This addition was to ensure the continued operation of borough business. Second by Jennifer Rossi. Passed 6-0.

Motion by Diana Campbell for a **Resolution** to appoint Jim Perry as Assistant Secretary. Second by Tom Hartman. Passed 6-0. **(Resolution #2024-7)**

Motion by Tom Hartman to approve the minutes of April 10, 2024. Second by Jennifer Rossi. Passed 6-0.

Motion by Mary Rosler to accept the Treasurer's report for April, 2024. Second by Wendy Bochnovich. Passed 6-0.

Motion by Jennifer Rossi to pay all bills listed in the packet and all others mentioned. Second by Bridget Boettcher. Passed 6-0.

Diana Campbell reported that the rules for the ARP money have changed and we can use revenue replacement as a reason to then pay bills for general government services.

Motion by Wendy Bochnovich for a **Resolution** to approve refinancing of the paving loan and accompanying documents. Second by Bridget Boettcher. Passed 6-0. **(Resolution #2024-5)**

Motion by Tom Hartman to appoint Diana Campbell as the temporary Right-To-Know officer. Second by Mary Rosler. Passed 6-0.

Motion by Wendy Bochnovich for a **Resolution** for the Adams Cable license agreement. Second by Bridget Boettcher. Passed 6-0. **(Resolution #2024-6)**

Streets and Public Works – Tom Hartman

Tom Hartman contacted Jeff Robach, our PennDOT contact for Liquid Fuels information. He said that we would be able to use liquid fuel funds to pay for the storm drain work on Hill Street. Tom and Paul Natishak decided that Kriger offered the best package to do this job. Tom said there are 7 clean outs to be done and 6 drains. 2 covers also need to be rebuilt.

Motion by Tom Hartman to hire Kriger to do the Hill Street storm drain cleaning job for \$375/hour. Second by Jennifer Rossi. Passed 6-0.

Tom discussed the ARM bills for pave cuts and how they are being handled and paid.

Buildings and Parks – Jennifer Rossi

Motion by Wendy Bochnovich to appoint the lowest responsible bidder, Sean Byrne, for the borough building project. Second by Mary Rosler. Passed 5-0. Jennifer Rossi abstained from voting.

Jennifer reported that architectural shingles will be part of the job, not a metal roof. The flagpole will also not be part of this job, it will be completed by Paul Natishak and volunteers.

Payment request #2 was submitted to the Commonwealth Financing Authority. It was the bill from KBA for the second \$15,000. Jennifer reported that clarification is needed on the bill from KBA and any engineering questions that may arise in the future before payment will be made.

Jennifer reported that the tankless water heater was installed in the Emergency Services Center. This one has a better warranty than the last one. The work was done by Kleinbauer Mechanical LLC. They also offered to do maintenance on the air conditioning unit at the Emergency Services Center but have not yet given a price. They said we would be given a 10% discount.

Athletic Complex and Playgrounds – Mary Rosler

Mary was informed by Paul Natishak that 3 swings were broken at the Penn Avenue playground. He reported that the cost would be \$170 each to repair. Total cost with shipping is \$581.94.

Motion by Mary Rosler to approve cost of fixing the playground swings at the Penn Avenue playground at a cost of \$581.94. Second by Jennifer Rossi. Passed 6-0.

Public Safety and Rental Inspections – Bridget Boettcher and Tiffany Casey

Fire Chief Report - Fire Chief Joseph Tomcavage listed 16 fire calls for April, 2024.

Joe reported that the probable cause of the fire hydrant at 835 Poplar Street being ruined was the water leak that the water company found at the corner of Hudson and Poplar Streets. They originally said there could be no leak there.

Joe reported the day of the Mayfield Hose Company car show is moved to June 30 due to conflicts with other local car shows.

Zoning Officer Report - Zoning Officer Jason Smith listed \$350 collected in zoning fees and \$691.20 in UCC fees for April, 2024.

Planning Commission report – Mayor Alexander J. Chelik

Mayor Chelik reported there was no official business at the May 1 Planning Commission meeting. He did mention that JamWorks on Route 6 is looking to construct an addition.

Flood Control – Wendy Bochnovich

Clean Up Day – Sixteen volunteers helped on Saturday, April 20. Litter was picked up on Plank Road, Cemetery Street, and Lackawanna Avenue. Chief Joe had an officer in a police car help with traffic control on Plank Road so that litter could be picked up since the cars travel through there too quickly. Litter was also picked up under the 3 railroad bridges and the road was swept. The corner across from the funeral home was cleaned and weeds sprayed. The old picnic table was broken up and taken away because it was getting rotten. Shade Tree has ordered a new picnic table. At the Emergency Services Center, the back of the parking lot and the driveway were swept and weeds were sprayed there and all along the sidewalk at the front of the building.

Railroad Bridge Request – At the clean up day, pictures of the damaged boards above the sidewalks under the bridges were taken, along with a picture of a very large bolt found under a bridge. They were sent to the railroad along with another request to have them replaced since a board or the bolt could have fallen on someone. We pointed out that this is the route to school that many children walk. Lori Ransom from the railroad replied and said she forwarded all of that information to her administrator hoping we would get a positive answer. No word yet.

Engineering Grant – Wendy reported that Tony said that the upstream/downstream effects due to upgrading the freeboard on the levee have to take into consideration all upgrades that will be done including the wall around the Poplar St. bridge and new barriers on the 2 bridges, even though right now we don't have the money to complete all of that. He also reminded us that the freeboard at bridges is at least a foot to a foot and a half higher than the 3 feet elsewhere.

Video Pipe Inspection – Paul is waiting for 1 more quote to come in before we decide who will do this job.

Century Development AML Grant – The paperwork is in Washington awaiting review and the issuance of the Authorization to Proceed.

Ron and Wendy met with Jerry Price on Friday, April 12 at the borough building. Filling out forms was discussed.

Ron and Wendy met with Jerry Price (Kaufman Engineering), Mark Powell (Century Development), Riyadh Barkawi (Bureau of Abandoned Mine Reclamation), Luke Thomas from Latona Trucking and Excavating who is the contractor for the reclamation project, Mark and Vinny Latona, and their CFO Mark Destefano on Wednesday, April 24, in Wilkes Barre to discuss the some of the logistics of the \$14.9 million dollar AML grant secured by the Borough to reclaim abandoned mine features at the Century Development site at the east end of Route 107 (Rushbrook Street) as part of preparing the site

for proposed warehouses in Mayfield and Archbald Boroughs. Mr. Powell noted that the NPDES Permit for the project has not been secured yet and that he anticipates preparing the Archbald portion of the site first as he has a tenant for that building already.

On May 1, Ron Ryczak met with Jerry Price to begin preparing the Task & Deliverables Budget Worksheet that must be submitted to BAMR prior to work being started. The Worksheet is to list the various tasks that will be performed on the project, their related costs and estimated times of completion. The preparation of the Worksheet is ongoing.

The main discussion was filling out the paperwork, both for work progress and reimbursement of bills and how to handle our administrative fees. Prevailing wage rates were also mentioned. He hopes to be started by mid-June and the work should take approximately 9 months.

Motion by Wendy Bochnovich to appoint Ron Ryczak as administrator for the Mine Reclamation Grant. Second by Tom Hartman. Passed 6-0.

Ron Ryczak, Tom Joyce, and Serge Bochnovich helped Paul Natishak with some very large trees that had fallen or floated down to Mayfield in the river. The trees were removed over a few days and Paul used the backhoe because the trees were so large. This is all part of our regular flood control maintenance. All expressed how very appreciative they are for the dedication of the volunteers and how often they are willing to help.

Mayor's report – Mayor Alexander J. Chelik

The police report lists 431 calls in April, 2024. The mayor reported that the Pension officials have determined that Mayfield has a credit of \$21,337.00 from the resignation of Officer Ed Perechinsky that may be used as a credit for borough payments. The mayor stated that Act 2 of 2024 will go into effect at the end of the month and it amends the Borough Code to include a statement that no mayor or council member may serve as borough manager, secretary or treasurer. The mayor reported on a meeting held on April 19, 2024 in Scranton hosted by Mayor Cognetti and attended by mayors from Lackawanna and Luzerne counties. Issues that were discussed were blighted properties programs and a solution to the homeless problem presented by Mayor Brown of Wilkes-Barre.

Act 32 report – Mayor Alexander J. Chelik

Mayor Chelik reported there was no meeting.

Solicitor's report – Atty. Owen M. Coleman

Attorney Coleman reported that the regionalization issue has been dropped. He wished all mothers Happy Mother's Day.

Old Business

Ron Ryczak attended the last Norlack meeting and sent the following update:

Lackawanna County Commissioners have signed a contract with Environmental Planning and Design (EPD) of Pittsburg to develop a multi-municipal comprehensive plan and zoning ordinance for the communities of Mayfield, Jermyn, City of Carbondale, Carbondale Township and Greenfield Township. Initial data collection has begun and Mayfield was requested to provide information concerning any land use related ordinances outside of the current Zoning Ordinance (e.g. a billboard ordinance), stormwater management ordinances, any earthmoving/grading ordinances, street classification tables (e.g. arterial, collector, local, etc.) and the names/locations of civic organizations. The requested

information was transmitted electronically as requested by the May 1 deadline. The Norlack Committee is scheduled to meet June 26 to review the data collection with EDP.

New Business

Diana reported that BIU has not been available for rental inspections. We therefore need to appoint someone to enforce the Landlord Ordinance. The mayor informed the council that the agreement with BIU dated June 9, 2021 states "If BIU of PA should fail to perform the services due under this agreement, the Borough of Mayfield shall have the authority to perform such services itself or to secure the services of a third-party agency, free of any claim by BIU of PA".

Motion by Bridget Boettcher to appoint Jason Smith as the rental inspector to enforce the Landlord Ordinance. Second by Jennifer Rossi. Passed 6-0.

Motion by Mary Rosler to approve preparation of Act 537 sewage planning module. Second by Jennifer Rossi. Passed 6-0.

Public Input

None

Council entered executive session at 8:20.

Council resumed regular session at 8:47.

Motion by Diana Campbell to hire Zachary John Wargula as a part time police officer. Second by Bridget Boettcher. Passed 6-0.

Motion to adjourn by Wendy Bochnovich, second by Diana Campbell. All approved.

Meeting adjourned at 8:49.