

Regular Meeting

March 6, 2023

The Regular Meeting of Souderton Borough Council, held on the above date, was called to order by Council President Tracy W. Burke at 7:00 p.m. President Burke reminded the members and audience that the Borough Council meeting is being recorded and will be posted to the Borough web site.

Borough Council President Tracy Burke provided the Invocation, which was followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Borough Secretary P. Michael Coll conducted a Roll Call with the following members of Borough Council and staff present:

President Tracy W. Burke	Mayor Daniel L. Yocum
Councillor Edward M. Huber	
Councillor Matthew J. DiNenna	
Councillor Daryl W. Littlefield	
Councillor Julie A. Munden	Borough Manager P. Michael Coll
Councillor Donna M. Rogers	Solicitor Robert G. Bricker
Councillor Matthew R. Sholly	Police Chief Brian Newhall
Councillor Courtnee Wampole	Public Works Director Steven Coll

Borough Councillor Richard Walczak was absent from the meeting, along with Junior Councillors Elijah Steglik and Estrela Sadiboko.

Consideration was given to the minutes of the February 6, 2023 Regular Borough Council Meeting, the February 20, 2023 Borough Council Work Session and the February 27, 2023 Special Borough Council Meeting and Conditional Use Hearing.

A motion was made by Councillor Daryl Littlefield, and seconded by Councillor Courtnee Wampole, to approve the minutes of the February 6, 2023 Regular Borough Council Meeting as presented. The motion was approved.

A motion was made by Councillor Courtnee Wampole, and seconded by Councillor Daryl Littlefield, to approve the minutes of the February 20, 2023 Borough Council Work Session Meeting as presented. The motion was approved.

A motion was made by Councillor Matthew Sholly, and seconded by Councillor Matthew DiNenna, to approve the minutes of the February 27, 2023 Special Borough Council Meeting and Conditional Use Hearing as presented. The motion was approved.

Mayor Daniel Yocum noted that he will postpone a Proclamation scheduled for this evening since the requesting resident was unable to attend the meeting.

Police Chief Brian Newhall summarized police department activities. February was the busiest month since the Chief began his tenure with Souderton Borough. Traffic, alcohol and juvenile matters dominated the case load. There is a growing number of calls occurring during the night shift. The department continues with various policy enhancements.

The Borough Solicitor's report for the month of February, 2023 was submitted to Borough Council. The Borough Solicitor attended the Conditional Use Hearing for applicant School Lane Development, LLC on February 27, 2023 and provided legal assistance regarding the hearing process on behalf of the Borough. The Solicitor reviewed correspondence to the Department of Environmental Protection by our engineer regarding the renewal of the NPDES permit. They reviewed correspondence to Zwingli Church regarding zoning questions related to a proposed Columbarium. A hearing was held before District Magistrate Augustine regarding the property at 236 E. Broad Street. The Borough obtained an order from the magistrate that all property violations must be cured and repairs made within 90 days under supervision and direction of the Borough. The Borough is also in discussions regarding 539 Valley lane regarding occupancy/rental violations at the property. A cease and desist letter was sent regarding the violations.

Public Works Director Steven Coll circulated his monthly report to members of Borough Council. Crews completed regular annual equipment maintenance and completed some sign maintenance. Crews will install storm drainage improvements around the Freight Building and will begin placing the rear retaining blocks to construct the plaza space. Crews installed five sewer lateral connections for the new townhomes under construction at Second Street and Reliance Road. A storm drainage connection was also installed for the planned rain garden and water retention basin.

Public Works Director Steven Coll reported that the Borough sold the Hustler mower through MuniBid for \$9,000. The mower was initially listed on the site at \$6,500. Proceeds will help to offset the budgeted purchase of a new mower. Preparations will be made to list the Ford 10 wheel dump truck for sale on the MuniBid site in the coming months. Proceeds from this sale will offset the planned purchase of a used dump truck and plow from C & S Lawn and Landscape.

Councillor Julie Munden noticed that the town clock at Reliance and Main Street has not been keeping the correct time. Borough Manager Michael Coll replied that we did have the Verdin Company inspect the clock and they found that a number of gears and drive arms are worn and stripped and will need to be replaced. Parts have been ordered and a deposit was sent out earlier this month to schedule the repairs. Unfortunately there is an extended lead time for delivery so the clock will be down for some time.

Borough Manager Michael Coll noted that the Souderton Planning Commission met last week on Wednesday, March 1, 2023. Due to a planned vacation, the next

Borough Council work session will be held next week on March 13, 2023. The next Borough Council meeting will be Monday, April 3, 2023.

The Borough Manager reported on the agenda for the Borough Council meeting. The first item of business is formal consideration of an appointment to the Souderton Zoning Hearing Board to fill the unexpired term of Eugene Moyer. Borough Council is recommending the appointment of Brian Harrington who is in attendance. The final item of business is formal approval of the Lifeguard management Contract with Bennington Pool services for the 2023 summer season. Souderton Borough has executed a one year lease agreement with local businessman Joe Caruso to operate the pool concession stand during the summer. The Borough is also looking for summer help employees to run the pool ticket window and assist with patron services. Membership sales are now available on line or in person at the Borough Office.

Councillor Matthew Sholly reported that the Souderton Borough Council Facebook page is now live.

Councillor Julie Munden reported that her committee meeting with the Lafayette College Meyner Center was rescheduled due to weather concerns to March 16, 2023 to begin preparations for the Borough Manager search.

Councillor Edward Huber reported that the contract with Bennington Pool Services is finalized. There is no price increase in the base contract, but extra hours will be billed at an increased rate.

Councillor Daryl Littlefield noted that Borough Council office hours are scheduled for Saturday, March 18, 2023 from 11:00 am to 1:00 pm in the lobby of the Souderton Municipal Building.

Councillor Daryl Littlefield also reported that Borough Council is planning an Earth Day clean up event for Saturday, April 22 from 9:00 am to 1:00 pm. Groups will meet at the Municipal Building and general clean is planned around the Community Park, Pool and along N. Front Street.

Consideration was given to paying the bills for the month of February, 2023.

GENERAL FUND

21 st Century Media	\$187.19	Davidheiser's, Inc.	\$236.85
Advance Auto Parts	249.11	Delta Dental Gettysburg Benefit	1,487.28
Altek Business Systems, Inc.	151.96	Dianna M. Fields	692.04
Altek Business Systems, Inc.	2,758.23	Donald D. Bergey	3,770.84
Bergey's, Inc.	11.18	Freedom Systems Corp.	420.00
Carquest	436.73	Galls, Inc.	596.27

Clemens Uniform Rental	\$145.62	George Allen Portable Toilets	\$229.00
Cope's Garage, Inc.	785.92	Gilmore & Associates, Inc.	646.56
Crystal Springs	17.97	Glick Fire Equipment Co.	264.32
Davidheisers, Inc.	100.00	Good Plumbing Heating A/C, Inc.	1,513.59
DB Firearms	1,599.00	H & K Materials	559.50
E M Kutz, Inc.	827.00	Hajoca Corporation	157.90
Freedom Systems Corp.	420.00	Home Depot	31.91
Galls, Inc.	163.19	Independence Blue Cross	18,796.77
Home Depot	33.21	Landis Block & Nycecrete Co	38.25
J. P. Mascaro & Sons	75,613.67	Lawson Products, Inc.	667.13
McDonald Uniform Company	1,223.20	Maryjane Yoder	845.14
Montg. Co. Special Weapons	4,000.00	McDonald Uniform Company	1,993.02
Moyer Indoor/Outdoor	144.08	Mobile Lifts, LLC	279.41
NAPA Auto Parts	599.22	Moyer Indoor/Outdoor	7,112.05
North Penn Water Authority	728.02	Naceville Materials	255.20
PA Assoc. Municipal Administrators	150.00	NAPA Auto Parts	143.59
PECO Energy	507.35	Nationwide Trust Company	2,040.20
PA Chiefs of Police	150.00	NetCarrier Telecom, Inc.	399.69
PPL Electric Utilities	41.26	Nucitrus	275.00
Richter Drafting Office Supply	158.83	NYCO Corporation	13.67
Souderton Comm. Dev. Corp.	5,937.50	Old Dominion Brush	125.78
Suburban Propane	83.13	PA One Call System	100.80
The Verdin Company	6,586.50	PPL Electric Utilities	414.26
U. S. Municipal Supply, Inc.	8,408.81	Security Service Co., Inc.	1,108.83
Univest Bank & Trust Company	894.43	Something Better, Inc.	1,100.00
Univest Bank & Trust Company	1,400.00	Star Bright Car Wash	36.00
Univest Bank & Trust Company	1,400.00	Steven R. Coll	317.36
Verizon Wireless	260.58	Suburban Propane	550.58
Advance Auto parts	325.36	The Harrison Group, Inc.	285.00
Airgas national Carbonation	101.86	Univest VISA	97.16
Altek Business Systems, Inc.	151.96	Univest VISA	131.97
CDI Lawn Equipment	588.24	Verizon	75.35
Clemens Uniform Rental	221.36	Verizon Wireless	166.34
Code Inspections, Inc.	325.00	Wismers Auto Interiors	225.00
Comcast	544.19		
Cope's Garage, Inc.	3,943.04	Total General Fund	\$170,573.51

SEWER FUND

Clemens Uniform Rental	\$48.67	Hajoca Corporation	\$490.60
Coyne Chemical	6,137.33	Home Depot	79.09
EVOQUA Water Technologies	3,315.60	Independence Blue Cross	3,903.52
Farm Bureau Garage, Inc.	127.54	J. P. Mascaro & Sons	9,258.44
North Penn Water Authority	124.80	Moyer Indoor/Outdoor	632.83
PA Rural Water	150.00	Moyer Instruments	1,240.00
PPL Electric Utilities	1,909.33	NAPA Auto Parts	10.44
Richter Drafting Office Supply	20.00	National Filter Media	1,378.71
SC Engineers, Inc.	513.00	NetCarrier Telecom, Inc.	106.84
Altek Business Systems, Inc.	97.50	PPL Electric Utilities	184.88
Bearing & Drive Solutions	2,548.00	Precision Solutions, Inc.	1,739.63
Bergey's Electric, Inc.	1,463.23	Security Service Co., Inc.	4,774.00
Clemens Uniform Rental	146.01	The Harrison Group, Inc.	60.00

Delta Dental Gettysburg Benefit	\$308.60	USA Blue Book	\$4,588.58
EVOQUA Water Technologies	3,537.00	Verizon	84.34
FP Finance Program	359.00		
Good Plumbing Heating A/C, Inc.	3,333.63	Total Sewer Fund	\$52,671.14

POOL FUND

CAPITAL RESERVE FUND

CKS Engineers, Inc.	\$58.50	Gilmore & Associates, Inc.	\$748.75
P. K. Moyer & Sons, Inc.	30,185.00	John Kleckner	2,815.00
Bergey's Electric, Inc.	3,967.80		
C & S Lawn & Landscape	1,040.00	Total Capital Reserve Fund	\$38,815.05

LIQUID FUELS FUND

PPL Electric Utilities	\$7,491.47	Signal Control Products, LLC	\$42.00
PPL Electric Utilities	50.33	Total Liquid Fuels Fund	\$7,583.80

A motion was made by Councillor Matthew Sholly, and seconded by Councillor Daryl Littlefield, to authorize the payment of bills for the month of February, 2023 and the recurring expenses for the month of March, 2023, as presented. The motion was approved.

President Tracy Burke opened the floor to the audience for public comment.

Christina DiVergigelis, Manager, Souderton Connects reminded Borough Council of the “So You Think You Can Cook” event, which will be held at the Souderton Fire House on March 8, 2023. Chef positions are sold out. Forms are now open for the Third Fridays Events.

Mayor Daniel Yocum noted that this will be Christina’s last meeting in her position as manager for Souderton Connects. Mayor Yocum extended his appreciation to Christina for her work and commitment to the Souderton Community. Christina DiVergigelis expressed appreciation to mayor Yocum for his comments, noting that Souderton Connects relies upon the support of the Borough, Police and Fire Company to successfully operate the community events.

Michael Pipe, 570 E. Garfield Avenue, read from a prepared statement. At last month’s meeting Council President Burke and Councillor Sholly were polite in their response to my comments. However, Councillor Wampole’s comments were not polite. Councillor Wampole was angry and hostile in her response which the minutes do not accurately reflect. Mr. Pipe requested that a verbatim transcription of the comments from Councillor Wampole be added to the meeting minutes.

There being no further public comment, Council President Tracy Burke moved to the business portion of the agenda with formal consideration of an appointment to the Souderton Zoning Hearing Board. President Burke introduced Brian Harrington. Brian Harrington commented that he has been a resident of Souderton Borough for nearly 16 years. He is a veteran and local contractor. Souderton is a great town and he appreciates the opportunity to serve.

A motion was made by Councillor Daryl Littlefield, and seconded by Councillor Donna Rogers, to appoint Brian V. Harrington, 153 Eighth Street, Souderton to fill the unexpired term of Eugene Moyer through December 31, 2023. The motion was approved.

Mayor Daniel Yocum expressed appreciation to the Parks and Recreation Committee for their work in addressing and negotiating the Lifeguard Management Contract with Bennington Pool Services for this summer season.

A motion was made by Councillor Edward Huber, and seconded by Councillor Matthew DiNenna, to approve Lifeguard Management Contract with Bennington Pool Services for the 2023 summer season. The motion was approved.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:45 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

P. Michael Coll, Secretary