

**Regular Meeting**

**February 7, 2022**

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

The Invocation was given by Borough Councillor Edward Huber, 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:

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|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| President Tracy W. Burke        | Mayor Daniel L. Yocum                |
| Vice-President Edward M. Huber  |                                      |
| Councillor Daryl W. Littlefield | Junior Councillor Nick Mancini       |
| Councillor Julie A. Munden      |                                      |
| Councillor Donna Rogers         | Solicitor Charlotte Hunsberger       |
| Councillor Matthew R. Sholly    | Borough Manager P. Michael Coll      |
| Councillor Richard M. Walczak   | Police Chief Brian Newhall           |
| Councillor Courtnee L. Wampole  | Public Works Director Steven R. Coll |

Absent from the meeting was Borough Councillor Matthew J. DiNenna.

Consideration was given to the minutes of the January 3, 2022 Reorganization and Regular Borough Council Meeting, the January 17, 2022 Borough Council Work Session Meeting and the Special Borough Council Meeting held on January 24, 2022.

A motion was made by Councillor Julie Munden, and seconded by Councillor Daryl Littlefield, to approve the minutes of January 3, 2022 Reorganization and Regular Borough Council Meeting as presented. The motion was approved.

A motion was made by Councillor Julie Munden, and seconded by Councillor Courtnee Wampole, to approve the minutes of January 17, 2022 Borough Council Work Session Meeting as presented. The motion was approved.

A motion was made by Councillor Edward Huber, and seconded by Councillor Daryl Littlefield, to approve the minutes of January 24, 2022 Special Borough Council Meeting as presented. The motion was approved.

President Tracy Burke recognized representatives of the Radiant Beer Project to discuss their interest in leasing the Freight Building on S. Front Street as a microbrewery. They explained their experience in this field, currently working with a brewery in

Hatfield. They are discussing a partnership with an established food truck proprietor to operate a small kitchen within the building. They will provide food service for the patrons of the brewery and they will also utilize the kitchen facilities to support a catering business. President Tracy Burke referred them to the Economic Development Committee chaired by Councillor Courtnee Wampole. The committee will further evaluate and make a recommendation on this proposal.

President Burke next recognized Christina DiVergigelis of Souderton Connects. The Main Streets Manager provided Borough Council with a report of 2021 activities, extending appreciation to Borough staff, Police, Fire, North Penn Goodwill and Souderton Ambulance personnel for their support and assistance during the year. The continuing pandemic created uncertainty with a number of planned events during 2021. Souderton Connects began the year with virtual Third Fridays, moving to live events in August and through the fall. The October, 2021 Third Fridays event was one of the largest attended events every held. The Art Jam, Tree Lighting and the annual Holiday parade were also well attended. Souderton Connects is on track to resume the annual events during the 2022 calendar year. President Tracy Burke suggested that representatives of Souderton Connects attend a Borough Council Work Session meeting to have a more thorough discussion of events and activities. President Burke noted that it might be most beneficial to dedicate a full Borough Council Work Session to Souderton Connects. The Economic Development Committee will look to schedule this meeting.

Mayor Daniel Yocum commented on a fundraising event for the Souderton Fire Company Auxiliary. The Souderton-Telford Rotary Club is hosting a fundraising event in March to support the Community Park Renovation project. Mayor Yocum further commented that he attended a show at the Montgomery Theater, it's great to see our venues returning from the pandemic.

Mayor Daniel Yocum reported that Police Officer Wayne Black has retired after a lengthy tenure as a part time officer with the Souderton Police Department. Wayne Black has relocated to Alabama. In appreciation for his service Mayor Yocum presented the following Proclamation:

**PROCLAMATION  
IN APPRECIATION TO WAYNE L. BLACK FOR HIS  
COMMUNITY SERVICE AND DEDICATION**

WHEREAS, Wayne L. Black began his service to the Borough of Souderton as a part time Police Officer with the Souderton Borough Police Department on April 6, 1992; and

WHEREAS, Wayne L. Black announced his retirement from the Souderton Police Department effective December 31, 2021 completing a thirty (30) year career as a Police Officer with the Souderton Borough Police Department; and

WHEREAS, Wayne L. Black served as an integral part of the Souderton Police Department covering regular night and weekend shifts and was on call to cover for other officers as the need arose. Wayne Black developed a strong relationship within the Souderton Community and worked closely with agencies and first responders over his thirty year tenure to provide prompt and effective response to service the needs of our residents and businesses.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Daniel L. Yocum, Mayor of the Borough of Souderton, joined by the members of Souderton Borough Council recognize and extend our sincere appreciation to Wayne L. Black for his many years of faithful and dedicated service to Souderton Borough, serving and representing our community with distinction and diligence.

Presented on behalf of Souderton Borough Council this 7<sup>th</sup> day of February 7, 2022.

Daniel L. Yocum, Mayor

Tracy W. Burke, President

Police Chief Brian Newhall summarized the January, 2022 monthly report to Borough Council. A majority of the police incidents involve mental health issues and domestic disputes. Chief Newhall expressed appreciation to the community for their cooperation in observing the posted snow emergency routes during recent snow events. The department is taking delivery of equipment purchased through a Pennsylvania Keystone Grant secured with the assistance of State Representative Steven Malagari. The Souderton Police Department has instituted a new card and badge program for solicitors operating within the Borough. Chief Newhall further commented on the very busy participation in the drug takeback program, noting that participants cannot dispose of needles in the box.

The Borough Solicitor's report for the month of January was distributed to Borough Council. The Solicitor addressed questions concerning the holding of Executive Sessions. The Borough Solicitor continued work on documents to revise and extend the previously approved \$500,000 general obligation loan for the Community Park Renovation project for formal consideration at the March Borough Council meeting.

Public Works Director Steven Coll distributed his monthly report of public works activities to Borough Council for their review and information. Crews concentrated on annual equipment maintenance, brush and Christmas Tree collections during the month. Crews addressed four snow events during the month, all required salting and two required plowing.

Borough Manager Michael Coll noted that Borough Council will hold their monthly work session on February 21, 2022 and there will be a Special Borough Council

Work Session on Monday, February 28, 2022 for the purpose of meeting and discussing the Borough's relationship with Souderton Connects and further discussing the roles of our newly appointed committees.

The Borough Manager reviewed the agenda for the meeting, which will begin with the appointment of Boucher and James, Inc. to serve as the Borough Engineer for the 2022 calendar year only. A recommendation was made to re-appoint Kelli Scarlett to serve as a member of the Zoning Hearing Board for another three year term. She has been serving as the Chair of the Board for several years. A mistake was made with the appointment of Calvin Munden to the Souderton Planning Commission. The November appointment recited a term of five years, however, his appointment was to fill the unexpired term of Thomas Rosenberger through July 2, 2024. A motion has been prepared to revise and restate the appointment. Borough Council has recommended that Request for Proposals be circulated for the position of Borough Engineer. The Borough executed a proposal with Boucher and James to serve as the engineer on the Chestnut Street parking lot project. A discussion was held about circulating another Request for Proposals for this project, however, since we have an executed proposal, it may be in our best interest to move forward with this project through Boucher and James. The last item is to confirm a recommendation of the Parks and Recreation Committee to approve the Bennington Pool Services Management Contract to provide management and lifeguard services for the Souderton Pool for the 2022 summer season.

President Tracy Burke reviewed Borough Council committee assignments. President Burke noted a resident concern with the population of the three voting wards within Souderton Borough and the possible need to consider a reapportionment of the three wards. With the assistance of the Montgomery County Planning Commission, it has been determined that the relative proportion of population between the three wards is within seven percent (7%). President Burke recommended that the proportion of population in the three wards be evaluated again in the future when the current developments are completed.

Councillor Daryl Littlefield noted that the Public Outreach Committee will be holding Borough Council office hours Saturday, February 19, 2022 in the Lobby of the Souderton Municipal Building from 11:00 am to 1:00 pm.

Councillor Matt Sholly reported that the Economic Development Committee met with Souderton Charter School representatives to discuss their building at 27 S. Front Street. The building was purchased by the Souderton Charter School and is currently used as administrative office space. The building is in need of significant renovation and repair and the Charter School is seeking input from Souderton Borough on possible collaborative uses.

Councillor Edward Huber reported that the Parks and Recreation Committee is preparing to open the Souderton Pool for the 2022 summer season. The Bennington Pool

Services contract is scheduled for formal approval. The Committee will be working to address membership rates, daily admissions and swim lessons.

Consideration was given to paying the bills for the month of January, 2022.

GENERAL FUND

21 <sup>st</sup> Century Media	\$190.06	Verizon Wireless	\$402.48
Altek Business Systems, Inc.	2,385.36	21 <sup>st</sup> Century Media	54.71
Armour & Sons Electric, Inc.	230.00	Advance Auto Parts	296.08
Boucher and James, Inc.	5,717.45	Airgas	99.82
Britton Industries	31.16	Altek Business Systems, Inc.	462.89
C & S Lawn and Landscape, Inc.	400.00	Armour & Sons Electric, Inc.	8,053.62
Chris Boyle Law Enforcement Co.	495.00	Boucher and James, Inc.	5,507.71
Clemens Uniform Rental	38.88	Clemens Uniform Rental	385.35
Code Inspections, Inc.	390.00	Comcast Cable	213.83
Comcast Cable	709.51	Cope's Garage, Inc.	1,020.43
Cope's Garage, Inc.	999.49	Donald W. Morrison, Ph.D.	275.00
D L Beardsley, Ltd.	85.85	Fromm Electric Supply Corp.	178.99
Delta Dental/Gettysburg Benefit	1,214.04	George Allen Portable Toilets	229.00
Fromm Electric Supply Corp.	122.44	Good Plumbing Heating A/C, Inc.	195.55
George Allen Portable Toilets	146.00	Gregory Meinhardt	10.00
Georges Tool rental	644.10	H & K Materials	478.72
Highway Materials, Inc.	249.55	Home depot	367.41
Home Depot	42.02	International Assoc. of Chiefs	190.00
Independence Blue Cross	18,028.70	J P Mascaro & Sons	61,104.02
Lansdale Police Department	900.00	Kuhls Law	1,380.00
Maryjane Yoder	167.42	Lansdale Police Department	300.00
Metlife/Brighthouse/GASB Group	3,089.16	Lawson Products, Inc.	221.14
Morton Salt	\$6,908.60	Metlife/Brighthouse/GASB	2,899.82
Moyer Indoor/Outdoor	2,059.74	Montco Public Safety Training	300.00
NAPA Auto Parts	13.86	Montg Co. Special Weapons	3,500.00
NetCarrier Telecom, Inc.	302.68	Moyer Indoor/Outdoor	2,240.67
North American Benefits Co.	1,070.99	NAPA Auto Parts	220.88
North Penn Water Authority	336.89	Nationwide Trust Company	1,738.93
PA State Assoc. of Boroughs	120.00	North Penn Water Authority	35.52
PECO Energy	177.78	Nucitrus	275.00
Pendergast Safety Equipment Co.	71.75	Old Dominion Brush	343.05
PA One Call System	72.27	PA Assoc Municipal Adm	150.00
Perkiomen Watershed Conservation	1,000.00	Pendergast Safety Equipment Co	125.20
PPL Electric Utilities	1,699.52	Perkasie Regional Authority	750.00
PPL Electric Utilities	53.42	PPL Electric Utilities	651.24
Ready refresh	188.75	Richter Drafting Office Supply	198.30
Richter Drafting Office Supply	14.00	Souderton Community Develop	5,937.50
Something Better, Inc.	1,375.00	Suburban Propane	25.34
Steven R. Coll	385.75	Univest Bank and Trust Co.	433.33
Suburban Propane	836.70	Univest Bank and Trust Co.	2,500.00
Sudz In A Bucket, Inc.	33.00	Univest VISA	500.00
Telford Press Printers	832.50	Univest VISA	568.70
Towne Answering Service	550.00	Univest VISA	1,627.63
Univest Insurance, Inc.	541.00	Univest VISA	17.29

Univest VISA	\$196.38	Verizon Wireless	\$431.58
Univest VISA	829.66	VIGR Training LLC	1,000.00
Univest VISA	1,465.42	Waste Management	40,127.10
Unum Insurance Company	1,130.40	Wise Electric	723.00
Verizon	73.87	Total General Fund	\$207,362.95

#### SEWER FUND

Bergey's Electric, Inc.	\$236.66	Suburban Water Testing Labs	\$2,314.00
Clemens Uniform rental	47.23	Telford Press Printers	1,239.50
Comcast cable	138.39	Univar Solutions USA, Inc.	4,187.25
Delta Dental/Gettysburg Benefit	364.32	Unum Insurance Company	257.72
Derstine Company, Inc.	4,766.00	USA Blue Book	315.25
Essex Service Corporation	1,889.68	Verizon	78.81
EVOQUA Water Technologies	3,508.65	Clemens Uniform Rental	280.38
Home depot	4.71	Derstine Company, Inc.	3,565.00
Independence Blue Cross	4,390.18	Farm Bureau Garage, Inc.	78.10
J P Mascaro & Sons	5,178.14	Home Depot	9.47
Metlife/Brighthouse/GASB	92.28	J P Mascaro & Sons	1,314.67
Mike Nelson Consulting Service	1,150.00	K J Door Service, Inc.	2,270.50
Moyer Indoor/Outdoor	136.52	Metlife/Brighthouse/GASB	92.28
NetCarrier Telecom, Inc.	114.64	North Penn Water Authority	83.79
North American Benefits Co.	254.20	PPL Electric Utilities	16,780.68
North Penn Water Authority	90.41	Richter Drafting Office Supply	85.90
PPL Electric Utilities	718.44	Univar Solutions USA, Inc.	3,657.75
Richard D. Nelson	372.90	USA Blue Book	1,250.54
Rodney Shoemaker	104.00	Total Sewer Fund	\$61,418.94

#### POOL FUND

Airgas National Carbonation	\$84.36	PECO Energy	\$124.29
Comcast Cable	180.69	PPL Electric Utilities	535.47
NetCarrier Telecom, Inc.	89.85	North Penn Water Authority	18.19
North Penn Water Authority	593.39	Total Pool Fund	\$1,626.24

#### CAPITAL RESERVE FUND

Boucher & James, Inc.	\$1,079.01	Franconia Township	\$1,752.30
Sands Ford of Red Hill	31,087.00	Franconia Township	10,740.20
Boucher & James, Inc.	6,339.52	Total capital Reserve Fund	\$53,480.03

#### LIQUID FUELS FUND

PPL Electric Utilities	7,047.61	PPL Electric Utilities	\$65.68
PPL Electric Utilities	207.45	Total Liquid Fuels Fund	\$7,320.74

A motion was made by Councillor Richard Walczak, and seconded by Councillor Julie Munden, to pay the bills for the month of January, 2022 and authorize the payment of recurring expenses for the month of February, 2022, as presented. The motion was

approved.

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

Lucy Ruth, 237 Washington Avenue, Souderton, expressed concern with the traffic signal at Broad Street and Main Street, suggesting that a designated left turn arrow should be considered to turn onto Main Street. Mrs. Ruth also expressed concern with Green Street from Main Street to Wile Avenue. Green Street is a relatively narrow road. There are signs restricting parking too close to Main Street, however, vehicles tend to park very close to the intersection. Perhaps consideration can be given to restricting parking to only one side of the street.

Kylie Harrington, owner of 234 E. Broad Street, expressed concern with the adjoining neighbor at 236 E. Broad Street. The neighbor has a number of property maintenance concerns, but recently dug out the basement and excavated a portion of the rear yard. She expressed concern with compromising the foundation of the building. President Tracy Burke requested the Borough Manager to have the Code Enforcement Officer investigate the property concerns.

There being no further public comment, President Burke moved to the scheduled items of business, starting with the Borough Engineer appointment.

A motion was made by Councillor Edward Huber, and seconded by Councillor Matthew Sholly, to appoint Boucher and James, Inc. to serve as the Borough Engineer through the 2022 calendar year. The motion passed with one dissenting vote by Councillor Donna Rogers.

A motion was made by Councillor Daryl Littlefield, and seconded by Councillor Richard Walczak, to appoint Kelli Scarlett, 127 Green Street, Souderton to serve another three year term as a member of the Souderton Zoning Hearing Board through December 31, 2024. The motion was approved.

A motion was made by Councillor Edward Huber, and seconded by Councillor Donna Rogers, to revise and re-state the November 1, 2021 appointment of Calvin Munden, 220 Montgomery Avenue, Souderton to serve as a member of the Souderton Planning Commission, filling the unexpired term of Thomas Rosenberger, through July 2, 2024. The motion was approved with one abstention by Councillor Julie Munden.

A motion was made by Councillor Julie Munden, and seconded by Councillor Daryl Littlefield, to authorize the solicitation of a Request for Proposals to serve as the Borough Engineer for Souderton Borough effective January 1, 2023. The motion was approved.

President Tracy Burke discussed a possible motion to seek proposals for engineering services to complete the Chestnut Street parking lot improvement project. Borough Council elected to follow the April, 2021 proposal to have Boucher and James, Incorporated complete the engineering for the Chestnut Street parking lot improvement project.

A motion was made by Councillor Edward Huber, and seconded by Councillor Donna Rogers, to approve the 2022 Bennington Pool Services Lifeguard Management Contract to operate the Souderton Community Pool for the 2022 summer season. The motion was approved.

President Tracy Burke noted that the next meeting will be the February 21, 2022 Borough Council Work Session. President Burke noted that he would like to move the work sessions to the Conference Room at some time this year as Borough Council members feel more comfortable with public settings. There is also some thought to having two work sessions each month, but for the current time Borough Council will continue with the single work session format.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:15 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

P. Michael Coll, Secretary