

BOROUGH OF BOYERTOWN COUNCIL MEETING
February 6, 2023

The regular meeting of the Boyertown Borough Council was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Council President Frank Deery. Present in addition to Mr. Deery were council members Keith Endy, Charles Heller, Barry Christman, Jeffrey Cascino, Charles Neubauer and Gene Gabel.

Also in attendance were Lorraine Carnes, Mayor; Patricia Loder, Borough Manager; Christopher Hartman, Solicitor; and interested citizens.

All rose for the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. Deery called for public comment on the agenda; no comments were forthcoming.

Mr. Deery then recognized Mr. Rick Drumheller who introduced himself to the members as a candidate for District Magistrate.

Mr. Deery then recognized Mr. Harlan Snyder who addressed Council on the matter of his request for an easement across Borough owned property on Pine Road in Earl Township. Mr. Snyder requested Council reconsider his recent request to relocate the proposed easement around a swampy area of the borough property and then continue along the property boundary. Council reiterated to Mr. Snyder the conditions under which the borough would be willing to grant the easement. The easement must follow the property boundary; or in the alternative the existing fire lane could be used as the access easement with the understanding that the borough could require the relocation of the driveway at any point in the future if the borough's use of the property necessitates a relocation. Mr. Snyder thanked Council for their time.

Mr. Deery then recognized Mr. Roger Lehmann, Boyertown Rotary Foundation, who requested Council consider a donation of \$35,000 to \$40,000 toward the construction of six Pickleball Courts to replace the three existing courts. Mr. Lehmann advised the total project cost is \$196,340. The Boyertown Rotary Foundation submitted a grant application to Pottstown Health & Wellness requesting \$100,000 toward the project cost. Mr. Lehmann is fairly comfortable the grant will be awarded; however, he thinks if awarded it would likely be in an amount of perhaps \$70,000. A grant application will also be submitted to Berks County Community Foundation requesting \$30,000, and the Boyertown Picklers will donate \$50,000. Mr. Lehmann advised that without a donation from the Borough the project cannot move forward.

Discussion was held on the project and Mr. Deery suggested removal of the lighting from the project, which is projected to cost \$47,576. Mr. Lehmann noted that lighting is included in the project to allow more use of the courts; however, members of council noted that the park rules state that the park closes at dusk. Mr. Lehmann stated that the borough would control the time the lights are turned off.

Discussion continued on the subject and members of Council noted concern about repairs needed at the community swimming pool and the current uncertainty of what those costs may be.

Following all discussion, Council advised Mr. Lehmann that they will not donate the funds requested and recommend serious consideration be given to eliminating lighting from the project. Mr. Lehmann will speak with the Boyertown Pickler group about the recommendation.

Mr. Neubauer made a motion, second by Mr. Cascino, to approve the minutes of the January 3rd, 2023 meeting of Council. The motion was approved by the membership present.

Finance, Charles Heller

Mr. Heller made a motion, second by Mr. Cascino, to approve the lists of Revenues, Expenditures and Bills for January 2023. The roll call vote reflected the following members voting “yes”: Mr. Heller, Mr. Christman, Mr. Cascino, Mr. Endy, Mr. Neubauer, Mr. Gabel and Mr. Deery. The motion was approved.

The following is a summary of the Financial Report; the complete report is on file in the Borough office:

General Fund – 01	
Balance in Bank 12/31/2022	\$ 213,385.35
Receipts	76,620.36
Expenditures	41,466.78
Balance in Bank 1/31/2023	\$ 248,538.93
Tank Maintenance Fund - 04	
Balance in Bank 12/31/2022	\$ 472,095.22
Receipts	1,820.13
Expenditures	0.00
Balance in Bank 1/31/2023	\$ 473,915.35
Water Fund – 06	
Balance in Bank 12/31/2022	\$ 498,084.17
Receipts	345,258.63
Expenditures	367,142.23
Balance in Bank 1/31/2023	\$ 476,200.57
Sewer Fund – 08	
Balance in Bank 12/31/2022	\$ 393,223.37
Receipts	291,524.88
Expenditures	216,571.33
Balance in Bank 1/31/2023	\$ 468,176.92
Recreation Fund – 09	
Balance in Bank 12/31/2022	\$ 111,469.86
Receipts	429.76
Expenditures	0.00
Balance in Bank 1/31/2023	\$ 111,899.62
Colonial Corners Fund – 13	
Balance in Bank 12/31/2022	\$ 33,095.90
Receipts	2,578.24
Expenditures	5,317.56
Balance in Bank 1/31/2023	\$ 30,356.58

Trail Feasibility Study Fund – 15	
Balance in Bank 12/31/2022	\$ 3,550.73
Receipts	12.54
Expenditures	0.00
Balance in Bank 1/31/2023	\$ 3,563.27
Capital Improvement General Fund – 17	
Balance in Bank 12/31/2022	\$2,030,812.24
Receipts	7,830.28
Expenditures	56,931.83
Balance in Bank 1/31/2023	\$1,981,710.69
Forest Management – 19	
Balance in Bank 12/31/2022	\$ 133,593.28
Receipts	515.06
Expenditures	0.00
Balance in Bank 1/31/2023	\$ 134,108.34
Capital Improvement Water Fund – 20	
Balance in Bank 12/31/2022	\$ 864,077.95
Receipts	3,331.34
Expenditures	2,838.00
Balance in Bank 1/31/2023	\$ 864,571.29
Capital Improvement Sewer Fund – 30	
Balance in Bank 12/31/2022	\$ 479,000.95
Receipts	1,846.75
Expenditures	0.00
Balance in Bank 1/31/2023	\$ 480,847.70
Liquid Fuels Fund – 35	
Balance in Bank 12/31/2022	\$ 55,717.29
Receipts	214.81
Expenditures	1,549.73
Balance in Bank 1/31/2023	\$ 54,382.37

Mr. Heller made a motion, second by Mr. Endy, to authorize the Borough Manager to execute the Rettew Field Services, Inc. proposal for a Void Detection Survey at the Boyertown Community Pool to include A. Geophysical Survey-Pool Area \$16,170.00; Geophysical Survey-Pumphouse Area \$5,390.00; and SP Survey in Grassy Area \$9,490.00; total proposal cost \$31,500.00, and to inform the Philadelphia Freedom YMCA that the Borough will not assume the cost for maintenance of the expansion joints, skimmer repairs or other identified maintenance of the swimming pool. The roll call vote reflected the following members voting “yes”: Mr. Heller, Mr. Christman, Mr. Cascino, Mr. Endy, and Mr. Deery. Mr. Neubauer and Mr. Gabel voted “no”. The motion was approved.

Public Utilities – Water, Keith Endy

The following Water Supply and Use Report was submitted for the month of December 2022:

During the month of December 2022, a total of 22,242,000 gallons of water was processed through the water filter plant for an average of 717,000 gallons per day.

The totals came from these sources:

Trout Run	17,332,000
Ironstone	-0-
Boyertown Reservoir	8,850,000
Pumping from Trout Run	31 days
Pumping from Ironstone	0 days

Trout Run is at a level of 591.420 feet with approximately 261,000,000 gallons of water. Popodickon Reservoir is at a level of 38 feet with approximately 34,200,000 gallons of water. Precipitation in December was 4.8 inches.

Mr. Endy made a motion, second by Mr. Heller, to authorize the Borough Manager to execute the proposal submitted by Bachman's Roofing, Building & Remodeling, Inc. in the amount of \$118,617.00 for replacement of the roof at the Water Treatment Plant. The roll call vote reflected the following members voting "yes": Mr. Heller, Mr. Christman, Mr. Cascino, Mr. Endy, Mr. Neubauer, Mr. Gabel, and Mr. Deery. The motion was approved.

Public Utilities – Sewer, Keith Endy

The following Wastewater Treatment Report was submitted for the month of December 2022:

	Average Effluent	NPDES Maximum Allowed
BOD	5.00 mg/l	20.0 mg/l
Ammonia Nitrogen	.19 mg/l	1.6 mg/l
Phosphorus	.49 mg/l	1.5 mg/l
Suspended Solids	12.00 mg/l	20.0 mg/l
	Average Effluent	NPDES Maximum Allowed
Fecal Coliform	5/100 mg/l	200/100 mg/l

The average daily flow at the Wastewater Treatment Plant during the month of December was 503,000 gallons.

Public Works, Barry Christman

The following report on the activities of the Street Department personnel during the month of January was submitted:

During the month of January Street Department personnel cleaned catch basins, emptied trash cans in the public right of way, patched potholes, salted streets, replaced street signs as needed, collected Christmas trees, and performed routine maintenance on borough buildings, equipment, and vehicles.

House, Gene Gabel

Mr. Gabel made a motion, second by Mr. Neubauer, to approve a Park Use Agreement with the Boyertown Area Historical Society for a Frisbee Golf Tournament Fundraiser on May 13th, 2023. The roll call vote reflected the following members voting “yes”: Mr. Heller, Mr. Christman, Mr. Cascino, Mr. Endy, Mr. Neubauer, Mr. Gabel, and Mr. Deery. The motion was approved.

Public Communication, Jeffrey Cascino

Mr. Cascino reported that Graber Letterin revised their quote to reflect the cost for a single sided sign. The revised quote reflects a cost reduction of \$900.00. Mr. Cascino noted that he is still waiting for submission of quotes from several other companies.

Park and Recreation Board, Barry Christman

Mr. Christman reported that the Board will be mailing the annual sponsorship request letters on February 15th. Mr. Christman also noted the Board will have an Easter Egg hunt at the Community Park with the assistance of a local church.

Planning Commission, Charles Neubauer

The following Code Enforcement Report for the month of January, as provided by Systems Design Engineering, Inc. was submitted. SDE issued three UCC Permits; no zoning permits, thirty two rental unit inspections were completed, and multiple property maintenance code violations received Notices of Violation.

Police and Public Safety, Charles Neubauer

Mr. Neubauer made a motion, second by Mr. Heller, to approve the Building a Better Boyertown Coming Out of Hibernation event to be held on Philadelphia Avenue between Reading Avenue and Washington Street, on April 15th, rain date April 16th; Philadelphia Avenue to be closed from 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. The roll call vote reflected the following members voting “yes”: Mr. Heller, Mr. Christman, Mr. Cascino, Mr. Endy, Mr. Neubauer, Mr. Gabel and Mr. Deery. The motion was approved.

Mr. Neubauer then made a motion, second by Mr. Gabel, to approve the Building a Better Boyertown Chillin on Main event to be held on Philadelphia Avenue between Reading Avenue and Washington Street, on December 2nd, rain date December 3rd; Philadelphia Avenue to be closed from 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. The roll call vote reflected the following members voting “yes”: Mr. Heller, Mr. Christman, Mr. Cascino, Mr. Endy, Mr. Neubauer, Mr. Gabel and Mr. Deery. The motion was approved.

Approval of the resolution to approve Oktoberfest 2023 was tabled pending possible changes in the event times.

Police Activities, Mayor Lorraine Carnes

The following Police Activities Report for the month of January 2023 was submitted:

Total Incidents 318

Criminal Arrests	8
Vehicle Arrests	125
Accidents	13

The Borough Parking Enforcement Officer issued 54 parking meter tickets and 15 time limit parking tickets.

Mayor Carnes reported on the Mayor's activities during the Month of January. The report reflected the Mayor's attendance at meetings of the Borough, Rotary Club, United Way, and Building a Better Boyertown. Mayor Carnes also spoke with a 2nd grade class at New Hanover Elementary School about the position of Mayor.

Building a Better Boyertown

No report

Solicitor

No report.

Mr. Deery called for public comment and recognized Mr. Clayton Leister commented concerning providing the monthly council meeting via Zoom; and noted that Zoom is not offered for committee meetings. Mr. Leister also addressed stormwater problems on North Franklin Street.

Mr. Deery then recognized Mr. Haddad who invited the elected officials to participate in this coming Friday's Wine Walk and noted that he will be at the General Spaatz Museum assisting with a chocolate fondue and fruit station. The event time is 5:30 to 8:00 p.m.

Mr. Deery then announced that Council would recess to executive session to discuss a litigation matter.

Upon reconvening Solicitor Hartman announced that Council discussed one litigation matter in executive session for which no official action is required at this time.

There being no further comment or business to conduct, a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:35 p.m. was made by Mr. Neubauer, second by Mr. Heller. The next meeting of Boyertown Borough Council will be held on Monday, March 6th, 2023 at 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia A. Loder
Borough Secretary