

BOROUGH OF LEESPORT

December 18, 2024

The meeting of the Council of the Borough of Leesport was called to order by President Ronald Strause on the above date for the Leesport Borough Council, 27 S. Canal Street, Leesport PA, 19533, in the Leesport Borough Hall, Leesport PA 19533, at 6 P.M. Present were Madeira, Fronina, Strause, Moquin (zoom), Goetz, Walborn, Moyer and Mayor David J. Reimer, Sr. Also present were MST Sandra L. Pascavage, Administrative Assistant Marga H. Row, Engineer Jason Newhard, Code Enforcement Officer Brad Pflum and Solicitor Chris Hartman, Esq.

Moment of Silence
Pledge to the Flag

FINANCIAL REPORT NOVEMBER 30, 2024

GENERAL

CHECKING	861.37
MM	68,414.41
CD	34,908.18

WATER

CHECKING	287.81
MM	50,493.59
CD I	51,656.12
CD II	45,449.08

STATE

CHECKING	148.31
MM	32,597.59

CODE ENFORCEMENT DISTRICT JUSTICE

588.50
479.01

SPECIAL FUNDS

Sesquicentennial Fund	15,140.06
Recreation-Rec Board	108,430.99
Payroll fund	846.89
Pension	393,357.62 (10/31/2024)

A motion was made by Fronina and seconded by Walborn to accept tonight's agenda as advertised, all voted for the motion.

A motion was made by Fronina and seconded by Moyer to approve the November 2024, minutes, all yes.

STATE

12/19/2024	1645	Frontier	2000	Accounts Payable	36.19
12/19/2024	1646	Met Ed	2000	Accounts Payable	5,172.64

5208.83

WATER

12/19/2024	4481	Aetna Coventry	2000	Accounts Payable	3,030.01
12/19/2024	4482	Elite Opps	2000	Accounts Payable	2,100.00
12/19/2024	4483	Exeter Supply Inc. I	2000	Accounts Payable	2,832.59
12/19/2024	4484	Fisher Rental	2000	Accounts Payable	4,463.40
12/19/2024	4485	Highmark Blue Shiel...	2000	Accounts Payable	5,653.44
12/19/2024	4486	Kris Wholaver	2000	Accounts Payable	180.00
12/19/2024	4487	Kuzans	2000	Accounts Payable	4,177.54
12/19/2024	4488	L/B Water	2000	Accounts Payable	312.28
12/19/2024	4489	Longhorn Landscaping	2000	Accounts Payable	2,500.00
12/19/2024	4490	M.J. Reider Associat...	2000	Accounts Payable	464.80
12/19/2024	4491	Master Meter Systems	2000	Accounts Payable	386.43
12/19/2024	4492	MET-ED	2000	Accounts Payable	3,878.05
12/19/2024	4493	Schlegel Tax Service	2000	Accounts Payable	375.00
12/19/2024	4494	Spotts, Stevens and ...	2000	Accounts Payable	3,339.77
12/19/2024	4495	Stony Creek Rentals	2000	Accounts Payable	1,152.00
12/19/2024	4496	Twiford Electrical Se...	2000	Accounts Payable	2,305.83
12/19/2024	4497	United Concordia-De...	2000	Accounts Payable	327.96
12/19/2024	4498	USAbLe Life Ins.	2000	Accounts Payable	117.00
12/19/2024	4499	Well Care	2000	Accounts Payable	527.31
12/19/2024	4500	Wex Co	2000	Accounts Payable	600.64

38724.05

GENERAL

12/19/2024	8891	Berks Soil & Stone	200.20	Accounts Pay...	835.00
12/19/2024	8892	Centerport Flower Sh...	200.20	Accounts Pay...	200.00
12/19/2024	8893	Cougles Recycling Inc.	200.20	Accounts Pay...	563.18
12/19/2024	8894	Elan Financial Services	200.20	Accounts Pay...	146.00
12/19/2024	8895	Frontier	200.20	Accounts Pay...	439.34
12/19/2024	8896	Hartman, Valeriano, ...	200.20	Accounts Pay...	1,405.50
12/19/2024	8897	LTL Consultants, LT...	200.20	Accounts Pay...	2,381.76
12/19/2024	8898	MET-ED	200.20	Accounts Pay...	169.03
12/19/2024	8899	NNN Reading	200.20	Accounts Pay...	40.00
12/19/2024	8900	Northern Berks EMS	200.20	Accounts Pay...	5,000.00
12/19/2024	8901	Northern Berks Regi...	200.20	Accounts Pay...	38,655.74
12/19/2024	8902	Office Basics	200.20	Accounts Pay...	27.72
12/19/2024	8903	RTC	200.20	Accounts Pay...	1,560.00
12/19/2024	8904	Reading Tractor and ...	200.20	Accounts Pay...	599.98
12/19/2024	8905	Ronnie Folk	200.20	Accounts Pay...	6,850.00
12/19/2024	8906	Sam's Club	200.20	Accounts Pay... 771509022586...	245.00
12/19/2024	8907	Southern States Bank...	200.20	Accounts Pay...	344.67
12/19/2024	8908	Storks Auto Inc.	200.20	Accounts Pay...	445.20
12/19/2024	8909	SV Community Libra...	200.20	Accounts Pay...	5,000.00
12/19/2024	8910	T Mobile	200.20	Accounts Pay...	92.40
12/19/2024	8911	Thren's Auto	200.20	Accounts Pay...	374.40
12/19/2024	8912	Twenty First Century	200.20	Accounts Pay...	368.84
12/19/2024	8913	Twiford Electrical Se...	200.20	Accounts Pay...	2,149.18
12/19/2024	8914	UGI Utilities, Inc.	200.20	Accounts Pay...	40.00
12/19/2024	8915	Waste Industries Inc.	200.20	Accounts Pay...	17,794.39

85727.33

A motion was made by Goetz and seconded by Madeira to approve the December bills, all yes.

A motion was made by Madeira and seconded by Moyer to approve the November financial report, all yes.

A motion was made by Fronina and seconded by Walborn to approve the November budget, all yes.

Correspondence

1. our engineer's monthly report
2. NBRP monthly report
3. code enforcement report and copies of letters sent to residents
4. our trash and recycling totals
5. our chlorine totals for the month
6. our water report
7. minutes from the NBRP

Guests –

1. Duane Knoll, resident of S. Centre Avenue, called to council's attention several items in the settlement ordinance to be reviewed
2. Elaine Strause of the Historical Society and Lockhouse Foundation announcing a Red Ware program completed recently with the 5th grade students at the Schuylkill Valley Middle School to coincide with their Colonial Williamsburg program
3. Wendy Griffith of Main Street, informing council of a neighbor with violations, a motion was made by Fronina and seconded by Moyer to have our Code's Officer and Solicitor proceed to prohibit the Main Street resident violator from accessing his rear yard by way of his sidewalk and curb, all voted yes, motion carried 7-0

Mayor - Mayor Reimer reported the following:

1. Town Updates
2. Our tree lighting and Santa visit and borough dinner went very well
3. Bern township held a special meeting regarding their fire coverage, it was decided to give Greenfield's Fire Company until March 30, to improve their service
4. we will plan to have an advisory committee for decision making for next year
5. we attended a PSAB zoom meeting today regarding the Open Records' Act
6. they will host a Liquid Fuels meeting next
7. a special thank you to all who have helped the borough this past year

Committee Reports

Sewer - Madeira reported the following:

1. all is running good at this time
2. we have a letter of interest from a resident to join the Sewer Authority, a motion was made by Madeira and seconded by Moyer to appoint Patrick O'Neill, 425 Reeser Street to the Sewer Authority until 2029, all voted yes

Code Enforcement – Brad Pflum reported the following:

1. our monthly report is on file
2. we will look into the items in our Real Estate Sale Inspection Ordinance to refine it

Police – Strause reported the following:

1. our monthly report is on file
2. all is good for next year

Fire Company - Kenny Quell reported the following:

1. our monthly report is on file
2. we are preparing for our 125th Anniversary
3. we will have a QR site for events for next year
4. we would like to form an advisory committee going forth with the Leesport Borough and Ontelaunee Township
5. thank you to the borough for all their help in 2024
6. we should have our new airpaks by the end of January 2025

Engineer – Jason Newhard reported the following:

1. our monthly report is on file
2. we are waiting to hear from the school regarding a new proposed water connection
3. we are inquiring with the state regarding preemptive controls for our Fire and EMS for the traffic lights..we may be eligible for a grant
4. we are still having ongoing problems with Frontier's residential disturbances
5. we are looking to an easement to correct the Lockhouse's water issues from a neighbor
6. we have sent to DEP our first submission for the lead ruling and letters to residents
7. Century Cabinetry is planning to come to our Planning Commission meeting in January to submit a land development plan to build a storage building

Solicitor – Chris Hartman, Esq., reported the following:

1. We have advertised our Well Head Protection Ordinance, the floor was opened to the public for comments, hearing none, the floor was closed....a motion was made by Walborn and seconded by Fronina to sign and pass the ordinance...the draft ordinance was reviewed by our Planning Commission and the Berks County Planning Commission, motion carried, 6-0.. (Moquin, on zoom, was not connected at the voting)

Recycling – Goetz reported the following

1. Monthly Report
2. We have been awarded a grant for starting up our recycling yard

Building and Properties – Moyer reported the following:

1. our men will be installing a fence at the side of the garden in front of our borough office for safety reasons

Memorials – Goetz reported the following:

1. all is going well
2. the gazebo at the Memorial Park by the river that was presented to the borough by the Sesquicentennial Committee has been removed for safety reasons

Recreation – Moyer reported the following:

1. Monthly Report
2. We need to replace our concession stand at the ball field,
we have several options
3. a motion was made by Moyer and seconded by Fronina to remove the concession stand at the ball field for safety reasons, all voted yes, motion carried 6-0 (Moquin, on zoom, was not connected at the voting)
4. we will discuss in February the removal of the two old pavilions at the playground
5. we will close the brick campaign and use the currently purchased bricks at the stage and install a roof this spring
6. We will be discussing a year round recreational manager
7. We are planning to put lines on the basketball courts and seal them
8. All has been winterized
9. there has been a rumor that the borough was offered a new pole building for the ball field, that is not accurate
10. we need to consider the railroad right of way when planning a new ball field concession stand
11. thank you to everyone that contributed to the success of the tree lighting and Santa run events
12. the “Light Up Leesport” program was a great success
13. we are planning to purchase new equipment for the playgrounds for spring

Water and Municipal Authority – Walborn reported the following:

1. Monthly Report
2. We have asked our engineer to contact the state regarding all our valves that were covered over with their recent resurfacing of #61
3. After much discussion, a motion was made by Walborn and seconded by Fronina to rescind our previous motion to keep the RAFA system and also to return it for a refund because it is not operating as previously demonstrated, all yes, motion carried 7-0
4. After much discussion, a motion was made by Madeira and seconded by Fronina to rescind our previous motion to keep the CL17s’ system and also to return it for a refund because it is not operating as expected, all yes, except Walborn voted no, motion carried 6-1
5. a motion was made by Goetz and seconded by Moyer to rescind our motion to have our engineer apply to DEP for a permit for the use of the CL17s, all yes, motion carried 7-0
6. We will discuss the need of a new electric pole at Well #1 (reservoir) and the recommended rewiring by our electrician with Met Ed shortly
7. we will revisit the conversation of the Epting remediation of the arsenic soil to our well #3 site because of new information recently made available

Roads and Lights – Madeira reported the following:

1. Monthly Report
2. A special thank you to our employees for putting up our Christmas decorations
3. We have several projects we have not been able to get to because of the issues we are having with the water system
4. We will be getting a quote for work to be done on Scott Drive to keep the water from coming into the yards of the homes on N. Centre Ave
5. This spring, we will add to our list of roads' projects, Water and Shackamaxon Streets' corner, which we recently purchased from the previous land owner..

Unfinished Business

1. We have advertised our Tax Rate Ordinance #495 – 2024, for the year 2025, a motion was made by Moyer and seconded by Madeira to sign and pass Ordinance #495 – 2024, all yes, motion carries 7-0

EMC – Mayor Reimer reported the following:

1. we have lots of training sessions lined up for the new year

Good and Welfare

1. our men have taken the gazebo down at the Memorial Park for safety reasons.
2. The son, of one of our retired police officers with the Leesport Police Department and the Northern Berks Regional Police Department, has recently passed away, the borough has made a donation in his name.

A motion was made by Moyer and seconded by Fronina to adjourn at 7:41 P.M., all yes, motion carried 7-0, meeting adjourned at 7:41 P.M.

Attested _____