

BOROUGH OF LEESPORT

November 20, 2024

The meeting of the Council of the Borough of Leesport was called to order by Vice President Carl Moyer 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 (zoom), Moquin, Goetz, Walborn, Moyer and Mayor David J. Reimer, Sr. Also present were MST Sandra L. Pascavage, Engineer Jason Newhard, Code Enforcement Officer Brad Pflum and Solicitor Chris Hartman, Esq.

Moment of Silence
Pledge to the Flag

FINANCIAL REPORT OCTOBER 31, 2024

GENERAL

CHECKING	1,044.70
MM	68,447.03
CD	34,769.56

WATER

CHECKING	881.22
MM	68,992.03
CD I	51,435.10
CD II	45,268.90

STATE

CHECKING	93.26
MM	34,873.77

CODE ENFORCEMENT	1,409.00
DISTRICT JUSTICE	1,005.03

SPECIAL FUNDS

Sesquicentennial Fund	15,076.70
Recreation-Rec Board	108,711.21
Payroll fund	859.63
Pension	388,533.61 (9/30/2024)

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 Madeira and seconded by Fronina to approve the October 2024, minutes, all yes.

STATE

11/21/2024	1642	Frontier	2000 · Accounts Payable	35.74
11/21/2024	1643	Met Ed	2000 · Accounts Payable	945.48
11/21/2024	1644	Telco Inc.	2000 · Accounts Payable	1,263.74
				2244.96

WATER

11/21/2024	4468	Diversified Tech Corp	2000 · Accounts Payable	941.24
11/21/2024	4469	Elite Opps	2000 · Accounts Payable	2,000.00
11/21/2024	4470	Fisher Rental	2000 · Accounts Payable	2,996.40
11/21/2024	4471	Highmark Blue Shiel...	2000 · Accounts Payable	5,653.44
11/21/2024	4472	John Ruth	2000 · Accounts Payable	108.80
11/21/2024	4473	M.J. Reider Associat...	2000 · Accounts Payable	529.75
11/21/2024	4474	MET-ED	2000 · Accounts Payable	500.22
11/21/2024	4475	Schlegel Tax Service	2000 · Accounts Payable	375.00
11/21/2024	4476	Spotts, Stevens and ...	2000 · Accounts Payable	6,294.00
11/21/2024	4477	Suburban Propane	2000 · Accounts Payable	300.00
11/21/2024	4478	Summit Valley Outd...	2000 · Accounts Payable	30,554.62
11/21/2024	4479	Twiford Electrical Se...	2000 · Accounts Payable	1,679.61
11/21/2024	4480	United Concordia-De...	2000 · Accounts Payable	327.96

GENERAL

52261.04

11/25/2024	220	Southern States Bank...	408 · PROFESSION...	834.12
11/21/2024	8867	Berks Soil & Stone	200.20 · Accounts Pay...	2,069.00
11/21/2024	8868	Comm of PA	200.20 · Accounts Pay...	35.00
11/21/2024	8869	Cougles Recycling Inc.	200.20 · Accounts Pay...	628.72
11/21/2024	8870	Exeter Supply CO	200.20 · Accounts Pay...	7,400.68
11/21/2024	8871	Frontier	200.20 · Accounts Pay...	434.45
11/21/2024	8872	Hartman, Valeriano, ...	200.20 · Accounts Pay...	2,072.83
11/21/2024	8873	Hassler Diesel	200.20 · Accounts Pay...	4,026.97
11/21/2024	8874	Kris Wholaver	200.20 · Accounts Pay...	180.00
11/21/2024	8875	Kuzans Hardware	200.20 · Accounts Pay...	5,205.28
11/21/2024	8876	Longhorn Landscape	200.20 · Accounts Pay...	2,500.00
11/21/2024	8877	LTL Consultants, LT...	200.20 · Accounts Pay...	1,965.09
11/21/2024	8878	MET-ED	200.20 · Accounts Pay...	83.45
11/21/2024	8879	Miller's Lawnmower ...	200.20 · Accounts Pay...	1,734.97
11/21/2024	8880	Northern Berks Regi...	200.20 · Accounts Pay...	38,655.74
11/21/2024	8881	Office Basics	200.20 · Accounts Pay...	41.28
11/21/2024	8882	Ronnie Folk	200.20 · Accounts Pay...	12,460.00
11/21/2024	8883	RTC	200.20 · Accounts Pay...	253.14
11/21/2024	8884	Threns	200.20 · Accounts Pay...	22.48
11/21/2024	8885	Twenty First Century	200.20 · Accounts Pay...	2,381.84
11/21/2024	8886	Twiford Electrical Se...	200.20 · Accounts Pay...	374.49
11/21/2024	8887	UGI Utilities, Inc.	200.20 · Accounts Pay...	20.00
11/21/2024	8888	V & M Towing	200.20 · Accounts Pay...	341.25
11/21/2024	8889	Waste Industries Inc.	200.20 · Accounts Pay...	17,794.39
11/21/2024	8890	Wex - Sunoco Fleet ...	200.20 · Accounts Pay...	1,001.40

102516.57

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

A motion was made by Walborn and seconded by Moquin to approve the October financial report, all yes.

A motion was made by Madeira and seconded by Moquin to approve the October 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
8. letter of extension from Epting developers to March 19, 2025

Guests –

1. Elaine Strause of the Historical Society and Lockhouse Foundation announcing an Openhouse, November 23, 10 to 4 pm and November 24, 12 to 3 pm at the Lockhouse
2. Wendy Griffith of Main Street, informing council of a neighbor with violations. our codes' officer will look into the violations

Mayor - Mayor Reimer reported the following:

1. Town Updates
2. CELG hosted a meeting discussion to assist EMS with funding in 2025...to adjust our tax rate, we will need a motion to advertise our tax rate ordinance to pass in December, so we can give the county for the tax bills
3. Our Harvest Moon event was a success
4. we attended a DCED grant workshop
5. we attended a recent fire company banquet, thank you to all of our volunteers
6. there was an open house on November 12, at the fire company
7. #2265 – Act #131 increasing council pays has been passed...we will need an ordinance to activate the increases for our council as new members begin their terms
8. we are in a drought warning
9. recent grant awards have been announced to some locals
10. our next newsletter is at the printers
11. we would like to thank our codes' officer, Brad Pflum, our solicitor, Chris Hartman, Esq., and our engineer, Jason Newhard for hosting our Christmas Dinner again this year
12. a special thank you to all for making our borough better
13. our Santa run and tree lighting will be December 7
14. our borough dinner will be December 13

Committee Reports

1. With regards to our Tax Rate Ordinance #495-2024 for 2025....
after much discussion from council, our solicitor and our mayor, it was decided we would not increase our tax rate this year for the EMS, but decrease the recreation tax by .5 mill and to add to general purposes and discuss a possible donation to the EMS in 2025....

A motion was made by Fronina and seconded by Goetz to advertise our 2025 Tax Rate Ordinance #495 – 2024 as follows:

**THE TAX RATE FOR GENERAL BOROUGH PURPOSES, 7.22 MILLS,
THE TAX RATE FOR RECREATION PURPOSES, .5 MILL, AND
THE TAX RATE FOR FIRE COMPANY PURPOSES, 1 MILL, AND**

**THEREFORE..
THE 2025 TAX RATE FOR THE BOROUGH OF LEESPORT
SHALL BE....
THE SUM OF EIGHT AND SEVENTY TWO/ONE HUNDREDTHS
(8.72) MILLS.**

all voted , yes...the tax rate ordinance will be advertised.

Sewer - Madeira reported the following:

1. all is running good at this time
2. we have not heard back as of yet from Bern Twp

Code Enforcement – Brad Pflum reported the following:

1. our monthly report is on file

Personnel – Moquin reported the following;

1. a motion was made by Fronina and seconded by Moquin to give our employees an increase of 3% a year for the next three years, all voted yes

Police – Goetz reported the following:

1. our monthly report is on file
2. our 2025 police budget has been approved
3. our Chief's contract has been approved
4. there are 2 new cars in our 2025 budget

Fire Company - Kenny Quell reported the following:

1. our monthly report is on file
2. all is good

Engineer – Jason Newhard reported the following:

1. Monthly Report
2. Updates for SV Water line grant..we have not heard back yet from the school
3. a motion was made by Maderia and seconded by Moquin to do a pre-application to the "Green Light Go" grant program with the state regarding preemptive controls for our Fire and EMS for the traffic lights, all yes.

4. We are having an ongoing problem with Frontier's residential disturbances...we have been in touch with several Frontier contacts
- 5.. We will develop a plan of action for the Lockhouse's water issues...the trench the guys found was slag filled for drainage, we will look into laying a trench on the north side of E. Wall Street,
6. with regards to the CL17s, there was a discussion with our Licensed Water Operator, Bryce Zohner, regarding the flow of water used to obtain a satisfactory chlorine reading and now with the decreased flow of water, as reported, used for the chlorine testing, will the same representative reading be obtained for our DEP reporting, Zohner responded yes..after a discussion, a motion was made by Moquin and seconded by Madeira to have our engineer apply for a permit of operational change to DEP for our chlorine testing, all yes, except
Strause voted no, motion carries 6-1
7. We have sent to DEP our first submission for the lead ruling
8. We have contacted the state regarding our water valves that they had their contractor cover when #61 was resurfaced

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

1. We are working on our Well Head Protection Draft Ordinance....we should have it ready for next month....only sites have changed to conditional uses to be heard by the Zoning Hearing Board and to exclude 1000 gallon oil or propane tanks at residential sites..a motion was made by Walborn and seconded by Moquin to advertise, all yes.

Recycling – Goetz reported the following

1. Monthly Report
2. We have been awarded a grant for starting up our recycling yard
3. Our recycling agreement extension has been approved by Cougles, a motion was made by Maderia and seconded by Goetz to sign the change order, all yes, motion carried..we will send them our signed change order

Building and Properties – Moyer reported the following

1. Our security system has been completed
2. We are working with T Mobile with regards to hot spots
3. a motion was made by Goetz and seconded by Walborn to not move forward with the purchase of the Washington Street property at this time, all voted yes, we will contact the owner
4. 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 is in an unsafe condition, it will be removed and replaced in the future

Recreation – Moyer reported the following:

1. Monthly Report
2. We have a resignation from our Recreational Board Treasurer, Jessica Martin...we will need to replace the position beginning with January..a motion was made by Madeira and seconded by Walborn to accept her resignation and thank her for her service, all yes
3. Our tree lighting will be December 7
4. We will have “Light Up Leesport” decoration event to be posted soon
- 5 all has been winterized
- 6 our pool cover is on
- 7 we will have the baby pool pump replaced
- 8 we have some concrete work that needs to be done before 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...we assisted with a large leak on the property of Seakeepers’ this week and had to dig up more valves to shut their water off
3. Well Head Protection Ordinance, we have a motion to advertise and pass next month
4. Our RAFA system has been installed at Wells # 3, 4 and 5.. we are in the trial stage with the operation and still working with the company with regards to a few operational issues
5. We have a resolution to consider for new water rates for 2025
6. Our well #5 is pulling down too much lately, the springs in the area must be impacted

Roads and Lights – Madeira reported the following:

1. Monthly Report
2. Folk has completed our pot hole patching
3. We have finished the storm water drainage pipe on Shackamaxon St from Butcher Alley to the driveway of Growmark and will begin the block from #61 to Butcher Alley shortly
4. We have asked Ronne Folk for a quote to address the Scott Drive water runoff to resident back yards on N. Centre Avenue

Unfinished Business

1. the 2025 draft budget has been advertised ..a motion to pass was made by Fronina and seconded by Goetz, all yes, motion carried
- 2: Ordinance #495 Tax Rate for 2025, will be advertised
3. we will report to the county by mid December, our tax values for 2025

New Business

1. We have a call from the ARL again to consider their services in 2025
2. We have Resolution #268 to pass from LTL with their new rates (no increase) for 2025..a motion was made by Moquin and seconded Fronina, all yes, motion carried.
3. We have Resolution #267 to pass for a rate increase for water rates for 2025..this increase will affect large users by \$1 more per thousand gallons..a motion was made Walborn and seconded by Moquin, all yes, motion carried.
4. We have Resolution #269 to pass to record our "2001" Drought Contingency Plan..a motion was made by Maderia and seconded by Walborn, all yes, motion carried.
5. We will have our Christmas Party get together on Friday, December 13
6. We have been given a new agreement for the NNN for 2025....same cost \$40 per voucher issued...a motion was made by Moquin and seconded by Walborn, all yes, motion carried
7. We have advertised our 2025 meeting dates

Good and Welfare

1. We have an extension letter from the Epting development to March 19, 2025, a motion was made by Fronina and seconded by Moquin to accept the extension, all yes.

A motion was made by Fronina and seconded by Moquin to adjourn at 8:08 P.M., all yes, meeting adjourned at 8:08 P.M.

Attested _____