

BOROUGH OF LEESPORT

DECEMBER 20, 2023

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 Reimer, Maderia, Moyer, Strause, Moquin and Orr (on zoom). Walborn and Mayor Fronina were absent. Also present were MST Sandra L. Pascavage, Engineer Jason Newhard, Code Enforcement Officer Brad Pflum and Solicitor Chris Hartman, Esq.

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

FINANCIAL REPORT NOVEMBER 30, 2023

GENERAL

CHECKING	560.69
MM	215,223.31
CD	33,312.31

WATER

CHECKING	340.24
MM	68,510.88
CD I	49,092.73
CD II	43,378.52

STATE

CHECKING	214.19
MM	26,642.93

CODE ENFORCEMENT

DISTRICT JUSTICE	2134.00
	1130.96

SPECIAL FUNDS

Sesquicentennial Fund	14,408.24
Recreation-Rec Board	94,336.11
Payroll fund	904.86
Pension	328,909.52 (10/31/2023)

A motion was made by Madeira and seconded by Moquin to approve the November 2023, minutes, all yes.

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

BILLS PAID

20-Dec-23

STATE

12/22/2023	1612	Frontier	2000	Accounts Payable	8.63
12/22/2023	1613	Met Ed	2000	Accounts Payable	4,300.00

WATER

4308.63

12/22/2023	4303	Aetna Coventry	2000	Accounts Payable	2,773.23
12/22/2023	4304	Elite Opps	2000	Accounts Payable	2,000.00
12/22/2023	4305	Highmark Blue Shiel...	2000	Accounts Payable	5,436.46
12/22/2023	4306	Keystone Engineerin...	2000	Accounts Payable	337.50
12/22/2023	4307	Kris Wholaver	2000	Accounts Payable	450.00
12/22/2023	4308	Kuzans	2000	Accounts Payable	4,071.00
12/22/2023	4309	Longhorn Landscaping	2000	Accounts Payable	2,500.00
12/22/2023	4310	M.J. Reider Associat...	2000	Accounts Payable	869.75
12/22/2023	4311	MET-ED	2000	Accounts Payable	3,450.00
12/22/2023	4312	Pa Rural Water	2000	Accounts Payable	165.00
12/22/2023	4313	Rhoads Energy	2000	Accounts Payable	1,022.31
12/22/2023	4314	Spotts, Stevens and ...	2000	Accounts Payable	684.00
12/22/2023	4315	Summit Valley Outd...	2000	Accounts Payable	3,712.32
12/22/2023	4316	United Concordia-De...	2000	Accounts Payable	327.96
12/22/2023	4317	USAbLe Life Ins.	2000	Accounts Payable	117.00
12/22/2023	4318	Well Care	2000	Accounts Payable	428.40

28344.93

GENERAL

12/22/2023	8569	422 Car Wash Inc	200.20	Accounts Pay...	1,500.00
12/22/2023	8570	Berks Soil & Stone	200.20	Accounts Pay...	835.00
12/22/2023	8571	Centerport Flower Sh...	200.20	Accounts Pay...	120.00
12/22/2023	8572	Comcast	200.20	Accounts Pay...	261.65
12/22/2023	8573	Construction Masters...	200.20	Accounts Pay...	145,840.58
12/22/2023	8574	Cougles Recycling Inc.	200.20	Accounts Pay...	601.46
12/22/2023	8575	David Biehl	200.20	Accounts Pay...	150.00
12/22/2023	8576	Eagle Auto Radiator ...	200.20	Accounts Pay...	650.00
12/22/2023	8577	Fisher's Rental	200.20	Accounts Pay...	3,405.58
12/22/2023	8578	Hartman, Valeriano, ...	200.20	Accounts Pay...	2,070.00
12/22/2023	8579	JDR Contracting, LLC	200.20	Accounts Pay...	827.92
12/22/2023	8580	Keystone Graphix	200.20	Accounts Pay...	479.40
12/22/2023	8581	Kistler & O'Brien Inc.	200.20	Accounts Pay...	327.66
12/22/2023	8582	LTL Consultants, LT...	200.20	Accounts Pay...	2,937.41
12/22/2023	8583	M. Jane Lauser	200.20	Accounts Pay...	21.00
12/22/2023	8584	Main Stream Industries	200.20	Accounts Pay...	1,725.00
12/22/2023	8585	MET-ED	200.20	Accounts Pay...	340.00
12/22/2023	8586	Miller Municipal Su...	200.20	Accounts Pay...	78.30
12/22/2023	8587	Northern Berks EMS	200.20	Accounts Pay...	5,000.00
12/22/2023	8588	Northern Berks Regi...	200.20	Accounts Pay...	38,685.02
12/22/2023	8589	PSAB	200.20	Accounts Pay...	404.00
12/22/2023	8590	RTC	200.20	Accounts Pay...	1,790.62
12/22/2023	8591	Seal Master/Allentown	200.20	Accounts Pay...	718.44
12/22/2023	8592	SOS Business Machi...	200.20	Accounts Pay...	2,000.00
12/22/2023	8593	Southern States Bank...	200.20	Accounts Pay...	3,095.85
12/22/2023	8594	SV Community Libra...	200.20	Accounts Pay...	5,000.00
12/22/2023	8595	Threns	200.20	Accounts Pay...	1,603.81
12/22/2023	8596	Tompkins Financial	200.20	Accounts Pay...	32,000.00
12/22/2023	8597	Twenty First Century	200.20	Accounts Pay...	300.62
12/22/2023	8598	Union Fire Co. No. 1...	200.20	Accounts Pay...	5,000.00
12/22/2023	8599	Waste Industries Inc.	200.20	Accounts Pay...	16,740.00

274937.43

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

A motion was made by Reimer and seconded by Moquin 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**
- 8. a letter of resignation from David J. Reimer, Sr., from council as of January 2, 2024, to be sworn in as mayor**
- 9. a thank you letter from our engineer for this past year of his service**

Guests

1. Elaine Strause, representing the Leesport Lockhouse, informed council that they held a Red Ware class at the SV Middle School and participated in their Williamsburg activity

Committee Reports

Sewer - Madeira reported the following:

1. Monthly Report
2. Work is underway
3. Bern Twp has not contributed
4. Our project should be completed by January 16, 2024

Code Enforcement – Brad Pflum reported the following:

1. our monthly report is on file

Personnel – Reimer reported the following:

1. Monthly report
2. we would like to thank all of our folks, Clif, Branden, Kenny, Marga and Sandy for their help this past year
3. we would also like to thank our engineer Jason, Chris our solicitor and Brad our codes enforcement officer for all their help this past year
4. we would also like to thank our personnel committee for their work and council for support of our personnel committee for this past year's work

Police- Chief Keiser reported the following:

1. our monthly report is on file
2. we have 2 cars out of service...the Dodge Co will provide engines and parts for for cost and labor only..we will be selling them when repaired
3. we ordered 3 cars, they will be outfitted shortly
4. we swore in a new officer and promoted 2 officers
5. we adopted a new contract, both sides are happy with it..we will begin salary tiers in 2025..
6. it was smooth because of Franke and Strause's input and expertise
7. 2 of our officers, DeAngelo and Parks, qualified for life saving awards given by the FOP

Fire Company - Kenny Quell reported the following:

1. **Monthly Report**
2. **Our Fire Company billing reimbursement ordinance has been advertised....a motion was made by Moyer and seconded by Reimer to pass and sign it, all yes**
3. **Fire Company Knox box ordinance has been sent to L & I for their comments, we will put on our January 17, 2024, agenda to vote on, it will be advertised**
4. **we will be electing new officers shortly, we had 356 calls in 2023**

Recycling – Orr reported the following:

1. our totals are on file
2. we are discussing bringing our recycling yard back to our area and applying for a grant through the Berks County Solid Waste Authority for equipment and fencing
3. we will not renew our contract with Berks Soil and Stone for 2024..a motion was made by Moquin and seconded by Madeira to not renew our contract with Berks soil and Stone in 2024, all yes

Engineer- Jason Newhard reported the following:

1. **Monthly Report**
2. **Updates for SV Water line grant, we were awarded \$191,000 for our \$224,000 project, we will contact the school shortly**
3. **Letter was sent to SV School to contribute to cost of water line**
4. **We have an appraisal for the vacant lot on Main St at the railroad, our solicitor will contact the owner with our appraised offer of \$11,300**
5. **we are preparing the application for the grant monies for the generators**
6. **we have a new letter of extension for the Epting project of March 20, 2024**

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

- 1. we have prepared a draft well head protection ordinance**
- 2. we are preparing a Deed of Dedication for the corner of Water and Shackamaxon Streets from the Emery family**
- 3. we prepared a draft agreement for the Canal Street owner that owns the property aside of the Lockhouse property and the Lockhouse folks to review**
- 4. our solicitor asked our fire chief how the new reimbursement ordinance is working, our fire chief responded that it is working, we have billed \$14,000 to date and have received back \$300 so far**
- 5. our solicitor thanked council for their dedication and commented our council is one of the hardest working councils**

Building and Properties – Moyer reported the following:

- 1. look into purchasing lot from Frontier Communications on Leesport Avenue**
- 2. we will contact owner of lot on Main St to purchase**
- 3. our solicitor is preparing a Deed of Dedication to purchase the corner of Water and Shackamaxon Streets from the Emery family**

Memorials – Strause reported the following:

- 1. we have banner orders to place shortly**
- 2. we have been trying to reach our municipal sign contractor**

Recreation – Moyer reported the following:

- 1. Monthly Report**
- 2. we are sponsoring a brick campaign project to put a roof on our new stage for our stage project**
- 3. We are having “Light Up Leesport” decorating contest this season**
- 4. Our Rec board will join our February AdHoc meeting to discuss their new recreation projects**
- 5. Our Christmas Tree lighting event was very successful**

Water and Municipal Authority – Moquin reported the following:

- 1. Monthly Report**
- 2. Well Head Protection Ordinance is being worked on**
- 3. We are moving along with our LP tanks, generators, French drains, chlorine analyzers, alarm system and RAFA system install**
- 4. SV water line grant has been approved, we will ask SV School to contribute to the funding**
- 5. we are considering charging \$10 for delinquent notices and \$20 for the door hangers beginning in January 2024, we will be preparing a resolution**

Roads and Lights – Madeira reported the following:

- 1. Monthly Report**
- 2. we are working on our five year road plan**
- 3. we have an issue of water crossing Main Street after heavy rainfalls, our engineer will contact PennDOT**

Unfinished Business

1. our solicitor is preparing a Deed of Dedication for the corner of Water and Shackamaxon Streets

New Business

- 1. We have a sample contract from No Nonsense Neutering for neutering feral cats for \$40 each with a coupon from the borough that we receive from them, a motion was made by Madeira and seconded by Moquin to sign a contract with them and request 25 coupons and not sign a contract with the ARL, all yes**
- 2. We have 3 councilmen and our new mayor to swear in at our Reorganizational meeting on January 2, 2024**
- 2. a motion was made by Moyer and seconded by Moquin to accept David J. Reimer, Sr., resignation from council as of January 2, 2024, to be sworn in as mayor, we will have 30 days to appoint a councilman**
- 4. Our Munibid auction ended 12/12/23 at 5 P.M. ..our final bids were:**

Bucket truck	\$ 1,650
Truck	\$ 8,403
Backhoe	\$ 29,100

EMC – Reimer reported the following:

1. all is good....Main St has been flooding, the river stopped short of the flooding stages

Good and Welfare

- 1. Our Fire Co billing recovery ordinance has been advertised and passed**
- 2. Our solicitor has forwarded our draft Knox Box Ordinance for our fire company to Labor and Industry for their review**
- 3. New appointments for 2024 are as follows:**

The following appointments were made for 2024:

- a. Solicitor – Hartman, Valeriano & etal....1. Moquin 2. Madeira, all yes
- b. Engineer – SSM 1. Moyer 2. Reimer, all yes
- c. Code Enforcement Officer – LTL 1. Moquin 2. Moyer, all yes
- d. Earned Income Tax-/BEIT/LST Bureau 1. Reimer 2. Madeira, all yes
- e. Del PC Tax Coll- Berkheimer. 1. Moyer 2. Reimer, all yes
- f. Del Real Estate Tax Coll – Berks Co. 1. Madeira 2. Moquin, all yes
- g. VISTfc (Leesport) Bank- depositor 1. Reimer 2. Moyer, all yes
- h. Planning Comm – Cody Madeira 2028 1. Moquin 2. Reimer, all yes
- i. Recycling Board - Brad Binner 2027 1. Moyer 2. Moquin, all yes
- j. Recreation Board – Stephanie Luckey - 2029 1. Moyer 2. Reimer, all yes
- k. Zoning Hearing Board – Charles Moody 2027 1. Madeira 2. Reimer, all yes

- l. Zoning Hearing Board – Martin Goetz 2027 1.Moyer 2.Moquin, all yes
- m. Water Authority Charles Moody 2029 1.Moyer 2. Moquin, all yes
- n. Water Authority Matthew Walborn 2029 1.Madeira 2. Reimer, all yes

4. We are meeting with the Fire Company regarding our tax increase of 1 mill for fire company purposes

An executive session was called at 7:03 P.M. on real estate, they returned at 7:13 P.M.

Guests

- 1. Elaine Strause thanked council for the dinner at the Ontelaunee Grange

President Ron Strause thanked the engineer, solicitor and code enforcement officer for hosting our Christmas dinner

A motion was made by Moyer and seconded by Moquin to adjourn at 7:13 P.M., all yes, meeting adjourned at 7:13 P.M.

Attested _____