

BOROUGH OF LEESPORT

NOVEMBER 15, 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, Walborn, Strause, Moquin and Orr. Also present were Mayor Thomas Fronina, MST Sandra L. Pascavage, Engineer Jason Newhard, Code Enforcement Officer Brad Pflum and Solicitor Chris Hartman, Esq.

FINANCIAL REPORT OCTOBER 31, 2023

GENERAL

CHECKING	1,415.82
MM	244,642.88
CD	33,183.71

WATER

CHECKING	2,194.28
MM	90,533.50
CD I	48,879.72
CD II	43,213.06

STATE

CHECKING	239.38
MM	37,282.56

CODE ENFORCEMENT	1,229.50
DISTRICT JUSTICE	1,017.27

SPECIAL FUNDS

Sesquicentennial Fund	14,347.45
Recreation-Rec Board	110,590.93
Payroll fund	836.45
Pension	324,936.71 (9/30/2023)

A motion was made by Moyer 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 Moquin to approve the October 2023, minutes, all yes.

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

STATE

11/17/2023	1608	American Rock Salt	2000	Accounts Payable	3,551.20
11/17/2023	1609	Frontier	2000	Accounts Payable	50.00
11/17/2023	1610	Met Ed	2000	Accounts Payable	2,150.00
11/17/2023	1611	Twiford Electrical Se...	2000	Accounts Payable	4,974.05
					10725.25

WATER

11/17/2023	4292	Diversified Tech Corp	2000	Accounts Payable	629.65
11/17/2023	4293	Elite Opps	2000	Accounts Payable	2,000.00
11/17/2023	4294	Environmental Servi...	2000	Accounts Payable	6,402.00
11/17/2023	4295	christopher C. Hemmig	2000	Accounts Payable	457.77
11/17/2023	4296	Gen Serve	2000	Accounts Payable	29,069.50
11/17/2023	4297	M.J. Reider Associat...	2000	Accounts Payable	284.80
11/17/2023	4298	MET-ED	2000	Accounts Payable	2,260.00
11/17/2023	4299	Pa Rural Water	2000	Accounts Payable	270.00
11/17/2023	4300	Spotts, Stevens and ...	2000	Accounts Payable	5,813.20
11/17/2023	4301	Suburban Propane	2000	Accounts Payable	4,848.00
11/17/2023	4302	Twiford Electrical Se...	2000	Accounts Payable	320.00
					52354.92

GENERAL

11/17/2023	8540	Affordable Pest Cont...	200.20	Accounts Pay...	157.94
11/17/2023	8541	Berks Soil & Stone	200.20	Accounts Pay...	1,227.00
11/17/2023	8542	Christopher C. Hem...	200.20	Accounts Pay...	10,780.00
11/17/2023	8543	Cougles Recycling Inc.	200.20	Accounts Pay...	562.02
11/17/2023	8544	Crime Alert	200.20	Accounts Pay...	500.00
11/17/2023	8545	Fisher's Rental	200.20	Accounts Pay...	3,156.40
11/17/2023	8546	Frontier	200.20	Accounts Pay...	432.03
11/17/2023	8547	Hartman, Valeriano, ...	200.20	Accounts Pay...	1,377.00
11/17/2023	8548	Hassler Diesel	200.20	Accounts Pay...	2,920.72
11/17/2023	8549	Highmark Blue Shield	200.20	Accounts Pay...	5,435.06
11/17/2023	8550	Kuzans Hardware	200.20	Accounts Pay...	2,194.93
11/17/2023	8551	Lift Inc.	200.20	Accounts Pay...	476.27
11/17/2023	8552	Longhorn Landscape	200.20	Accounts Pay...	2,500.00
11/17/2023	8553	LTL Consultants, LT...	200.20	Accounts Pay...	4,453.82
11/17/2023	8554	MET-ED	200.20	Accounts Pay...	700.00
11/17/2023	8555	Miller's Lawnmower ...	200.20	Accounts Pay...	2,550.00
11/17/2023	8556	NASASP	200.20	Accounts Pay...	39.00
11/17/2023	8557	Northern Berks Regi...	200.20	Accounts Pay...	38,685.02
11/17/2023	8558	Pa Dept of Agriculture	200.20	Accounts Pay...	35.00
11/17/2023	8559	Rhoads Energy	200.20	Accounts Pay...	2,583.13
11/17/2023	8560	SOS Business Machi...	200.20	Accounts Pay...	34.20
11/17/2023	8561	Southern States Bank...	200.20	Accounts Pay...	4,921.92
11/17/2023	8562	Storks Auto Inc.	200.20	Accounts Pay...	6,180.80
11/17/2023	8563	Straub Roofing & Co...	200.20	Accounts Pay...	650.00
11/17/2023	8564	Threns	200.20	Accounts Pay...	886.54
11/17/2023	8565	Tompkins Financial	200.20	Accounts Pay...	32,000.00
11/17/2023	8566	United Concordia Inc.	200.20	Accounts Pay...	327.96
11/17/2023	8567	V & M Towing	200.20	Accounts Pay...	333.75
11/17/2023	8568	Waste Industries Inc.	200.20	Accounts Pay...	17,256.00
					143356.51

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

A motion was made by Moyer and seconded by Madeira 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. email regarding WAWA possibly submitting land development information in the future
9. email from DEP regarding permit application submission from the Epting developers

Guests

1. Elaine Strause, representing the Leesport Lockhouse, announcing that there is an Open House this weekend on Saturday from 10 am until 4 pm and on Sunday from 12 noon until 3 pm....free admission

Mayor – Mayor Thomas Fronina reported the following:

1. our Harvest Moon Festival was very well attended
2. our stage is finished and ready for use
3. Mayor Fronina congratulated the new mayor elect and gave condolences for the loss of our one councilman's father

Committee Reports

Sewer

1. Monthly Report
2. Work is underway
3. Bern Twp has not contributed
4. we will be sharing the cost of the new borough meter reading equipment

Code Enforcement – Brad Pflum reported the following:

1. our monthly report is on file

Personnel – Reimer reported the following:

1. we had two candidates apply for our outside/laborer part time position
2. a motion was made by Reimer and seconded by Madeira to hire Kenneth Quell as a part time employee to start now for \$22 hourly for 3 months probation for 30 hours weekly. After a 90 day probation, the hourly rate will be \$23, all voted yes
3. a motion was made by Reimer and seconded by Walborn to give our current 2 outside/laborers a 5% increase as of January 1, 2024

Police- Chief Keiser reported the following:

1. our monthly report is on file
2. we hired a new officer
3. we should have our new cars shortly
4. we had a very safe Trick or Treat
5. we adopted our 2024 budget
6. the borough contribution should remain the same
7. we have purchased several new computers
8. we attended the chief's Convention in San Diego

Fire Company- Kenny Quell reported the following:

1. Monthly report is on file
2. November 22, is the Memorial Connor Kleffel Thanksgiving meal
3. December 22, is our Santa Run at 2:30 P.M.
4. December 2, is the borough's tree lighting at 4:30 P.M.
5. December 10, is the school's tree lighting at 3:30 P.M. to 7 P.M.

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

Engineer- Jason Newhard reported the following:

1. Monthly Report
2. We have no updates for SV water grant/loan at this time
3. Letter sent to SV School to contribute to cost of water line
4. our solicitor will prepare a Deed of Dedication for the Emery piece of land at the intersection of Water Street and Shackamaxon Street
5. we should have an appraisal for the lot on Main Street at the railroad shortly
6. the Epting time extension letter will run out December 20, if we do not receive an updated letter, we will disapprove their plan

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

1. we have prepared a draft well head protection ordinance for council's review and submitted it to the Berks County Planning Commission for their review
2. a motion was made by Moquin and seconded by Reimer to have our solicitor advertise our draft fire company billing reimbursement ordinance, all voted yes
3. a motion was made by Reimer and seconded by Moquin to advertise a draft Knox lock box ordinance for our fire company, all yes, except Strause voted no, motion carries 6-1...we have submitted the draft ordinance to the Department of Labor and Industry for their input
4. we have entered into a contract for new meter reading equipment from Master Meter...our solicitor has approved our signing the contract after he read it

Building and Properties – Moyer reported the following:

1. we are trying to contact Frontier Communications regarding a lot on Leesport Avenue
2. we are having a lot on Main Street appraised for future purchase
3. our solicitor is preparing a Deed of Dedication for the Emery property at the intersection of Water Street and Shackamaxon Street
4. we have winterized all our buildings
5. we have heated our pole barn now so we are able to keep all our equipment in a warm enclosure

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 preparing a list of projects for the future
3. We have a price for 8 cameras and recorders for the Rec area and the SV Library of \$4500, \$1200 of this amount is for the library, we will have them installed and our men trained on their installation shortly
4. December 2 is our tree lighting
5. we are cleaning up the recreation area for the season end
6. We will be hosting Deck the Houses again this year
7. We are moving along with our brick project
8. Rocco “Rocky” Santilli passed away earlier this month...he has been a large benefactor to our town improvements
9. We have brought our AED to the borough hall for the winter
10. our leftover waters and sodas will be donated

Water and Municipal Authority – Walborn reported the following:

1. Monthly Report
2. Well Head Protection Ordinance being worked on
3. We are moving along with our LP tanks, generators, French drains, chlorine analyzers, alarm system and RAFA system
4. we are waiting for the SV water line grant/loan review

Roads and Lights – Madeira reported the following:

1. Monthly Report
2. we are working on our five year road plan

Unfinished Business

1. We have advertised our 2024 Tax Rate Ordinance #487.
A motion was made by Moyer and seconded by Moquin to pass and sign Ordinance #487, our Tax Rate Ordinance for 2024, all yes
- 2... We have advertised our 2024 Budget. A motion was made by Maderia and seconded by Moyer to pass our 2024 budget, all yes, except Orr voted no, motion carries 6 – 1.

New Business

1. We have a quote from Safety Net for our feral cat issues for 2024 for \$3500, we have voted previously to contract with ARL for \$2.50 per capita for 2024 but have not signed their contract as yet, we will table this discussion until December....our vice president will be attending a meeting with them

EMC

1. We have Resolution #261-2023 regarding a Hazard Mitigation Program adopted by the county. A motion was made by Reimer and seconded by Moyer to sign and pass Resolution #261 – 2023, all yes
- 2... We will be doing a review of Onsolve (code red) shortly
- 3...we have attended a summit on several topics regarding municipalities

Good and Welfare

We will be forming a committee for our newly adopted Fire Company use 1 mill tax with the following: Kenny Quell, Ron Kessler, Dennis Heck, Todd Wenrich and Sam Wright with council.

Our Christmas Party Dinner will be sponsored by our solicitor, engineer and code enforcement officer this year.

The Connor Kleffel Thanksgiving dinner will be November 22, at the Leesport Market Hall from 5:30 to 6:30 P.M.

A motion was made by Moyer and seconded by Moquin to adjourn at 7:26 P.M., all yes, meeting adjourned at 7:26 P.M.

Attested _____