

# DAUPHIN BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

DECEMBER 3, 2024

**\* BY UNANIMOUS VOTE OF BOROUGH COUNCIL, THESE MINUTES WERE AMENDED  
TO ADD RESOLUTION 2024-03 AND CORRECT THE SEWER RENTAL RATE**

Council meeting came to order at 7:00 p.m.

## COUNCIL

Council President	Brian Cuddy
Council Vice-President	Kevin Musselman
Council President Pro Tempore	George Bechtel
Councilman	David Grbich
Councilman	Christopher Smith
Councilwoman	Kathryn Burton
Councilman	Steve Harris
Jr. Council Member	Jocelyn Long
Mayor	Michael McKenna
Treasurer	Cindy Long
Administrator/Secretary	Linda Durgin

## Comments

- President Cuddy reminded Council that the Christmas Tree Lighting event at the Market Street Gazebo will be held on December 6<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m.
- President Cuddy thanked the Borough and Madden & Gilbert Physical Therapy for their donations to the Christmas Tree Lighting event, and thanked Road Master Toland and Facilities Manager Boyer for their work with the light posts and Christmas decorating.
- A mention was made that one of the Christmas trees is dying and will need replacing next year.

## Acceptance of Minutes

A motion made by President Pro Tempore Bechtel and seconded by Councilman Grbich to accept the minutes of the November 6, 2024 Borough Council Meeting was passed unanimously.

## **Dauphin Borough/Middle Paxton Township EMC Report**

- Emergency Management Coordinator, Robert (Rusty) Rusbatch informed Council that there have been multiple brush fires, and he wants the Temporary Burn Ban extended indefinitely. It is currently set to expire December 6<sup>th</sup>. He also recommended that there be exemptions to allow for outside grills and screen-covered fire pits.

## **Joint Fire Commission Report**

No Report

## **Parks and Recreation Report**

- Vice President Musselman shared that the Borough provided a letter of support for a \$530,000 DCNR Grant for the pool. He also stated that there will be no meetings until January 2025.

## **Engineer's Report**

- LDI received their PADOT Permit and is planning their construction schedule.
- Regarding 511 High Street, Engineer Heigel met with the owner to review his requirements for compliance. Afterward, he met with Act One & Associates to complete his driveway application and stormwater submission. The solicitor and Light-Heigel are discussing the next steps.
- McNaughton is in the planning stage with Middle Paxton Township.
- The Community Building site, architectural and MEP drawings are completed. The borough was not named in the first round of the RACP Grants.

## **Solicitor's Report**

- Solicitor Statler deferred comment to the Unfinished Business Agenda item.

### **Mayor's Report**

- Mayor McKenna told Council that Bingo is doing great.
- The Mayor said November has been a busy month but nothing urgent. There was an issue with a large trailer parked by the church on Church Street; however, the trailer has since been removed.

### **Sewer Delinquency / Rental Property Reports**

- No questions.

### **Treasurer's Report**

- A motion to accept the November 2024 Treasurer's Report was made by President Pro Tempore Bechtel, seconded by Councilwoman Burton, and passed unanimously.

### **Unfinished Business**

- EMC Insurance Company was called, and they said they will maintain the open status of the Old Schoolhouse claim.
- Engineer Heigel informed council that the deadline for compliance for the 511 High Street owner was last week. Six notices were given; three were not addressed, one was removed and three had their deadlines extended until December 6<sup>th</sup>. The owner asked for a 30-day extension.
- Solicitor Statler stated that the Borough should file citations against the 511 High Street owner as the deadline has expired.
- Council instructed Engineer Heigel and Solicitor Statler to move forward with action against the 511 High Street resident.
- Regarding the boat launch, President Cuddy stated he was pleasantly surprised that the local company that was hired didn't charge as much as was anticipated.
- Solicitor Statler informed Council that the Municipal Authority met on November 21<sup>st</sup> and submitted a Resolution establishing the sewer rental rate.
  - 1.) The minimum sewer rental rate for all residential users of the system, regardless of the location within the borough, shall be \$63.00 per month, or \$756.00 per year, effective January 1, 2025.
  - 2.) The minimum sewer rate for all commercial, industrial and school users of the system shall be \$200.00 per quarter for usage up to 4,333 gallons per month and fee rate over 4,333 gallons per month shall be \$25.00 per 1,000 gallons (or part thereof), effective January 1, 2025.
- Solicitor Statler also said that there is an available seat coming up on the Municipal Authority.

## **New Business**

- A motion to add a Burn Ban extension to the December 2024 Agenda was made by President Pro Tempore Bechtel, seconded by Councilman Smith and passed unanimously.
- A motion to extend the burn ban with the exception of screen covered fire pits and grills, and absolutely no yard debris and leaves was made by Councilwoman Burton, seconded by President Pro Tempore Bechtel and passed unanimously. The Mayor will post on Savvy Citizen.
- A motion to adopt the 2025 Budget was made by President Pro Tempore Bechtel, seconded by Councilman Harris and passed unanimously.
- A motion to accept Resolution 2024-02, fixing the tax rate, was made by Councilman Grbich, seconded by President Pro Tempore Bechtel and passed unanimously.
- A motion to accept Resolution 2024-03 setting fee changes was made by Councilman Smith, seconded by Councilwoman Burton and passed unanimously.
- Submitted by the Municipal Authority is Resolution 2024-1, establishing the sewer rental rate.

## **Correspondence**

None

## **Committee Reports**

### **Administration – Cuddy, Bechtel, Grbich**

- President Cuddy stated that the staff evaluations have not yet been completed.

### **Public Works – Musselman, Smith**

- Councilman Smith discussed issues with the lighting at the Market Street Park and with the two nutcrackers at the entrance to the Borough. He will text the Road Master.

### **Community Affairs – Burton, Harris**

- Councilman Burton stated Community Affairs is reviewing other municipalities' dog laws but most of them have their own law enforcement. She is suggesting raising fee rates for violations.

### **Junior Council Person – Jocelyn Long**

- Junior Council Person Long is collecting information for the Spring/Summer 2025 newsletter.

**ADJOURNMENT FROM COUNCIL**

The meeting adjourned at 8:02~~12~~ p.m.

**- EXECUTIVE SESSION**

None

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~~An Executive Session regarding Personnel began at 8:20 p.m. and ended at 8:45 p.m.~~

Attest:

Approved:

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Linda S. Durgin  
Administrator/Secretary

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Brian Cuddy  
President, Borough Council