

DAUPHIN BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

FEBRUARY 4, 2025

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	Linda Durgin

Comments

- Resident Catherine Smith requested Council's permission to place an outdoor library box for the community, which would be purchased by the Lions Club. It would be attached to a free-standing post under the pavilion. Discussion will be held under 'New Business.'

Acceptance of Minutes

A motion made by Councilman Grbich and seconded by President Pro Tempore Bechtel to accept the Minutes of the January 7, 2025 Borough Council Meeting was passed unanimously.

Dauphin Borough/Middle Paxton Township EMC Report

- Mayor McKenna informed Council that, in a letter dated January 22, 2025, Robert (Rusty) Rusbatch tendered his resignation effective February 3, 2025. Mayor McKenna will be the new Emergency Management Coordinator, and he will be searching for a new Deputy.

Joint Fire Commission Report

- Vice President Musselman informed Council that there were 22 calls in January, with a total of 197 calls in 2024.
- Bingo continues every Thursday and is going well.
- The Commission is looking into grant opportunities for various items for 2025.

Parks and Recreation Report

- Council was informed that Middle Paxton Township Manager, Julie Seeds, is a new board member.
- They are tracking improvements, hoping to be finished by February or March.
- It's recommended that a Council member be on the Park Authority Board so that the Borough has a voice.

Engineer's Report

- The court date for the owner of 511 High Street has been scheduled for February 27, 2025, at 11:15 a.m. at the District Judge's office. All citations will be included.
 - Bridge inspections are scheduled for June, 2025.
 - Due to the irregular laterals coming from High Street, Engineer Heigel would like to hire a "soft dig" company, FA Way, to identify where the sewer lines are. The total cost will not exceed \$1500.
- After the soft dig procedure, the Borough should be able to go to bid in 45 days.
- Delta Development is suggesting a meeting on February 10, 2025 between 9:00 and 11:00 a.m. to discuss grant options.

- 2025 is a Rental Property Inspections year and Engineer Heigel will coordinate with Rental Property Clerk Trudy Koppenhaver.
- FEMA is requesting Flood Plain Insurance Program compliance.
- President Cuddy informed Council that Mr. Keffer, of Middle Paxton Township, is requesting that the Borough act on a sewer module for McNaughton to authorize a planning module. In the spirit of cooperation, the Borough will wait for further information from the township.

Solicitor's Report

- Solicitor Statler stated that he will find out whether the Borough needs to officially accept or recognize Mr. Rusbatch's resignation and whether Mayor McKenna should be appointed or recognized.
- Solicitor Statler informed Council that the hearing date for the owner of 511 High Street will take place on February 27, 2025 at 11:15, which will include all citations.
- Members of Council were reminded to complete their Statements of Financial Interests soon.
- Council was informed that there are four seats up for election, President Cuddy, Vice President Musselman, President Pro Tempore Bechtel and Councilwoman Burton. The petition and signature period runs from February 18th through March 11th.

Mayor's Report

- Duty Officer Responses: 7, Fire Company Responses: 24, Fatalities: 3
- There were four resident calls in January, one harassment, one reporting on a motorcycle being driven on the ball field, and two individuals at the park pavilion after dark.
- PSP reported 36 crimes in the Borough, including 14 arrests and 2 drug charges.

Sewer Delinquency / Rental Property Reports

- President Cuddy shared that the Borough is aware that some residents did not receive their sewer & trash bills in January so it's been decided that there will be no late fees assessed for the month.

Treasurer's Report

- A motion to accept the January 2025 Treasurer's Report was made by President Pro Tempore Bechtel, seconded by Councilman Harris, and passed unanimously.

Unfinished Business

- Some Council members and Treasurer Long met with Senator Patty Kim on January 23rd in the Borough office. Treasurer Long will reach out to the Chief of Staff regarding the RACP Grant.

New Business

- A motion to amend the clerical errors in the December 3, 2024 Council Meeting Minutes was made by Councilman Smith, seconded by President Pro Tempore Bechtel and passed unanimously. The December 3, 2024 Council Meeting Minutes showed Municipal Authority Resolution 2024-1 and Borough Resolution 2024-02 were passed, however Borough Resolution 2024-03 was not passed. The clerical corrections include inserting Resolution 2024-03 and correcting the commercial sewer rate.
- A motion to proceed with a library box project requested by Catherine Smith was made by Councilman Smith, seconded by President Pro Tempore Bechtel and passed unanimously.
- A motion to proceed with the soft dig process for High Street was made by President Pro Tempore Bechtel, seconded by Councilman Grbich and passed unanimously.

Correspondence

- Council received a letter from the Elder Board of Freedom Bible Fellowship Church requesting that Council consider an upgrade for the road surface of Weaver Street, which runs behind the church. The Borough will look into it.

Committee Reports

Administration – Cuddy, Bechtel, Grbich

- The Committee met at the end of January and discussed fee schedule items.

Public Works – Musselman, Smith

- Council acknowledged the excellent work Troy Toland and Ryan Boyer did dealing with the snowstorm and removing the Christmas decorations.

Community Affairs – Burton, Harris

- Councilwoman Burton informed Council that she is still looking into dog laws from other municipalities.

Junior Council Person – Jocelyn Long

- Jocelyn Long told Council that she completed work on the 2025 Spring/Summer Newsletter.

ADJOURNMENT FROM COUNCIL

The meeting adjourned at 8:03~~42~~ p.m.

- EXECUTIVE SESSION

None

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

Attest:

Approved:

Linda S. Durgin
Administrator/Secretary

Brian Cuddy
President, Borough Council

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