

**MINUTES FOR THE REGULAR MEETING
EAST STROUDSBURG BOROUGH COUNCIL
TUESDAY, JUNE 6, 2023 – 7:15PM**

Ms. Wolbert read the SPECIAL NOTE: To meet the requirements established by the Office of Open Records for virtual meetings, this meeting shall be audio and video recorded via WebEx and East Stroudsburg Borough Virtual Meeting page on Facebook from the initial announcement of the meeting until its end with the exception of the executive session if any, which shall not be recorded.

PRESENT IN PERSON: Sonia Wolbert; Edmund Freeborn; Erika Huber; William Reese; Maury Molin; Mayor Victor Brozusky; Solicitor John Prevoznik; Russ Scott, Borough Engineer of RKR Hess, and Assistant to the Borough Manager, Danielle Decker.

ABSENT: Carrie Panepinto

Ms. Wolbert called the meeting to order at 7:18PM and lead in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Report on Executive Session:

The Solicitor reported that an Executive Session was held on June 6, 2023, starting at 6:45PM, prior to the start of the Council Meeting. Ms. Wolbert, Mr. Freeborn, Ms. Huber, Mr. Reese, Mr. Molin, Mr. Brozusky, and Mr. Prevoznik were present. Personnel Matters were discussed. The Executive Session ended at approximately 7:15PM and no decisions were made during the Executive Session.

May 17, 2023 Council Meeting Minutes:

A motion was made by Mr. Freeborn and seconded by Mr. Molin to approve the May 17, 2023 Council Meeting Minutes. The motion passed unanimously.

May 24, 2023 Special Meeting/Work Session Council Meeting Minutes:

A motion was made by Ms. Huber and seconded by Mr. Freeborn to approve the May 24, 2023 Special Meeting/Work Session Council Meeting Minutes. The motion passed unanimously.

June 1, 2023 Council Meeting Minutes:

A motion was made by Mr. Freeborn and seconded by Mr. Molin to table the June 1, 2023 Council Meeting Minutes. The motion passed unanimously.

East Stroudsburg Community Alliance (ECA) Information Item:

Ms. Wolbert announced that the Big Bang Celebration will be held on Saturday, July 1, 2023.

Engineer's Report:

Motion made by Mr. Molin and seconded by Mr. Reese, to approve the release of previously withheld Payment No. 13 in the net amount of \$55,146.77 (\$61,274.19 less 10% retainage) to Pioneer Construction Co. The motion carried 4-0, with one abstention. (Yea: Ms. Huber, Mr. Molin, Mr. Reese, Ms. Wolbert; Abstain: Mr. Freeborn, due to conflict of interest as his son is employed by the structural engineer to which the payment is being authorized).

Motion made by Mr. Reese seconded by Mr. Molin, to approve payment of RKR Hess invoices: #00000119221 in the amount of \$3,389.81, and #00000119246 in the amount of \$11,563.75, totaling \$14,953.56 for engineering associated with the Middle Dam Project. The motion carried 4-0, with one abstention. (Yea: Ms. Huber, Mr. Molin, Mr. Reese, Ms. Wolbert; Abstain: Mr. Freeborn, due to conflict of interest as his son is employed by the structural engineer to which the payment is being authorized).

Motion made by Mr. Molin and seconded by Mr. Reese, to approve Payment Request No. 18 in the amount of \$112,437.90 to Pioneer Construction Co., Inc. for work completed through February 28, 2023, as recommended by the Engineer. This payment request does not include any contractor request for payment for concrete with failing compressive strength tests. The motion carried 4-0, with one abstention. (Yea: Ms. Huber, Mr. Molin, Mr. Reese, Ms. Wolbert; Abstain: Mr. Freeborn, due to conflict of interest as his son is employed by the structural engineer to which the payment is being authorized).

Motion made by Mr. Freeborn and seconded by Mr. Molin to approve and authorize the Solicitor to record the additional watermain easement on the Met-Ed Substation property. Motion passed unanimously.

Motion made by Mr. Freeborn and seconded by Mr. Reese to accept the revised location of the sidewalks for the Green Valley Apartments Project, contingent upon the conditions recommended by the Borough Engineer being met. Motion passed unanimously.

Motion made by Mr. Freeborn and seconded by Mr. Molin for response to Brodhead Watershed Association (BWA) letter, dated May 17, 2023 received for 150 ft buffer to be forwarded to Solicitor and county to respond. Motion passed unanimously.

Motion made by Mr. Freeborn seconded by Mr. Reese to accept the Engineer's Report as submitted and attached to the minutes. Motion passed unanimously.

Public Comments – Agenda Items:

None.

REPORTS:

Public Works:

A motion was made by Ms. Huber and seconded by Mr. Freeborn to accept the Public Works Report as distributed via email and to be attached to the minutes. Motion carried unanimously.

Zoning Report:

A motion was made by Mr. Molin and seconded by Ms. Huber to accept the Zoning Report as distributed via email and to be attached to the minutes. Motion carried unanimously.

Finance Report:

A motion was made by Mr. Freeborn and seconded by Ms. Huber to accept the Finance Report as distributed via email and to be attached to the minutes. Motion carried unanimously.

Operations Committee:

Nothing to report.

Planning and Zoning Committee:

Ms. Wolbert announced there would be no meeting on Tuesday, June 13, 2023.

Community Relations Committee:

Mr. Freeborn commented that the Memorial Day Weekend Event was done very well at Veteran's Park.

Mr. Molin spoke about the Community Gardens at the Baptist Church.

Mr. Reese announced that Phase 2 of the Banners has begun.

Mayor Victor Brozusky:

Mayor Brozusky spoke about speeding near Notre Dame High School. The Mayor brought up some issues happening on Crystal Street and how he asked for more foot patrols. He brought up the positives and negatives of the Regional Planning Commission of Middle Smithfield, Smithfield, Price Twps., and East Stroudsburg Borough.

Mayor Brozusky read aloud the Proclamation for Rudy's 90th Anniversary and how Saturday, June 10, 2023 would be known as Rudy's Tavern Day.

A motion was made by Mr. Freeborn and seconded by Mr. Molin to accept the Proclamation for Rudy's Tavern. Motion passed unanimously.

A motion was made by Mr. Freeborn and seconded by Mr. Molin to have Council President sign the Delaware River Basin Ground Water Renewal Application on behalf of the Borough. Motion carried Unanimously.

Bill Reese:

Mr. Reese inquired about Terra Greens.

Maury Molin:

Mr. Molin spoke about yard sales and inquired about missing meters on Crystal Street.

Ed Freeborn:

Mr. Freeborn inquired about the sewage incident in front of Shirley Futch Plaza.

Erika Huber:

Nothing to report.

Sonia Wolbert:

Ms. Wolbert gave an update on the Borough Manager and the possibility of having an Interim Manager.

A motion was made by Mr. Freeborn and seconded by Ms. Huber to add to the agenda for the continuation of June 6, 2023 Council Meeting on Wednesday, June 7, 2023 at 7PM the discussion of Borough Manager and an Interim Manager. Motion passed unanimously.

Solicitor's Report:

Nothing to report.

Manager's Report:

A motion was made by Mr. Freeborn and seconded by Mr. Molin to table Resolution 10-2023 amending the 2023 Fee Schedule to include the UCC Joint Board of Appeals Fees. Motion passed unanimously.

A motion was made by Mr. Freeborn and seconded by Mr. Molin for Solicitor Prevoznik to work with Danielle Decker on Resolution 10-2023 that is amending the 2023 Fee Schedule to include the UCC Joint Board of Appeals Fees. Motion passed unanimously.

A motion was made by Mr. Freeborn and seconded by Mr. Reese to approve the expansion of the scope of work at Crystal St by TPD to include the Henry St. and North Courtland St. Intersection at the approximate cost of \$800.00 to be reimbursed by Mr. Troy Nauman to the East Stroudsburg Borough. Motion passed unanimously.

A motion was made by Ms. Huber and seconded by Mr. Molin to authorize a drawdown of the 2021 G.O. Note in the amount of \$157,766.00. The motion carried 4-0, with one abstention. (Yea: Ms.

Huber, Mr. Molin, Mr. Reese, Ms. Wolbert; Abstain: Mr. Freeborn, due to conflict of interest as his son is employed by the structural engineer to which the payment is being authorized).

A motion was made by Mr. Freeborn and seconded by Mr. Reese to increase Lee Philips salary to \$40.38 per hour, while he is acting as the Interim Public Works Director. Motion passed unanimously.

A motion was made by Mr. Molin and seconded by Mr. Reese to ratify Elwood Philip Stettler to Maintenance Worker C at a rate of \$18.45, effective May 22, 2023. Motion passed unanimously.

Public Comments – New Business & Non-Agenda Items:

Jane Gagliardo, of West Broad St., inquired if anyone looked at the drainage on Perry Street. Ms. Gagliardo commented on how expensive the extra garbage bags are for people to purchase.

Margaret Muth, of Prospect St. commented on the parking signs stating not to park in front of Trackside.

Ratification of Bills Payable through June 6, 2023:

A motion was made by Mr. Freeborn and seconded by Mr. Molin to table the Warrant list #230606 to the continuation meeting on June 7, 2023 as presented. Motion passed unanimously.

Adjournment:

A motion was made by Mr. Freeborn and seconded by Mr. Reese to continue this meeting to Wednesday, June 7, 2023, at 7PM and post the Agenda immediately. Motion passed unanimously.

NEXT REGULAR MEETING: Wednesday, June 7, 2023; 7PM to be held in person and virtually on the East Stroudsburg Virtual Meeting Facebook Page and via WebEx and/or at the East Stroudsburg Borough Municipal Building.

NEXT WORK SESSION/SPECIAL MEETING: Monday, June 26, 2023; 7PM to be held in person and virtually on the East Stroudsburg Virtual Meeting Facebook Page and via WebEx and/or at the East Stroudsburg Borough Municipal Building.

NEXT ZONING AND PLANNING COMMITTEE MEETING: Tuesday, June 27, 2023; 5PM to be held in person and virtually on the East Stroudsburg Virtual Meeting Facebook Page and via WebEx and/or at the East Stroudsburg Borough Municipal Building.

NEXT COMMUNITY RELATIONS COMMITTEE MEETING: Monday, June 19, 2023; 4:30PM to be held in person and virtually on the East Stroudsburg Virtual Meeting Facebook Page and via WebEx and/or at the East Stroudsburg Borough Municipal Building.

NEXT OPERATIONS COMMITTEE MEETING: Wednesday, June 14, 2023; 5PM and weekly each Wednesday thereafter to be held in person and virtually on the East Stroudsburg Virtual Meeting Facebook Page and via WebEx and/or at the East Stroudsburg Borough Municipal Building.