

**MINUTES FOR THE WORK SESSION/SPECIAL MEETING
EAST STROUDSBURG BOROUGH COUNCIL
MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 23, 2024 – 7 PM**

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 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; Jane Gagliardo; Paul Shemansky; Erika Huber; Mayor Victor Brozusky; Kelly Lewis, Borough Manager; Lee Philips, Director of Public Works; Layla Richard, Director of Finance, and Assistant to Borough Manager, Danielle Decker.

ABSENT: Edmund Freeborn; Carrie Panepinto; Solicitor John Prevoznik;

Ms. Wolbert called the meeting to order at 7:01 PM and lead in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Cash: Mr. Lewis explained the funds and how in the near future we would be cleaning up the funds by closing the ones that are no longer being used.

Accounts Receivable: Mr. Lewis went over the process for the accounts receivable.

2025 Budget and 2025 Capital Budget: Mr. Lewis stated there would be a more refined budget presented at the Budget meeting scheduled for October 8, 2024. It is being updated as we receive information. Mr. Lewis explained the 2024 deficit would need to be discussed, what exactly should be financed, debt for capital, and taxes and fees covering the operational expenses.

Two Certified Water Openings: Mr. Lewis announced that he is working with Danielle on getting applicants who applied that have licenses in for interviews sometime later this week.

Big Project Updates: Mr. Lewis listed Henry Street, Wing Stop, and Strawberry Fields, as some of the main projects that the professional's committee is currently working on and asked for any other projects to be brought to his attention if he has not been made aware of them yet.

ESU: Mr. Lewis announced he would be meeting with the President of East Stroudsburg University (ESU) next week.

ESASD: Mr. Lewis stated he is working with the new superintendent of the East Stroudsburg Area School District (ESASD).

Pocono Medical: Ms. Wolbert explained ambulance services need to be discussed, and Mr. Lewis expressed his desire to meet with them in the near future.

Comprehensive Plan: Ms. Wolbert announced the 2025 Comprehensive Plan that was set, prior to the pandemic happening. The Zoning and Planning Committee (ZAP) was working on an ordinance that went to Professionals Committee to re-zone the Prospect/Ridgeway area.

Water, Wastewater, Recycling: Mr. Lewis announced how he visited all three departments of the borough. Mr. Lewis stated how the trailer in recycling needs to be updated and it was brought up during the Recycling Committee Meeting that happened earlier today. Mr. Lewis announced the wastewater plant needs updating. There was a discussion about when the dam took the water plant off-line what things were done and Mr. Lewis wants to revisit the plant again to look at the wells. Mr. Lewis explained he wants to develop a pros and cons list for developing a municipality for utilities.

Paul Shemansky: Mr. Shemansky inquired when the railroad authority was going to fill in the other sections and Mr. Philips explained he was still in touch with them and that they plan on doing them this year. Mr. Lewis added the speed limit of the trains coming through needs to be looked at for it seems they are going faster. Mr. Shemansky asked if the right-to-know letter was sent out to Harrisburg letting them know how it was being utilized now and how much it was costing the Borough.

Jane Gagliardo: Ms. Gagliardo inquired if there was money being put in the budget the 250th Anniversary of the United States celebration that is coming up. Ms. Gagliardo explained how there was going to be a kickoff event, and we would most likely be collaborating with surrounding boroughs and townships.

Erika Huber: Nothing to report.

Mayor Brozusky: Nothing to report.

Sonia Wolbert: Nothing to report.

Public Comments: There were no public comments.

Adjournment:

Work Session ended at approximately at 7:37 PM.