

December 10, 2024

Derry Borough Council met in regular session Tuesday, December 10, 2024 at 7:00pm at AV Germano Hall, 100 W. Second Street, Derry, PA with the following members present: Barbara Phillips, Sara Cowan, Nathan Bundy, Rob White, Rich Eikenburg, Jasen Lentz, and Jim Ritenour. Jason Kelly, Solicitor was present. Grant Nicely, Mayor was present. Joe Wells was reporting for the Latrobe Bulletin.

MOTION by Nathan Bundy to approve the minutes for the regular council meeting of November 19, 2024. Motion **SECONDED** by Rob White. All members present voiced “aye” in favor of the motion. Motion passed.

MOTION by Jasen Lentz to approve the treasurer’s report for November 30, 2024.

\$512,669.37 -General Fund Balance Sheet

\$396,181.83 -Liquid Fuels Balance Sheet

\$23,599.65 – Street Lighting Fund

Motion **SECONDED** by Sara Cowan. All members present voiced “aye” in favor of the motion. Motion passed,

RECOGNITION OF VISITORS

1. Joan Reynolds – Gem Theater
2. Doug Foster – Derry – Working on a program with the school district regarding fire safety and can perform fire inspections in the borough as well.
3. Noah Wilson – S. Chestnut St. - Observing

SOLICITOR REPORT

No report for the public

Review of Speed Limit Changes -Penn Dot – Tabled Contacted Tim Cook at Penn Dot waiting for a reply, he will be reaching out with Gibson-Thomas for direct contact information.

MAYOR’S REPORT

The Mayor report for November 2024 was presented with total receipts of \$166.51, which included traffic receipts of \$58.45 non-traffic receipts of \$66.21 and \$26.85 clerk of court, \$15 reports, and \$0 parking receipts. There were 95 complaint calls, 4 traffic citations, 11 non-traffic citations, and one parking ticket.

Summary calls year to date for the Derry Area School District were 153 total calls. The calls included 911 hang-ups, alarms, animal complaint, disorderly conduct, contraband/weapons on school property, mental health, criminal mischief, sex offenses, traffic accidents, and general service calls. There were also Childline/CYS investigations, criminal investigations, court time, forensic interviews, evidence processing, search warrants, and administrative time. Additionally, those reports do not include time spent by police at athletic and academic events such as football games, dances, and graduation.

December 10, 2024

There are several qualified applicants for the full-time position and interviews are to be scheduled.

ZONING /CODE/UCC OFFICER'S REPORT

BIU report for November 2024: 2 -Zoning Permits, 0-UCC Permits,2 -Code Enforcement Violations and 6-Occupancy Certificates were reported.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Public Works – Inventory Review, Street Sweeping Christmas Banners, Leaf Pick up, vehicle maintenance Street Sign replacement Mentor/Crusher, Pool Sidewalk prep, Cold Patching, Salting

Buildings and Grounds – None

Police – Police grants that are available to assist the department for future goals: District of Justice Grant (Federal), MAP – Regionalization, COPS Grant – (Federal), PCCD MPOEC. Chief's equipment was turned into the station and received by Sgt. Doug Sam

Parks and Recreation – None

Pool Committee – None

Grants- None

Public Safety Committee- None

Media/Technology - None

Neighborhood Watch - None

DASD/School-Jasen, Barb, and Nathan attended the school board meeting to discuss the DASD Police MOU/Agreement for police services. They suggested that a School Resource officer would be the best recommendation and resolution for having a police officer on duty for the school district. This would assist with covering the actual expenses of having an officer present during the school session. Currently the amount provided by DASD does not cover all the expenses for Derry Borough. Sgt. Doug Sam recommended that DASD hire a School Resource Officer and the Derry Borough Police can provide an officer for that position.

Business Development/Community Relations – None

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- ❖ Derry Borough Council is seeking individuals interested in chairing events in the Borough with Council help including Food Truck days, Concerts at Mossback Park, Concert at Community Park, Carnival at Community Park, Market Days/Farmer's Markets.

PLANNING COMMISSION

REPRESENTATIVES

- DARCEE meeting 4th Weds 7pm Quarterly 4th Weds January (Derry Borough), April (New Alexandria Borough), July (Derry Borough Building), and October (Derry Township Building).
- Derry Area Historical Society – Board Meeting are held at the Fulton House on the 3rd Monday monthly at 6:30pm. Their website is derryhistory.org Please check out their facebook page for updated information searching Derry Area History.

December 10, 2024

- Derry Railroad Days Committee meets the 3rd Tuesday monthly at 6:30pm at AV Germano Hall (Alternative meeting place is the Fulton House in New Derry) Always looking for new members from Derry Borough!
- The Derry VFW and American Legion would like to invite everyone to take part in a solemn flag raising and lowering ceremony monthly on the 10th and 11th at the Veterans Memorial Bridge at 6pm. If you would like a family member's flag installed for a certain month, feel free to contact us. It is a great honor to provide this service and to show the community we are very much active. We would very much like to see our ranks grow, for the VFW and the American Legion. If interested in either the flag raising or joining the VFW or Legion contact Russ McKlveen.

COMMUNICATIONS

- Letter Lee Demosky requesting reappointment for 2025
- Letter Wayne Churley requesting appointment to Civil Service Commission
- Email from Betty Handy requesting reappointment for the Zoning Hearing Board term expiring 12/31/2029
- Email from Steve Kozar for appointment on the Civil Service Commission
- Email from Josh Campbell for appointment on the Civil Service Commission
- Letter – Thank you from Mutual Aid Training Center for the \$300 donation for the training center.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

1. Board and Commission terms available in the Borough:
 - a) Vacancy Board Chairman 2024
 - b) One planning commission vacancy term ending 12-31-2026
 - c) One vacancy on the Borough of Derry Municipal Authority Board term expiring 12-31-2029.
 - d) One vacancy on the Borough of Derry Zoning Hearing Board term expiring 12-31-2029
 - e) One Alternate seat vacancy for Zoning Hearing Board
2. Derry Business Park – Brian Lawrence will be attending a meeting in January to review any current updates for the business park future.
3. 5-Year Plan List – Downtown Derry Borough

Connect Chestnut Street across the tracks to connect 2nd & 3rd Ward
Railroad/Train Viewing Stand

December 10, 2024

Public Restrooms for downtown to support street events
Better/more visible signage for our amenities
Electronic message board

4. Mossback Park Gazebo Maintenance

5. Appoint a Deputy Tax Collector

6. Community Pool Pavilion Project – Concrete pad has been poured initiating project.

MOTION by Nathan Bundy to vote to amend the agenda to include the pay estimate #1 approval to KGD Contracting, Inc. Motion **SECONDED** by Rich Eikenburg. All members present voiced “aye” in favor of the motion. Motion passed.

MOTION by Nathan Bundy to approve Pay Estimate #1 in the amount of \$28,808.75 to KGD Contracting for the Pool Pavilion project. Motion **SECONDED** by Rich Eikenburg. All members present voiced “aye” in favor of the motion. Motion passed.

7. Regional Police Coverage – Discuss with solicitor regarding preparing a mutual agreement with Derry Township. A feasibility study needs conducted and a Memo of Understanding created.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Administrative Assistant – New applicant received and interview will be scheduled in the next two weeks.
2. Big Foot Commemorative Project – Nathan Bundy will be applying for funding through a transportation grant which became available.
3. Approve advertising Ordinance 818 for Speed Limits and Scale for Fines – Review from Penn Dot/ Lee Demosky - Tabled
4. **MOTION** by Nathan Bundy to approve the General Fund Budget. Motion **SECONDED** by Jim Ritenour. All members present voiced “aye” in favor of the motion. Motion passed.
5. **MOTION** by Nathan Bundy to approve Tax Ordinance 815 establishing tax rate for 2025 with no increase. Motion **SECONDED** by Sara Cowan. All members present voiced “aye” in favor of the motion. Motion passed.
6. **MOTION** by Nathan Bundy to approve Ordinance 816 for authorizing Real Estate Tax Exemption for the Construction of New Dwelling Units. Motion **SECONDED** by Rich Eikenburg. All members present voiced “aye” in favor of the motion. Motion passed.
7. **MOTION** by Sara Cowan to approve Ordinance 817 authorizing Tax Exemptions from Property Tax for certain Deteriorated Industrial, Commercial, and other Business Property, and providing a

December 10, 2024

procedure for implementation of such exemption. Motion SECONDED by Jasen Lentz. All members present voiced “aye” in favor of the motion. Motion passed.

8. Appoint Civil Service Commission/Committee – Interviews will be held in January.
9. **MOTION** by Jim Ritneour to approve Local Share Assessment for Westmoreland County Transit Authority for Fiscal Year 2024-2025 annual amount \$924.00 (no change). Motion SECONDED by Rob White. All members present voiced “aye” in favor of the motion. Motion passed.
10. **MOTION** by Sara Cowan to approve Council meeting schedule for 2025. Motion SECONDED by Jasen Lentz. All members present voiced “aye” in favor of the motion. Motion passed.
11. DASD Police Services Contract - Tabled
12. **MOTION** by Nathan Bundy to accept resignation of Police Employee #4201 as of 11/19/2024. Motion SECONDED by Jim Ritenour. All members present voiced “aye” in favor of the motion. Motion passed.
13. **MOTION** by Jim Ritenour to advertise for Chief of Police Position. Motion SECONDED by Rich Eikenburg. All members present voiced “aye” in favor of the motion. Motion passed.
14. Jr. Councilmember
15. Youth Commission
16. Social Media Policy – Jasen Lentz is working on a resolution policy for the borough.
17. Zoning Ordinance and Zoning Hearing Board Review Nathan Bundy mentioned occupancy and variances can be problematic and the ordinance should be reviewed to see if there are better options for the ordinance as a whole to better the future zoning of Derry Borough.
18. Motorola Plate Scanner – **MOTION** by Nathan Bundy to purchase the Motorola plate scanner on a five-year plan total cost \$19,885.50. Motion SECONDED by Rich Eikenburg. Six members present voiced “aye” in favor of the motion. Jasen Lentz voiced “nay”. Motion passed. Nathan Bundy plans on applying for a grant to fund the purchase.

Nathan Bundy has proposed planning a possible carnival in June of 2025 with a company that has offered to provide a carnival with ticket sales; however, the borough would have to pay for a minimum amount if there were not enough ticket sales to cover their cost of \$19,500. The timeline is very short to decide, unfortunately, but the Solicitor recommended that the plan should be thoroughly reviewed prior to approving such an agreement. Some felt we are not in a financial position to commit at this time and the funds should be budgeted for in advance. Council

December 10, 2024

discussed the topic with individual ideas for a possible future event with more planning and details provided for 2026.

PAYMENT OF BILLS

MOTION by Sara Cowan to pay bills totaling \$ 32,720.82 and all outstanding legitimate bills through the end of the month. Motion **SECONDED** by Rich Eikenburg. All members present voiced “aye” in favor of the motion. Motion passed

Derry Borough went into executive session for legal personnel discussion regarding police pension plan at 8:03pm. Executive session ended at 8:07pm.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION by Sara Cowan to adjourn meeting at 8:08pm. Motion **SECONDED** by Rich Eikenburg. All members present voiced “aye” in favor of the motion. Motion passed.

Respectfully submitted,

Lori L. Latta
Secretary