

March 11, 2025

Derry Borough Council met in regular session Tuesday, March 11, 2025 at 7:00pm at AV Germano Hall, 100 W. Second Street, Derry, PA with the following members present: Barbara Phillips, Rob White, Nathan Bundy, Jasen Lentz, Rich Eikenburg, and Jim Ritenour. Sara Cowan was absent. Lee Demosky, Solicitor was present. Grant Nicely, Mayor was present.

**MOTION** by Jasen Lentz to approve the minutes for the regular council meeting of February 11, 2025. Motion **SECONDED** by Rich Eikenburg. All members present voiced “aye” in favor of the motion. Motion passed.

**MOTION** by Rob White to approve the treasurer’s report for February 28, 2025.

\$434,738.89 -General Fund Balance Sheet

\$246,218.77 -Liquid Fuels Balance Sheet

\$17,140.54 – Street Lighting Fund

Motion **SECONDED** by Nathan Bundy. All members present voiced “aye” in favor of the motion. Motion passed.

**RECOGNITION OF VISITORS**

1. Mia Turney of W. Third St. – Voiced opinion in favor of having chickens in the borough (Council Worksession 3-4-2025)
2. Jade Mignen of Braden Ave – Voiced opinion in favor of having chickens in the borough (Council Worksession 3-4-2025)
3. Angela Havranek of Utopia St – Voiced opinion in favor of having chickens in the borough (Council Worksession 3-4-2025)
4. Chad Fabian – prior councilmember – spoke about past history of public hearings and community review of having chickens the last time there was public interest. Safety, illness, and cleanliness were major concerns, and the majority of the residents attending did not want chickens in the borough (Council Worksession 3-4-2025)
5. David Anadale – Concerns about parking for residents in the business district on 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue.
6. Doug Foster – Report of the yellow line surrounding fire hydrant at 3<sup>rd</sup> Ave. and Utopia Street going beyond a typical 15 feet requirement.
7. Joan Reynolds – Gem Theater – 1<sup>st</sup> Anniversary of Friends of the Gem Theater upcoming.

**SOLICITOR’S REPORT**

Lee Demosky reported he will need an executive to discuss a personnel issue, pending litigation regarding Martinez vs. Derry Borough Police Department, and possible a real estate transaction.

**MAYOR’S REPORT**

The Mayor reported for February 2025 total receipts of \$92.37, which included traffic receipts of

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\$ 18.09, non-traffic receipts of \$46.76, and \$27.52 in clerk of court fees and \$ zero miscellaneous receipts. There were 32 complaint calls, 4 traffic citations, 0 non-traffic citations, and 0 parking tickets.

Mayor Nicely also reported that the new tasers have arrived and the police will have training on them on May 8<sup>th</sup>, 2025. The license plate readers have been installed and the police are awaiting database access. 935 calls for service were reported for 2024, not including officer-initiated calls, investigations, and/or follow-ups.

#### ZONING /UCC/ CODE OFFICER’S REPORT

BIU report for February 2025 - There was one Zoning Permit, two UCC permits, six Occupancy permits, and two Code Enforcement Violations issued in the month of February 2025 by BIU.

#### COMMITTEE REPORTS

Public Works/Buildings Grounds/Zoning/Code/Flood – Public works will need to either get their current cement mixer fixed or replaced. Nathan Bundy reported the cost to fix the current cement mixer is more expensive than getting a new one.

Finance/ Budget/ Grants- Nathan Bundy reported that the Gary Sinese Grant was applied for to assist with the cost of the license plate readers. The Keep America Beautiful Grant is to be applied for upon approval to cover costs for a cleanup day. Transportation grant is in process.

Business Development/ Community Relations/School Services/ Rebranding Derry- Name for Big Foot contest is underway on Facebook. Please vote to name our Big Foot Statue. Derry had a presence at Latrobe’s St. Patrick’s Day parade on March 8, 2025 with council and Big Foot and a picture of them was included on KDKA. Potential decals for Derry Borough vehicles were discussed. Along with Big Foot steps in crosswalks in town.

Community Pool – Ice maker and milkshake maker arrived, spent remaining amount of \$662.00 grant.

Refuse/Recycling – RFP Advertisement is on March agenda for a new contract TCC

Representative – nothing new.

Personnel Onboarding –Interviews to be scheduled for Chief Position and held on the 18th.

COG Representative – Meeting this Thursday.

Public Safety /Fire/Police- Taser training May 8<sup>th</sup> and plate readers are installed. May 10<sup>th</sup> DVFD and Friends of Derry will be working with the American Red Cross to install smoke alarms on properties throughout the borough.

#### ANNOUNCEMENTS

Council will be holding an upcoming executive session on Thursday, April 3, 2025 at 4:00pm at the Derry Borough Municipal Building on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor for personnel and confidential matters.

#### PLANNING COMMISSION

Next meeting 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday of April at 7pm AV Germano Hall

## REPRESENTATIVES

- DARCEE meeting 4<sup>th</sup> Weds 7pm Semi-Monthly alternating between Derry Borough, Derry Township, and New Alexandria.
- Derry Area Historical Society – Board Meeting are held at the Fulton House on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday monthly at 6:30pm. Their website is derryhistory.org. Please check out their Facebook page for updated information searching Derry Area History.
- Derry Railroad Days Committee meets the 3<sup>rd</sup> 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 to be flown 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. Derry VFW 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.
- Friends of Derry meeting– March 25, 2025 Tuesday 6:30pm upstairs 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor

## COMMUNICATIONS

- Westmoreland County Boroughs Association March 27, 2025 5:30pm at Hoss's Steak Hoss KPN Cooperative Purchasing Program RSVP by March 24th
- Letter Wayne Churley requesting appointment to Civil Service Commission
- Email from Steve Kozar for appointment on the Civil Service Commission
- Email from Josh Campbell for appointment on the Civil Service Commission
- St. Patrick's Day Parade Latrobe – March 8, 2025 Big Foot will be in attendance and line up will be at 9:30am by the stadium with parade beginning at 11am.
- The Greatest American Cleanup – Keep America Beautiful for the 250<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. Westmoreland Cleanways would like to partner with Derry Borough to work towards the national goals for this celebration.
- DARCEE is hosting Bowling for DARCEE on March 15, 2025 from 1-3pm at Lincoln Lanes Team of 4-\$120 need to RSVP by March 3, 2025 Flyers/Registration Form available on DARCEE Facebook Page. Sponsor ads available for the event as well.
- DASD – Letter received requesting support for their Grand March/Prom program with a quarter page ad for \$20, half-page ad for \$35, and Whole Page ad for \$50 for published ad in Program. The ads can be based off business cards.
- Laurel Valley Chamber has three upcoming events that showcase commitment to education, community tradition and civic engagement. Westmoreland County Civics Bee April 8<sup>th</sup>, 2025 6pm at Fred Rogers Center, Banana Split Princess Pageant, on May 4<sup>th</sup> at 4pm at Robindale Auditorium, and the 2025 Excellence in Education Banquet May 19<sup>th</sup> at Chophouse in the Airport at 5:30pm. Sponsorships and attendance registrations are available. Information is available at the borough office.
- Westmoreland County Borough's Banquet will be held on Friday April 25, 2025 at 6:00PM at Ferrante's Lakeview in Greensburg SR 30. RSVP by 4-17-2025.

- DVFD, Friends of Derry, and the American Red Cross will be installing smoke detectors free of charge. More detail to follow as to how residents can sign up for the installation (tentative date May 10, 2025) will be posted on social media and in communications at the meetings upcoming.

#### UNFINISHED BUSINESS

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1. Board and Commission terms available in the Borough:
  - a) One alternate board member for the zoning hearing board expiring December 31, 2029.
  - b) One (1) four-year term for the planning commission expiring December 31, 2026.
  - c) One (1) five-year term for the Derry Borough Municipal Authority expiring December 31, 2029
  - d) Vacancy Board Chairman 2025
  - e) Civil Service Commission
2. **MOTION** by Nathan Bundy to approve a partnership with Westmoreland County Redevelopment Authority regarding Derry Business Park with their upcoming potential plans understanding they would receive a partial reimbursement from taxes received in future years with an agreement determined via a Letter of Support. Motion **SECONDED** by Jim Ritenour. All members present voices “aye” in favor of the motion. Motion Passed.
3. Mossback Park Gazebo Maintenance – Grant Application
4. Appoint a Deputy Tax Collector
5. Regional Police Coverage – Plan of Action Feasibility study/MOU. Potential date of 4/1/2025 for meeting. Committee created – Sara Cowan, Rich Eikenburg, and Jasen Lentz.
6. **MOTION** by Jasen Lentz for Big Foot Commemorative Project- Friends of Derry and approve to apply for the Greenways Trails and Recreation Programs Grant to assist with funding for the project. Motion **SECONDED** by Jim Ritenour. All members present voiced “aye” in favor of the motion. Motion passed.
7. Ordinance 818 for Speed Limits and Scale for Fines – Feasibility Study to be conducted.
8. Chief of Police Position – Interviews are to be conducted on March 18<sup>th</sup> for qualified candidates.

#### NEW BUSINESS

1. Engineering Proposals – Five proposals were received. A committee was formed to include Barbara Phillips, Jasen Lentz, and Nathan Bundy to review the proposals for April’s regular council meeting.

2. Cell Phones for Public Works, Mayor, and Police Chief – Rich Eikenburg will have someone to present a possible new plan in April.
3. Youth Commission and Jr. Councilmember – Tabled.
4. **MOTION** by Nathan Bundy to nominate Jasen Lentz as Pro-Tem. President Barbara Phillips requested any other nominations. None were forwarded. Motion **SECONDED** for Jasen Lentz by Rich Eichenburg was made. All members present voiced “aye” in favor of the motion. Motion passed.
5. **MOTION** by Nathan Bundy to approve advertising the RFP for a new refuse and recycling contract. Motion **SECONDED** by Rob White. All members present voiced “aye” in favor of the motion. Motion passed.
6. Keeping Chickens in Derry Borough – Discussion was conducted at worksession held on March 4, 2025, with four members of the public Mia Turney of W. Third St., Jade Mignen of Braden Ave, and Angela Havranek of Utopia St requesting to have chickens. Chad Fabian prior councilmember attended to explain past history of public hearings and community review of having chickens. Safety, illness, and cleanliness were major concerns, and the majority of the residents attending did not want chickens in the borough. – Proposed ordinance to be sent to review by Lee Demosky.
7. Clean-up Day – May or June 2025.

**MOTION** by Jasen Lentz to amend agenda to approve applying for the Keep Pennsylvania Beautiful Mini Grant for a community clean up. Motion **SECONDED** by Rich Eichenburg. All members present voiced “aye” in favor of the motion. Motion passed.

**MOTION** by Rich Eichenburg to approve applying for the Keep Pennsylvania Beautiful Mini Grant for a community clean up. Motion **SECONDED** by Nathan Bundy. All members present voiced “aye” in favor of the motion. Motion passed.

8. **MOTION** by Jim Ritenour to approve advertising for a Seasonal Lawn Employee for the 2025 season. Motion **SECONDED** by Rob White. All members present voiced “aye” in favor of the motion. Motion passed.
9. **MOTION** by Jim Ritenour to approve Easter Egg Hunt for April 19, 2025 at 1pm hosted by the Railroad Days Committee. Motion **SECONDED** by Rich Eichenburg. All members present voiced “aye” in favor of the motion. Motion passed.
10. **MOTION** by Nathan Bundy to approve additional day for Food Truck Fridays to include August 15, 2025. Motion **SECONDED** by Rob White. All members present voiced “aye” in favor of the motion. Motion passed.

PAYMENT OF BILLS

**MOTION** by Rob White to pay bills totaling \$36,154.68 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 Council went into executive session at 7:31pm for personnel issue, pending litigation regarding Martinez vs. Derry Borough Police Department, and a possible real estate transaction. Executive session ended at 7:55pm.

ADJOURNMENT

**MOTION** by Nathan Bundy to adjourn meeting at 7:55pm. Motion **SECONDED** by Rich Eikenburg.

All members present voiced “aye” in favor of the motion. Motion passed.

Respectfully submitted,

Lori L. Latta  
Secretary