

## MINUTES

### REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING March 3, 2025 6:00PM Council Meeting

THE BUSINESS OF THE COUNCIL SHALL BE CONDUCTED IN THE FOLLOWING ORDER:

1. Call to Order by presiding officer  
Moment of silence, Pledge of Allegiance.
2. Roll Call (if quorum is not present, the meeting shall thereupon be Adjourned to a specific date by the majority vote of those present)
3. Review and approval of agenda.
4. Presentation
5. Citizen Correspondence/Personal Appeals - Agenda Items
6. Business Not Ready for Action or No Action Needed
7. Old Business
8. Introduction of Ordinances and Resolutions
9. Consent Agenda
10. New Business
11. Added Items
12. Citizen Correspondence/Personal Appeals - Non-Agenda Items
13. Adjournment

**ITEM 1. CALL TO ORDER BY PRESIDING OFFICER: Council President Robert Lewis**

**ITEM 2. ROLL CALL (Attendance)**

| <u>COUNCIL MEMBERS</u><br><u>&amp; MAYOR</u> | PRESENT       | ABSENT        | <u>OFFICERS</u>  | PRESENT                    | ABSENT        |
|----------------------------------------------|---------------|---------------|------------------|----------------------------|---------------|
| LEWIS                                        | <u>  X  </u>  | <u>      </u> |                  |                            |               |
| JARRETT                                      | <u>  X  </u>  | <u>      </u> | Chief of Police  | <u>  X  </u>               | <u>      </u> |
| KARAFINSKI                                   | <u>      </u> | <u>  X  </u>  | Solicitor        | <u>      </u>              | <u>  X  </u>  |
| LEARN                                        | <u>  X  </u>  | <u>      </u> | Engineer         | <u>      </u>              | <u>  X  </u>  |
| MOCCIA                                       | <u>  X  </u>  | <u>      </u> | DPW Foreman      | <u>  X  </u>               | <u>      </u> |
| TROIANI                                      | <u>      </u> | <u>  X  </u>  | Reporter(s)      | <u>Susan Schwartz (PE)</u> |               |
| WOZNIAK                                      | <u>  X  </u>  | <u>      </u> | Fire Chief       | <u>  X  </u>               | <u>      </u> |
| MAYOR BURKE                                  | <u>  X  </u>  | <u>      </u> | Code Enforcement | <u>  X  </u>               | <u>      </u> |
| Borough Manager                              | <u>  X  </u>  | <u>      </u> |                  |                            |               |

**ITEM 3. REVIEW & APPROVE CURRENT AGENDA:**

Discussion - None

Motion: Ms. Wozniak Second: Mr. Learn

All in favor, agenda approved.

**ITEM 4. PRESENTATION:** Mr. Richard Powlus - Vietnam Veterans Monument - Mr. Powlus presented on efforts to refurbish Berwick/Nescopeck Vietnam

Veterans Monument, to then be placed at Berwick VFW. Requested that Council consider contributing toward efforts. Consideration of request will be added to next agenda.

**ITEM 5. Citizen Correspondence / Personal Appeals - Agenda Items**

None

**ITEM 6. BUSINESS NOT READY FOR ACTION:**

1. Test Track Park Lighting - Borough Manager explained opportunity to add lighting to Test Track Park. Council agreed to plan to look into full plan and bring back for further consideration.
2. Volunteer Training for Traffic Control - Borough Manager noted that Borough staff is trained to train volunteers for traffic control at events; asked for guidance on next steps. Council directed Borough Manager to send letters to groups hosting events on Borough streets to obtain insight from them.
3. Parks/Recreation Summer Intern - Borough Manager discussed possibility of hiring a summer intern for parks programming. Council directed Borough Manager to move forward with more formal plan for further consideration.
4. April 7 Council Meeting - Council cancelled April 7 meeting.
5. Around the Table
  - a. Mayor Burke - Presented concern on torn flags.
  - b. Chief Strish - Noted that annual report is nearly complete.  
Thanked Councilman Lewis for proctoring Civil Service testing.
  - c. Councilperson Moccia - Questioned "no parking" signs on Reagans Alley.
  - d. Chief Coolbaugh - Review of ladder truck is complete.
  - e. Mr. Harkins - Codes report provided.

**ITEM 7. OLD BUSINESS:**

None

**ITEM 8. APPROVAL OF ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS:**

None

**ITEM 9. CONSENT AGENDA**

1. Consider and take action to approve all items on the Consent Agenda, as follows:
  - a. Approve the minutes of the February 17, 2025 Council Meeting

- b. Approve request of the Berwick Area United Way to hold Celebrate Berwick on Saturday, August 2, 2025 from 11:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
- c. Approve promotion of Department of Public Works employee Mr. Garrett Burke to the position of Equipment Operator Level 1, effective March 2, 2025, at a pay rate of \$29.25 per hour
- d. Approve promotion of Department of Public Works employee Mr. Samuel Herring to the position of Skilled Laborer, effective March 2, 2025, at a pay rate of \$28.92 per hour
- e. Accept CDBG demolition bid for 108/110 N. Orchard Street from Brdaric Excavating, Inc., in the amount of \$11,900.00, contingent upon final SEDA-COG review
- f. Accept CDBG demolition bid for 210 N. Orchard Street from Northeast Industrial Services Corp., in the amount of \$12,360.00, contingent upon final SEDA-COG review
- g. Accept CDBG demolition bid for 617/619 Mulberry Street from A.R. Popple Trucking & Excavating, LLC, in the amount of \$19,000, contingent upon final SEDA-COG review
- h. Accept CDBG demolition bid for 318 E. 16<sup>th</sup> Street from Northeast Industrial Services Corp., in the amount of \$5,556.00, contingent upon final SEDA-COG review
- i. Accept CDBG demolition bid for 907 Rear Arch Street from Northeast Industrial Services Corp., in the amount of \$4,505.00, contingent upon final SEDA-COG review
- j. Accept CDBG demolition bid for 235 E. Second Street from Northeast Industrial Services Corp., in the amount of \$18,435.00, contingent upon final SEDA-COG review
- k. Accept CDBG demolition bid for 433 E. Fifth Street from Northeast Industrial Services Corp., in the amount of \$21,365.00, contingent upon final SEDA-COG review
- l. Accept CDBG demolition bid for 542 E. Ninth Street from Brdaric Excavating, Inc., in the amount of \$14,005.00, contingent upon final SEDA-COG review
- m. Approve completion of Ber-Vaughn Park stormwater/public water access project at a cost not to exceed \$20,000

Discussion: Councilperson Moccia questioned whether there would be any issues with demo bids. Borough Manager noted that he could not make any promises prior to SEDA-COG completing review, but that engineer for this round of demos had not had any issues when they last managed the demo program.

Motion: Mr. Learn Second: Mr. Jarrett ☒ Approved, ☐ Denied, ☐ Tabled

All in favor, consent agenda approved.

#### **ITEM 10. NEW BUSINESS**

1. Consider and take action to approve Glick Fire Equipment Company Change Order of February 26, 2025, in the increased amount of \$10,600.

Discussion: Chief Coolbaugh took responsibility for change order. Noted that he is still waiting for an amount for the sale of old ladder truck. Further noted that \$200,000 from Firemen's Relief may no longer be occurring. Councilperson Jarrett noted that a sit down with Relief needs to occur. Borough Manager agreed to attend meeting later this week, with any available Councilpersons also welcome to attend.

Motion: Mr. Jarrett Second: Mr. Moccia ☒ Approved, ☐  
Denied, ☐ Tabled

All in favor, motion approved.

**ITEM 11. ADDED ITEMS**

None

**ITEM 12. Citizen Correspondence / Personal Appeals - Non-Agenda Items**

None

**ITEM 13. ADJOURNMENT:** Motion: Ms. Wozniak Second: Mr. Learn

Meeting adjourned.