

**MINUTES**

**REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING**

**July 15, 2024**

**7:00PM 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. Reports of Committees
7. Business Not Ready for Action or No Action Needed
8. Old Business
9. Introduction of Ordinances and Resolutions
10. Consent Agenda
11. New Business
12. Added Items
13. Citizen Correspondence/Personal Appeals - Non-Agenda Items
14. Adjournment

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

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

<u>COUNCIL MEMBERS</u> <u>&amp; MAYOR</u>	<u>PRESENT</u>	<u>ABSENT</u>	<u>OFFICERS</u>	<u>PRESENT</u>	<u>ABSENT</u>
LEWIS	<u>  X  </u>	<u>      </u>			
JARRETT	<u>  X  </u>	<u>      </u>	Chief of Police	<u>  X  </u>	<u>      </u>
KARAFINSKI	<u>  X  </u>	<u>      </u>	Solicitor	<u>  X  </u>	<u>      </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>  X  </u>	<u>      </u>	Reporter(s)	<u>Pete Kendron (PE)</u>	<u>      </u>
WOZNIAK	<u>X(Tele)</u>	<u>      </u>	Fire Chief	<u>  X  </u>	<u>      </u>
MAYOR BURKE	<u>      </u>	<u>  X  </u>			
Borough Manager	<u>  X  </u>	<u>      </u>			

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

Discussion - None

Motion: Mr. Jarrett Second: Mr. Karafinski

All in favor, agenda approved.

**ITEM 4. PRESENTATION:** CDBG FFY 2024 Public Hearing - Leslie Hosterman, SEDA-COG, conducted public hearing.

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

None

**ITEM 6. REPORTS OF COMMITTEES**

MAYOR: Mayor Tim Burke - Information was provided on behalf of Mayor Burke, noting Weis Markets' plans to be a supporter of Kids Night, and that their 65<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration is upcoming.

ENGINEER: Quad 3 - None

SOLICITOR: Attorney Frank Kepner - None

PERSONNEL: Tom Moccia, Nelson Learn, Jay Jarrett - None

LEGAL AND FINANCE: Tom Moccia, Nelson Learn, Jay Jarrett - None

PARKS AND RECREATION: Teresa Troiani, Ray Karafinski, Jay Jarrett - None

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT: Greg Harkins, Jeri Wozniak, Teresa Troiani, Jay Jarrett - None

STREETS, PARKS, & BUILDINGS: Jack Kyttle - Report provided

FIRE AND WATER: Jeri Wozniak, Ray Karafinski, Bob Lewis - None

CODES, RECYCLING, & ORDINANCES: Nelson Learn, Tom Moccia, Ray Karafinski - None

SAFETY: Bob Lewis - None

POLICE: Chief Ken Strish - Reviewed stats for first half of the year

FIRE: Chief Bill Coolbaugh - Reviewed monthly stats; a broker is working on a ballpark figure for ladder truck trade value

BAJSA REPORT: See Report - Report provided

**ITEM 7. BUSINESS NOT READY FOR ACTION:**

1. Chicken Ordinance - Borough Manager explained process that led to draft ordinance. Discussions were held on the merits of various points of the ordinance. Borough Manager will add two versions to next agenda for consideration to advertise.

2. Wyandotte Avenue Parking - Owner of Big Al's Pizza reported a lack of available parking after recent changes to parking restrictions, which had been added at request of the post office. Borough Manager will meet with representatives of both parties to try to find a resolution.

**ITEM 8. OLD BUSINESS:**

1. Consider and take action to amend the start work date for Mr. Chase Petty to August 5, 2024.

Discussion: None

Motion: Mr. Learn Second: Mr. Karafinski  Approved,   
Denied,  Tabled

All in favor, motion approved.

**ITEM 9. APPROVAL OF ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS:**

NONE

**ITEM 10. CONSENT AGENDA**

1. Consider and take action to approve all items on the Consent Agenda, as follows:
  - a. Approve minutes of the July 1, 2024 meeting of Council
  - b. Approve the July 2024 bill listing as presented
  - c. Authorize Borough Manager to begin the Civil Service testing procedure for promotion to Sergeant
  - d. Authorize Borough Manager to enter into agreement with General Code in the amount of \$20,955, to complete Borough of Berwick Codification Project.

Discussion: None

Motion: Mr. Karafinski Second: Mr. Learn  Approved,   
Denied,  Tabled

All in favor, motion approved.

**ITEM 11. NEW BUSINESS**

1. Consider and take action to approve employment agreement with Borough Manager Damien Scoblinsk, to be retroactive to January 1, 2024, and remain in effect through January 5, 2026.

Discussion: None

Motion: Mr. Jarrett Second: Ms. Troiani  Approved,   
Denied,  Tabled

All in favor, motion approved.

2. Consider and take action to approve employment agreement with Teresa Peters to serve as Office/Finance Assistant, with an effective start date of August 12, 2024.

Discussion:

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

All in favor, motion approved.

3. Consider and take action to make contribution to Berwick Area Little League in the amount of \$9,800 toward Ber-Vaughn softball field fence project, to be paid utilizing CLFRF.

Discussion: None

Motion: Mr. Moccia Second: Ms. Troiani  Approved,   
Denied,  Tabled

All in favor, motion approved.

4. Consider and take action to make offer of promotion to Sergeant position to Greg Martin, based on Sergeant promotional list as provided by Civil Service Commission.

Discussion: Borough Manager noted that this would trigger a clock for Martin to need to make a decision prior to August 5 meeting.

Motion: Mr. Moccia Second: Ms. Troiani  Approved,  
 Denied,  Tabled

All in favor, motion approved.

5. Consider and take action to approve contractual agreement between the Borough of Berwick and Teamsters Local No. 764, representing a labor contract between these parties representing all police department union employees, for the period between January 1, 2024 and December 31, 2027.

Discussion: None

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

All in favor, motion approved.

**ITEM 12. ADDED ITEMS**

None

**ITEM 13. Citizen Correspondence / Personal Appeals - Non-Agenda Items**

- Joe Smith, 414 Washington Street - Continued issue with roaming chickens at and near his property, coming from a neighbor. Also questioned legality of a street-parked camper.
- Becky Krapf, 819 N. Mercer Street - Expressed concerns about a recent letter she received about a grass alley near her home remaining open. Council reiterated desire to not get involved with neighbor dispute, and to maintain status quo with regards to alley.

**ITEM 14. ADJOURNMENT:** Motion: Mr. Karafinski Second: Ms. Wozniak

Meeting adjourned.