

**ELIZABETHTOWN BOROUGH COUNCIL
PUBLIC MEETING
December 1, 2022
Minutes**

A public meeting of Elizabethtown Borough Council was held on Thursday, December 1, 2022. Present were Councilmembers Lanty Moss, Jay Hynicker, Tom Shaud, J. Marc Hershey, Phil Clark, and Jeff McCloud and Mayor Chuck Mummert. Also present were Borough Manager Rebecca S. Denlinger, Assistant Borough Manager Ann Roda, Public Works Director Jeff Kinsey, Planning and Zoning Director Pamela Roberts, and Elizabethtown Police Chief Ed Cunningham.

President Hershey called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM. He stated that Borough Council held an Executive Session prior to the meeting to discuss an Elizabethtown Police Department Personnel Matter.

Public Comment

1. Mr. Sheidy, Lemon Street, asked about the grant that the borough was awarded recently for 56 N. Market Street.

Approval of Meeting Minutes

After a motion by Vice President Clark, second by Councilperson Hynicker, Borough Council voted unanimously to approve the November 17, 2022 Public Meeting minutes.

Old Business

1. Assistant Borough Manager Roda stated that the borough has received the final design of the Community Park play equipment area from Lancaster Civil and YSM. She added that the design incorporates the comments from the previous meeting and asked if there were any other questions or comments on the design. There were no questions or objections to the presented final design of the play equipment area. Roda added that with the final design in place, Lancaster Civil will be able to finish the design documents.
2. President Hershey announced that Borough Council held three public meetings since October to review and the discuss the draft Fiscal Year 2023 budget in detail. It was added that the Borough published the Fiscal Year 2023 budget for public comment and advertised the maximum millage rate of 5.6 Mills. Borough Manager Denlinger stated that the Borough did not receive any public comments or questions on either the proposed Fiscal Year 2023 Budget or the maximum millage rate.

President Hershey asked Borough Council members if there were any outstanding questions on the Fiscal Year 2023 budget. There were no questions asked. President Hershey then asked about the millage rate for Fiscal Year 2023. The proposed budget includes the maximum 5.6 millage rate but the millage rate could be set at 5.5 mills. Vice President Clark commented that a millage rate of 5.5 would be acceptable. Councilperson McCloud also commented that a

millage rate of 5.5 would be acceptable. He added that while Borough Council does not like to increase the millage rate it is helpful that the increase can be minimized.

3. Upon motion by Councilperson McCloud and second by Councilperson Hynicker Borough Council voted unanimously to approve Resolution 2022-25 amending the Fee Schedule. Fee changes will become effective January 1, 2023. Councilperson Hynicker seconded. Borough Council unanimously voted to approve Resolution 2022-25 amending the Fee Schedule.
4. Upon motion by Councilperson Shaud and second by Councilperson McCloud, Borough Council voted unanimously to approve Resolution 2022-26 to approve the committed balances for Health Insurance, Train Station, and Unemployment Compensation and the reserve balance of American Rescue Plan Act Funding in Fiscal Year 2023 General Fund.
5. Upon motion by Vice President Clark and second by Councilperson Hynicker Borough Council voted unanimously to approve Resolution 2022-27 assigning a balance for Friendship Fire and Hose Company No. 1 Capital Reserve Account in the Fiscal Year 2023 General Fund Budget.
6. Upon motion by Vice President Clark and second by Councilperson Hynicker, Borough Council voted unanimously to approve Resolution 2022-28 approving the dedication of the Fund Balance for the year ending December 31, 2022 toward the beginning balance of the General Fund for the Fiscal Year beginning January 1, 2023.
7. Upon motion by Councilperson Shaud and second by Councilperson McCloud, Borough Council voted unanimously to approve the Proposed Fiscal Year 2023 Budget for All Funds and All Accounts at a millage rate of 5.5 mills for real estate tax rate.
8. Upon motion by Vice President Clark and second by Councilperson Moss, Borough Council, by roll call vote, unanimously approved Ordinance No. 1006 establishing the real estate tax rate of 5.5 Mills for the 2023 Fiscal Year for the Borough of Elizabethtown.
9. Borough Council members and meeting attendees discussed the formation of the Regional Administrative Authority. Councilmember Moss asked if there were any comments submitted to the Borough on the formation of the authority. Borough Manager Denlinger stated that the Borough received one comment from a resident of East Donegal Township, that had been shared previously with Borough Council members. She added that no comments were received following the public notice of Ordinance No. 1005.

President Hershey stated the Authority Board would start to meet in January 2023 to further develop the operational structure of the organization. He added that the Authority will be holding additional public meetings as part of the process.

Councilmember Moss stated he is concerned about the added cost to residents and wanting to keep the area affordable. President Hershey noted that the Authority will propose fees for consideration at a public meeting and that regional services would likely not be initiated until the beginning of 2024.

Mr. Sheidy asked how apartments would be handled with the annual fee. Hershey responded that each apartments would be billed as a household and the annual fee likely billed directly to the property owner. Resident Andy Schoenberger asked if there are exemptions being considered. Hershey responded that there are no exemptions being currently considered and that fees will also be established for both commercial properties and institutions. Schoenberger also asked why hospitals are not paying. Hershey responded that previously hospitals provided ambulance services but over time cut the services likely due to budgetary reasons.

Upon motion by Councilperson McCloud and second by Vice President Clark, Borough Council, by roll call vote, unanimously approved Ordinance No. 1005 to organize a Regional Administrative Authority for the purpose of providing Emergency Medical Services on behalf of Elizabethtown Borough under the Pennsylvania Municipality Authorities Act Jointly with the Borough of Marietta, and the Townships of Conoy, East Donegal, Elizabeth, Mount Joy, Penn, and West Donegal. This action services to designate the Borough as a Service District of the Authority, execute Articles of Incorporation, appoint and fix the term of the first member of the Board appointed by Elizabethtown Borough, and take any other necessary actions. seconded. Councilperson Moss noted his affirmative vote was made with reservations.

10. Upon motion by Councilperson Shaud and second by Councilperson Hynicker, Borough Council voted unanimously to approve Resolution 2022-29 to include Operational Support Personnel of the Volunteer Fire Department as participating members of the Volunteer Fire Department within the workers compensation insurance.

New Business

1. Borough Manager Denlinger provided an overview of two potential Funding Applications to the Commonwealth Financing Authority (CFA). The first application is a joint application with ERSA and will be an application to the COVID-19 ARPA H2O PA Water Supply, Sanitary Sewer and Storm Water Projects Program. The application will seek funding for the Radio Road Interceptor Project. The second application will be to the COVID-19 ARPA PA Small Water and Sewer Program for the SCADA System Project at the WWTP. Both applications are due December 21, 2022 and staff will have resolutions before Borough Council at the December 15, 2022 meeting for consideration. There were no questions on the overview of the upcoming grant applications.
2. Planning and Zoning Director Roberts reviewed a Zoning Hearing Board Application for 126 Maytown Avenue. The applicant, the Moose Lodge, is applying for a variance to install a digital sign at the entrance to the property. The property is located in the R-1 Low-Density Residential District, which does not permit signs. Borough Council members did not object to the application but asked staff to share with the Zoning Hearing Board their concern of the brightness of the sign in relation to the residential neighbors across the street.

Mayor Remarks

- Mayor Mummert spoke about the Community Tree Lighting event that took place earlier in the week. He encouraged everyone to bring two friends to next year's event.

Council Remarks

- Councilmember McCloud also spoke about the Tree Lighting event and that it was a nice event.
- Councilmember Hynicker shared his appreciation for the work of staff and work underway to bring a new playground to Community Park.
- Councilmember Moss commented about surviving the first budget season as a Borough Councilmember.
- Councilmember Shaud stated that the Community Tree Lighting event was very nice and appreciated the work that went into the budget process.
- Vic-President Clark thanked the public for attending and stated his appreciation for the questions that were asked about the development of the Regional EMS Authority.
- President Hershey thanked staff and Borough Council members for their work on the budget process and throughout the year.

Adjourn

Prior to adjourning President Hershey noted that with the passing of the Fiscal Year 2023 Budget the Special Public Meetings scheduled for December 8th and 22nd are cancelled.

President Hershey adjourned the meeting, without objection, at 7:57 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Rebecca S. Denlinger
Borough Manager