

**BURGETTSTOWN BOROUGH COUNCIL
REGULAR SCHEDULED MEETING MINUTES
JULY 10, 2023**

Call to Order

Pledge of Allegiance

Public comments and questions not pertaining to the agenda items will be held to
the end of the meeting.

Attending: Council Members:

Ronald Allison
Ken McKinney
James Smith II
Gary Manges
Beth Hoppe

Mayor:

Luke Snatchko

Solicitor:

Josh Larkin

Secretary:

Debbie Resnik

Treasurer:

Debbie Resnik

Visitors:

Pam Church
Kobe Sarracino
Frank Roberts
Jerry McClain

Mary Oddi
Lisa Slopek-Sinkko
Colleen Roberts

James Smith II made the Motion to Pass the July 10, 2023, Meeting Agenda
Second By-Beth Hoppe
Motion Carried-None Opposed

Roll Call: All Present

Ron Allison made the Motion to approve the Regular Business Meeting Minutes held
June 5, 2023, and Workshop Meeting Minutes held June 26, 2023
Second by-Beth Hoppe

Questions/Comments:

None

Motion carried-None Opposed

1. Financials: Debbie Resnik

Beth Hoppe made the motion to accept a \$75.00 allowance per employee for tee
shirts for the summer months.

Second by -Ron Allison

Questions/Comments

Gary Manges questioned who the supplier is.

Ken McKinney replied, "They can use any supplier up to \$75.00 allotment."

Motion carried-None Opposed

Beth Hoppe made the Motion to pay the unpaid bills for June 2023

Second by-Ronald Allison

Questions/Comments:

None

Motion carried-None Opposed

2. Council Reports:

Street Department – Ronald Allison

Motion to get pricing on No Line Markers-Tabled

Beth Hoppe authorized the secretary to start advertising for a second road crew employee.

Second by-James Smith II

Questions/Comments:

Ken McKinney opinion is that the borough does not have enough work for a full-time employee.

Ken McKinney does not feel that the department has enough work for two full-time employees, especially in the winter months.

Ron Allison questioned Glen Latshaw and stated he would be willing to work (4) days.

Gary Manges does not believe Glen Latshaw wants that much scheduled time.

Motion carried-Ken McKinney-Opposed

Ronald Allison-Opposed

3 to 2 Motion carries

Ronald Allison asked for a motion to sub out the grass cutting at the park.

Motion died lack of second.

Park and Recreation-James Smith II

Beth Hoppe made the Motion to purchase (6) fabricated flag poles from Testa Machine shop in the amount of \$2,400.00.

Second by-Ronald Allison

Questions/Comments:

Motion carried-None Opposed

Ronald Allison made the motion to purchase materials not to exceed \$1,000.00 for the welcoming sign.

Second by-Beth Hoppe

Questions/Comments:

Ron Allison questioned the size of the signage.

Gary Manges, "It is a 4 x 8."

Motion carried-None Opposed

Veteran's Park-Luke Snatchko

Discussion on applying for LSA matching grant to cover future expenditures and would like council's permission to move forward in meeting with Keith Straight for consultation and drawings so the borough will have something ready to present when ready to apply for the LSA grant.

Gary Manges presented his concerns with the period and money-saving costs for projects.

Ken McKinney response, "We just can not go do things and then vote on them later." Mayor feels more planning needs to be implemented before project/projects move forward.

The flag poles and concrete were approved by all council members for completion. Expenditure for the concrete will fall under \$500.00 no motion needed.

Park Church questioned the bill from Kosol for electric work for flag poles.

Expenditure will be added to the LSA Grant.

3. Solicitor- Josh Larkin

Reviewed items on report that was submitted prior to meeting.

4. Mayor Report-Police/Fire Department-

James Smith made the motion to accept the Proclamation of July 15th as Burgettstown Volunteer Fire Department 100th Anniversary Day.

Second by-Gary Manges

Question/Comments:

None

Motion carried-None Opposed

Police Report -Bruce Carlton

- Report filed as read.
- Fire Report-No report

5. New Business -

Ronald Allison made a motion to authorize the solicitor and secretary to take all necessary action of obtaining public bids for the sale of the scout hut property

Subject to: All deed covenants.

Second by-Beth Hoppe

Questions/Comments:

Mr. Roberts questioned the procedure on public bidding.

Josh Larkin explained the process.

Motion carried-Ken McKinney -Opposed

James Smith – Opposed

Gary Manges-Opposed

3 to 2 motions died taken off the table.

Motion to begin proceeding authorizing the solicitor and secretary to take all necessary action obtaining public bids for the sale of 136 Center Avenue, 43 Main Street -Tabled

6. Old Business –

Paving Project –

Beth Hoppe made a motion to accept Alex Paris Contracting as the lowest responsible bidder in the amount of \$105,085.00 for the 2023 Paving Program Project

Second by-Gary Manges

Comments/Questions:

Resnik explained the Liquid Fuels process as 1/3 of funding will come from Liquid Fuels account, 1/3 from the Washington Gaming account and 1/3 from Tax Savings account.

Motion carried-None Opposed

7. Public Comments-

James Babyak-Storm damage water run-off

- Storm water ran into the basement.
- Ruined (2) rooms.
- Asked who is going to pay for his damages.
- Water run-off is coming from adjoining property owner.
- Water is coming over borough road and down into his property.

The borough solicitor suggested that James should file action against them. Even though the water run-off is going over the road does not mean that the road is causing the issue.

Borough resources cannot be used for private property owners.

Scout Hut Discussion:

Mary Oddi asked if anyone had been checking on the scout hut.

Ken McKinney stated, "I cannot answer that, but Greg was to go up once a week."

Mary questioned if we had a YTD utility usage total for the scout hut.

Resnik, "Yes, I would have to pull that off the computer."

Mary Oddi would like a copy.

Mary Oddi read and researched the definition of what the deed says about excepting and reserving to the boy scouts and girl scouts and is that true.

The solicitor asked when an event was triggered that removed your covenant.

Josh Larkin and Mary Oddi discussed the conversation at the last meeting that council held with her regarding the usage, what could be placed in the hut and the misunderstanding of the word "lease."

The council clarified that in the Executive Session she was told she could re-enter the hut at any time and the council does not understand her concern.

Beth Hoppe, "We did discuss that the council would have to set stipulations, but they never produced what the stipulations would entail.

Mary Oddi, "Okay then what is 1. 2. 3 or A.B. C. going to be?"

Beth Hoppe, "We have not had a chance to discuss that as of yet."

7. Public Comments Continued-

Beth Hoppe stated that Mary Oddi was not happy when the council stated what the stipulations might be, and she was not happy with them.

Mary Oddi, "We are entitled to access that building."

Mayor, "Thank you for acknowledging that."

Mayor, "That is fine, and in the executive session I made that same case. I never changed my opinion that you have the rights to the hut."

Mayor, "We want to put it up for sale with those covenants in place and you will still have access to the hut."

Mayor, "Just because we want to have a clear outline of what the expectations of us and the expectations of you and calling it a lease might be the correct term, but the borough just wants to have an outline of what is expected by everyone so there are no problems moving forward."

Beth Hoppe, "I agree the word lease was incorrect but in my terminology a contract agreement of some sort on paper where everyone signs off what and how things are going to be managed and what can and cannot be done. However, you want to define that, that is what we want to do. As for the borough, we have not come to an agreement, but we have not even gotten that far, as you were not happy when that was mentioned."

Mary Oddi did not agree because she feels that they need to place items up there as it is called a Scout Hut.

Mary Oddi, "What do you think people put up there?"

Colleen Roberts expressed her concerns that in the past trash was left and piled outside.

Trash and Debris were left around, and they had to throw it away along with bon fires being held on their property.

Colleen Roberts questioned Mary then who will be responsible for cleaning.

Mary Oddi, "We have always been responsible and cleaned it, take care of the parking lot and the grounds around it. We do."

Frank Roberts discussed the verbiage of the deed clearing stating the boy scouts.

Frank Roberts expressed his concerns that the hut can not be used for any other functions or parties.

Mayor, "It does not say exclusive rights."

Council moved on

Mary Oddi asked the council if she could meet with them soon.

Beth Hoppe, "I personally think the council needs to decide if we will be able to Sale it. Then you need to take up those conditions with whoever purchases it. If The council does not sale it then by all means then we should have a meeting.

Mary Oddi gave her clarification of the deed stating, the borough cannot sale unless it has a diversionary interest. Unless there was a trigger and never has there been a trigger.

8. Executive Session – None

9. Motion to adjourn-

Ronald Allison made the Motion to adjourn @ 7:21PM

Second by-Beth Hoppe

Motion carried-None Opposed