

## REGULAR MEETING

WENESDAY

7:30 P.M.

AUGUST 4, 2021

This regular meeting of Council was called to order on the above-stated date at the above-stated time after the Pledge of Allegiance by President Mark D. Tortorice with the following Members of Council present:

RC-1           **PRESENT:   BRYAN MYERS, DOUR JUNECKO, GREG LOMBARDO  
KENNETH HRESKO, MARK TORTORICE,  
DEBORAH THOMAS, ROBERT BETTERS**

Also present were, Mayor Hranics, Solicitor Patricia McGrail, Malisa Migliori, Borough Manager, Don Glenn, Engineer, Chief David Petruski and Jr. Council Person, Arianna Ewing.

**MOTION:**   Mrs. Thomas moved, seconded by Mr. Hresko, "To approve the minutes from the Public Hearings on June 2, 2021 at 3:00 P.M., and June 29, 2021 at 7:00 P.M. and the Regular Meeting held on June 2, 2021 at 7:30 P.M."

RC-2           **Yeas:   Unanimous - Motion Carried**

Mr. Tortorice stopped the meeting to recognize retiring part time officer Raymond Sczur. He was recognized for his 17 years of service. Council thanked him and the Mayor read a proclamation. Mayor Hranics and Council spoke about Ray and his service to the Borough. Chief Petruski also spoke and thanked him for his service. A last call over the radio was given. He was wished much luck and congratulations on his retirement

Mr. Tortorice and Council gave recognition to Representative Mike Rhodes, US Steel for Grant Funding of Dive Equipment and Certification. Fire Chief Hale was also invited up to receive the check. Mr. Rhodes presented Chief Hale and the fire company a check in the amount of \$26,732.24. He thanked the fire company for their service and said he hopes this will ultimately help save a life. Chief Hale thanked Mr. Rhodes and US Steel for the funding and was very appreciative. He also thanked Mr. Tortorice and Mrs. Thomas for their support on the US Steel committee and for the support of the fire company. Chief Hale also thanked and congratulated the entire fire company stating they are one of the best diver companies in the United States and the State of PA. "Never doubt a small group of people can change the world."

Mr. Tortorice thanked US Steel for the funding the Borough received over \$540,000.00 and they are the reason the fire company has a boat. They have funded many projects in Port Vue along with all the upgrades to the recreation center and area. Mayor Hranics also said US Steel has funded 5 recycling bins which once they are placed to collect aluminum all of the proceeds will go to a scholarship for South Allegheny seniors that are attending a business or trade school.

Mr. Tortorice introduced the new Jr. Council Person, Arianna Ewing for 2021-2022. Mr. Hresko read her biography and talked about the Jr. Council person program. All

welcomed her aboard. Council recognized her parents. Mayor Hranics then swore her in for the position.

**COMMENTS FROM CITIZEN:**

**Barbara and Bill Atkins**-residents of Liberty Way. Mrs. Atkins said the biggest problem is speeding. She stated the cars are flying going 55 mph and is horrendous. She asked for another mirror up the road further and said this would help out. She also said a tree came down across the road that she chopped up but they threw up on the hillside. She asked if the road crew could come down and clean it up. She also mentioned the tops of the sewers need cleaned up so they don't clog when it rains. She said a block wall where the hillside is coming down would help too.

**Jackie Yuretich**-Trimble Avenue is here this evening because of the fire company members are parking on the curb by the fire company. She said the problem is compounded by the dumpster at 1726 Romine is taking up a lot of area.

**Annette Sobchak**-1715 Trimble Avenue complaints about parking on the sidewalk by the fire company. She said her mother can't go out for a walk and she even has to shovel their sidewalk and pick up their garbage. Fire Chief Hale said if anyone is parked back there to contact the police to have the vehicle towed. She said there's issues with Dover Alley parking and you can't back out of the driveway because of the way others are parked and the alley is very narrow making it difficult to get in or out of your driveway. She asked Mr. Tortorice to personally try getting out of her driveway. Mr. Tortorice asked for the road committee to go onsite to review the problem with the parking.

**Crystal Eden**-708 Smith Street. She said Straw Alley was just paved at the end of last year and there's a parking issue there. There's a resident doing car work there. She wants to know if they can do that or if it's a turn around. Mr. Betters said it's not a parking lot, it's for public safety purposes and we will post a sign for no parking. Mr. Tortorice said we can do this as long as it's not private property. She also wanted to bring to everyone's attention to the amount of dogs that are not leashed. She said when she's walking by with her dog other dogs come out. Mr. Tortorice said if the dog is on their own private property they don't have to be leashed but the owner has to have control over them. If it would come off the property then the police and dog catcher can be called. He directed her to call 911 if this happens.

**Andrew Liiaala**- 706 Gray Street-there's an abandoned lot at the end of the street and wants to extend his lot two feet to extend his property for parking. Solicitor McGrail stated the Borough doesn't own the property and he would have to contact the property owner. Mr. Lombardo said he will take a look at it.

**Theresa Parks**-919 Monroe Avenue and **Kelly Laidacker** 918 Monroe. They wanted to address the issues on the road from 917 to 921 Monroe Ave, she said is sinking. She said it washes debris and sediment into the sinking area every time it rains. Ms. Parks said this started after the sewer work last year and the water pressure is low now because of it. She said the water and the sewer company do not want to take responsibility for any of it. Mr. Eweing said the road was dug up 5 to 6 years ago by the water company. Mr. Tortorice said we will look into this issue and contact the water company. Also there were code enforcement complaints about 916 Monroe. Mr. Tortorice said we will have the building inspector go up there and get us a report.

**Misty Kovach** 914 Highland Avenue-Is looking for a residential building for the start of her cat rescue possibly in Port Vue, Glassport or Liberty Borough. Currently she is working on this project with donations to do trap, neuter and release program. She

stated Danielle Teti is donating the proceeds from the Fall Fest for the cat issues through out the Borough and for her program. Ms. Kovach said she needs a place to keep cats. She discussed the TNR program with Council and said she has 21 rescue cats. Mr. Tortorice said when we had the TNR program we used the Borough garages to hold the cats for the 24 hour period. He stated that as for a brick and mortar store we don't have much in the Borough but would be willing to look into it with the other municipalities.

**CODE ENFORCEMENT OFFICER'S REPORT:** Mr. Hresko said we've been tracking down people and attending 6 to 7 hearings a week. If you have any code enforcement issues give us a call.

**ENGINEERS REPORT:** Gave his report at the caucus meeting.

**MAYORS REPORT:** Mayor Hranics gave the following report for the months of June and July:

The Mayor had the following to report for June, 2021. The police had 141 calls in June, there were 11 traffic citations, 19 non-traffic citations, 18 assisting other departments and 17 calls assisting E.M.S., the balance of the calls were for various reasons such as animal complaints, disabled vehicles, disturbance, etc. The Mayor also reported the mileage on the 2013 Ford Taurus was 373 and no expenses, the mileage on the 2017 Ford Explorer was 2,546 and expenses were \$264.85, mileage on the 2019 Ford Explorer was 607 and no expenses.

The Mayor had the following to report for July, 2021. The police had 171 call for July, there were 21 traffic citations, 26 non-traffic citations, 18 assisting other departments and 10 calls assisting E.M.S., the balance of the calls were for various reasons such as animal complaints, disabled vehicles, disturbance, etc.

**SOLICITORS REPORT:** Solicitor Patricia McGrail distributed two documents, one for condemnations processed and one for code enforcement review. She said the last few condemnations have been appealed. Judge James has granted some time for the owner's to make the necessary repairs. Those are 308 Laredo and the other is 1816 Tacoma. The Building Inspector is working with those individuals.

#### **COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**CHAIRMAN OF PROPERTY/DEMOLITION:** Mr. Junecko reported that Betters Company is mobilized and starting the demos awarded from CDBG 46---- 310 Port Vue Avenue, 315 Crossland Ave., 1823 Trimble, 1113 Burbank Road. He also said 308 Port Vue Avenue is down. The Borough added an additional demolition see the agenda for this evening for motion to approve the demolition of 308 Port Vue Avenue from Betters Company.

County sent out asbestos inspectors to 1483 Romine and 1726 Romine to start the demo process for the CDBG 47 projects awarded. We anticipate these two to come down soon. Representative Pisciotano brought a representative from the County to inspect the structure at 1483 Romine, since it's an emergency situation in fear of collapse.

Mr. Junecko reported the Building Inspector Mark Lazzaro has completed 3 more inspection reports in your book. 1027 Lysle Ave., 1106 Monroe Ave., 1801 New York.

A public hearing was held on June 29, 2021 for the condemnation of 1706 New York Ave. This item on the agenda this evening for action. Mr. Junecko had the following motions:

**MOTION:** Mr. Junecko moved, seconded by Mrs. Thomas, "To authorize Betters Company for the residential demolition of 308 Port Vue Avenue in the amount of \$7,500.00 as recommended by Don Glenn Engineering."

RC-3 Yeas: Unanimous - Motion Carried

**MOTION:** Mr. Junecko moved, seconded by Mr. Hresko, "To authorize and ratify payment in the amount of \$600.00, to Original Tree Service to remove large limbs and maple tree hanging over onto Rebecca Street."

RC-4 Yeas: Unanimous - Motion Carried

**MOTION:** Mr. Junecko moved, seconded by Mr. Betters, "To authorize the demolition of 1706 New York Avenue, Lot and Block #466-D-051."

RC-5 Yeas: Unanimous - Motion Carried

**MOTION:** Mr. Junecko moved, seconded by Mr. Hresko, "To ratify the sale of the 2012 F-550 in the amount of \$10,000.00 to the City of McKeesport."

RC-6 Yeas: Unanimous - Motion Carried

**CHAIRMAN OF RECREATION:** Mr. Myers announced the Fall Festival will be held on September 25<sup>th</sup>, 2021 from noon to 5 p.m. He gave special thanks to "Community Kitchen," for the grab and go lunches for the children on Tuesday's and Thursday's. He also announced the Touch a Truck event on August 21, at Port Vue United Methodist Church from 10 am to 1 pm. He said the recreation center is about 99.97% finished and we are expecting to come up with a grand opening date. He asked everyone to come out see it and to utilize it. Mr. Myers had the following motions:

**MOTION:** Mr. Myers moved, seconded by Mr. Junecko, "To authorize a donation to South Allegheny Football Boosters on the amount of \$50.00"

RC-7 Yeas: Unanimous - Motion Carried

**MOTION:** Mr. Myers moved, seconded by Mr. Hresko, "To authorize use of the social hall to Lori DiMarco for the Youth Group on Wednesday's with the exception of Council Meeting use."

RC-8 Yeas: Unanimous - Motion Carried

**MOTION:** Mr. Myers moved, seconded by Mr. Junecko, “To authorize sponsorship in the amount of \$50.00 to South Allegheny Band Boosters.”

RC-9 Yeas: Unanimous - Motion Carried

**MOTION:** Mr. Myers moved, seconded by Mr. Lombardo, “To authorize Allegheny Fence to install additional fencing at the Recreation Center and section of the basketball courts in the amount of \$19,460.00.”

RC-10 Yeas: Unanimous - Motion Carried

**CHAIRMAN OF STREET & LIGHT COMMITTEE:** Mr. Lombardo said he will get together with Bob Betters and address the issues on Liberty Way. Mr. Lombardo had the following motions:

**MOTION:** Mr. Lombardo moved, seconded by Mr. Hresko, “To approve the change order amount of \$110,280.10 from El Grande for the resurfacing of Liberty Way and recommended by Don Glenn Engineering from the CDBG-46 street reconstruction.”

RC-11 Yeas: Unanimous - Motion-Carried

**MOTION:** Mr. Lombardo moved, seconded by Mrs. Thomas, “To advertise Ordinance for a Stop Sign coming out of the Recreation ingress/egress Road.” He explained this is for the new road coming out of the recreation center.

RC-12 Yeas: Unanimous - Motion Carried

**MOTION:** Mr. Lombardo moved, seconded by Mr. Myers, “To ratify the purchase of the 2021 Ford F-600 dump truck from Allegheny Ford Costars contract #025-149 in the amount of \$43,288.00”

RC-13 Yeas: Unanimous - Motion Carried

**CHAIRMAN OF POLICE/FIRE/PUBLIC SAFETY:** Mr. Hresko asked council to consider purchasing a new police vehicle this year since they are hard to come by. He announced there are two conferences coming up in Erie. One is PSAB and it’s a good and informative conference. The other is through Allegheny County Townships, Borough’s and Authorities also in Erie. He gave the RAD Tax and gave the Vigilant Hose Co. reports for June and July 2021. Mr. Hresko had the following motions:

**MOTION:** Mr. Hresko moved, seconded by Mr. Lombardo, “To ratify the hiring of Zachary Stumph for part-time Police Officer contingent upon successful background check and drug and alcohol testing.”

RC-14 Yeas: Unanimous - Motion Carried

**MOTION:** Mr. Hresko moved, seconded by Mr. Lombardo, “To ratify the hiring of Dale McGlaughlin for part-time Police Officer contingent upon successful background check and drug and alcohol testing.”

**RC-15** Yeas: Unanimous - Motion Carried

**MOTION:** Mr. Hresko moved, seconded by Mr. Myers, “To execute the two (2) year memorandum of understanding between Port Vue Police Department and South Allegheny School District.”

**RC- 16** Yeas: Unanimous - Motion Carried

**MOTION:** Mr. Hresko moved, seconded by Mr. Junecko, “To enter into a contract with Allegheny Building Consultants LLC, for rental registration inspection, occupancy inspections and building inspection services.”

**RC-17** Yeas: Unanimous - Motion Carried

**CHAIRMAN OF BUDGET / FNANCE COMMITTEE:** Mrs. Thomas gave report on Current May tax collections: \$18,855.81, Delinquent May tax collections: \$11,339.19, Current June tax, collections: \$34,160.79, Delinquent June tax collections: \$11,241.30. July tax collections: not available at meeting time.

Representative Nick Pisciotano is now offering satellite office hours here at the Borough Building for constituent services. His aide Jacob Refern is here the third Tuesday of every month.

Office staff has digitalized audit narratives for convenience purposes. She also said the office staff and Manager will meet with Mark Lazzaro to launch the new rental registration and occupancy permitting guidelines.

The fee schedule resolution will need updated for the new occupancy pricing from \$25.00 to \$75.00.

All previous citations issued by BIU have been discontinued.

Mrs. Thomas had the following motions:

**MOTION:** Mrs. Thomas moved, seconded by Mr. Hresko, “To adopt Resolution #2021-016, authorizing the payment of bills & wages incurred during the month of June, 2021.”

**RC-18** Yeas: Mr. Myers, Mr. Junecko, Mr. Lombardo, Mr. Hresko,  
Mrs. Thomas, Mr. Betters

Abstained: Mr. Tortorice - Motion Carried

**MOTION:** Mrs. Thomas moved, seconded by Mr. Hresko, “To adopt Resolution No. 2021-017, authorizing the payment of bills and wages incurred during the month of July, 2021.

**RC-19** Yeas: Mr. Myers, Mr. Junecko, Mr. Lombardo, Mr. Hresko,  
Mrs. Thomas, Mr. Betters

Abstained: Mr. Tortorice - Motion Carried

**MOTION:** Mrs. Thomas moved, seconded by Mr. Myers, "To ratify the sale of the 2014 F-250 in the amount of \$30,000.00 to the City of McKeesport."

RC-20 Yeas: Unanimous - Motion Carried

**CHAIRMAN OF SANITATION:** Mr. Betters gave the Garbage collections report:

May current collections: \$2,356.00. Delinquent \$733.00

June current collections: \$8,702.00 Delinquent \$10,310.60

July collections are not available as of meeting time.

We having some issues trying to get certain products. Specifically street paint. We put in a request to Representative Pisciotano. He said we are trying to get the crosswalks and street lining done.

Temporary repairs have been made to the garage until we get the new one installed and it's on back order.

Special thanks to Brandon and USS Steel for the funding for the diving outfitting and certification.

Chief Hale has requested use of Romine Field on Wednesday, August 18<sup>th</sup> for a landing zone safety class for the fire department. He also is having K-9 and drone training on August 14<sup>th</sup> between 5 and 6 on the Tortorice property in the woods, if anyone is interested.

Mr. Betters said meeting I will have some dates for Council to consider for Fall Clean up.

**MOTION:** Mr. Betters moved, seconded by Mr. Hresko, "To ratify all departmental and inter-governmental transfers during the month of June and July, 2021."

RC-21 Yeas: Unanimous - Motion Carried

**MOTION:** Mr. Betters moved, seconded by Mrs. Thomas, "To accept the monthly reports for June and July, 2021 as presented.

RC-22 Yeas: Unanimous - Motion Carried

**MOTION:** Mr. Betters moved, seconded by Mr. Hresko, "To ratify reimbursement payment to Vigilant Hose Company #1 in the amount of \$494.96 for batteries for the 1967 Mack Fire Engine."

RC-23 Yeas: Unanimous - Motion Carried

**MOTION:** Mr. Better moved, seconded by Mr. Lombardo, "To ratify the purchase of the 2021 Ford F-350, from Allegheny Ford Costars contracts #025-149 in the amount of \$43,288.00."

RC-24 Yeas: Unanimous - Motion Carried

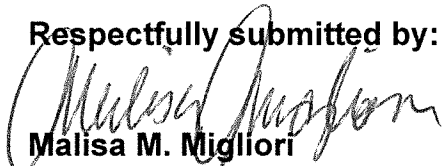
Mr. Hresko discussed preliminary parking the engineer prepared for the recreation center.

Mr. Tortorice thanked everyone for attending the meeting. He thanked the Fire Company and again recognized Arianna Ewing the new Jr. Council person.


**MOTION:** Mr. Hresko moved, seconded by Mr. Better, "Motion to adjourn."

RC- Yeas: Unanimous - Motion Carried

Respectfully submitted by:

  
Malisa M. Migliori  
Borough Manager

Approved by:

  
Mark D. Tortorice  
President of Council