

**MINUTES OF DUBLIN BOROUGH
COUNCIL MEETING
MONDAY, JULY 10, 2023**

1. **CALL TO ORDER:** The July 10, 2023, meeting of Borough Council was held in Borough Hall at 119 Maple Avenue, Dublin, PA. Council Vice-President, Brent Smith, called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m., with Council President Jeffrey Sharer joined by telephone.

ELECTED OFFICIALS PRESENT:

Mayor:	Chris Hayes	
Council:	Jeffrey Sharer (<i>by phone</i>)	Brent Smith
	Matthew Mayes	Robert Olsen
	William Benonis	Timothy Hayes
	Philip Kessler	

APPOINTED OFFICIALS PRESENT:

Borough Manager:	Colleen M. Pursell
Borough Solicitor:	Caroline Zook, Esq.
Borough Engineer:	Thomas F. Zarko, P.E.
Police Chief:	Michael Regan
Fire Chief:	Kevin Nugent*
Emergency Management Coordinator:	M. Philip Meyers*

*Not Present

**Late Arrival

2. **Pledge of Allegiance:** Vice-President Smith led Council and the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. **Council President Announcements:** There were no announcements at this time.

4. **Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items:** There were no public comments at this time.

5. **Approval of Minutes:**

- 5.1. **Minutes of Meeting of June 12, 2023:**

Motion by Timothy Hayes, seconded by Mr. Benonis and unanimously carried, the minutes of the June 12, 2023 meeting were approved, as amended.

6. **Payment of Bills:**

- 6.1. **Bills List dated June 26, 2023, in the amount of \$100,418.60 (all funds) and bills list dated July 10, 2023 in the amount of \$37,282.73 (all funds):**

Motion by Mr. Benonis, seconded by Mr. Timothy Hayes and unanimously carried, Council approved the bills list dated June 26, 2023, in the amount of \$100,418.60 and the bills list dated July 10, 2023 in the amount of \$37,282.73.

7. Borough Official Reports:

7.1. Dublin Fire Company: Council was provided with the June 2023 report. They responded to seventeen (17) calls, one (1) call was in the Borough.

7.2. Mayor: There was no report at this time.

7.3. Borough Manager: Ms. Pursell provided Council with her June 2023 report. She also wanted to add that the utility bills will be mailed out this week.

7.4. Chief of Police: Chief Regan provided the Police Report for June 2023, which included one hundred thirty-five (135) total incidents, Pennsylvania State Police covered two (2) calls. Det. McClelland and Officer Foster completed the yearly MPOETC Training. Taser training was completed by Officer Smith. Baton training was completed by Chief Regan and Officer Smith. The department hosted representatives from the Hamburg Borough Police Department who were interested in learning about the Accreditation process in a borough police department.

Pennridge School District will be working with the Police Department to enforce school bus violations via video. Chief Regan explained that when the arm on a school bus goes down and the lights go on, a camera will start video recording. When a violation occurs, the school district will forward the video electronically to the Police Department who will review it and if there is a violation there will be a \$300.00 fine. These fines will not affect violators insurance and no points or license suspensions will occur. Chief Regan believes this practice will help decrease violations within the Borough. Quakertown School District has been using these videos and their violations went down 40%. The Police Department would receive \$25.00 of the penalty per incident.

7.5. Borough Engineer: Mr. Zarko informed Council that the current DEP Consent Order & Agreement pertaining to the Borough's sanitary sewer collection/conveyance system is set to expire in March of 2024. He has reached out to DEP to discuss a 4th Amendment of the current CO&A. A meeting with them is pending.

Mr. Zarko received the Amended discharge (NPDES) permit addressing the recent sewage treatment plant rerate. The hydraulic design capacity at the plant has been increased from .5MGD to .75MGD.

7.6. Borough Solicitor: There was no report at this time.

8. Discussion Items:

8.1. Request for Fire Police – Sellersville Borough: Ms. Pursell asked for authorization to request Fire Police assistance at the Sellersville Borough Fire Department Carnival scheduled for July 11th – July 15th from 6:00 pm until 11:00 pm.

Motion by Mr. Benonis, seconded by Mr. Mayes and unanimously carried, Council approved the request for Fire Police Services at the Sellersville Borough Fire Department Carnival.

8.2. Update – 144 N. Main Street Land Development: Ms. Pursell reported that she received a letter from Morning Development, LLC granting the Borough an extension of allowable time, under the provisions of the Pennsylvania Municipalities Planning Code, for Council to act on the

final land development application through August 31, 2023. This item will be placed on the August agenda for consideration.

8.3. Discussion on Animal Husbandry Ordinance: Ms. Pursell received a call from a resident that lives on Village Green Lane, who would like to have a few chickens. Dublin Borough Ordinance specifies that chickens are only permitted in the R-1 District. Ms. Pursell reviewed previous minutes and found there was an ordinance amendment prepared by the Borough Solicitor which was never adopted. She asked Council if they would want to review the current Ordinance and consider an amendment. The resident gave a brief explanation of why she wants chickens. Mr. Smith suggested coming up with an amendment to the Ordinance using successful chicken coops as a model and focusing on what currently works. Further discussion was tabled to the August meeting.

8.4. Trash and Recycling Collection – Bid Specifications: Ms. Pursell explained that our Solid Waste and Recycling Collection bid expires the end of December 2023, with no additional extensions. The contract started June 30, 2018 and expired December 2021 with the ability to extend it two (2) additional years. Ms. Pursell would like to get the bids out no later than September. She did speak with Waste Management about the upcoming contract and they advised her that the prices have gone up since the last bid. Waste Management recommended the following items to consider to help reduce the bid cost: 1. eliminate the collecting of plastic grocery bags, 2. eliminate unlimited trash, 3. eliminate unlimited bulk trash and/or limit the amount of bulk trash and 4. permit “like new” trash/recycle bins. The consensus of Council was to remove the collection of plastic grocery bags, keep unlimited trash, keep unlimited bulk trash with a bid alternative for limited bulk trash and accept “like new” trash/recycle bins.

9. Committee Reports: Mr. Timothy Hayes reported that there was a Community Day Meeting held before the Council Meeting. The Committee discussed a few changes for next year. To date, there is \$7,353.40 in the Community Events Fund that will go towards 2024. Sergeant Kirk asked about budgeting money for police giveaways. Mr. Smith stated that the Finance Committee will discuss this at its next budget meeting. Chief Regan stated the police gave away all the items they had to the children and they will need to buy a lot more for next year.

10. Other Business: There was no other business at this time.

11. Public Comment: There were no public comments.

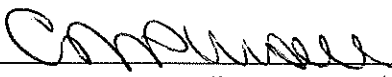
12. Comments from Council Members: Mr. Mayes reminded everyone that the Dublin Fire Company Carnival starts this weekend and volunteers are always needed.

13. Executive Session: Mr. Smith announced Council would be meeting in Executive Session to discuss a matter of personnel and will not be reconvening.

14. Adjournment: Upon motion by President Sharer, the meeting was adjourned at 8:20 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Date Approved: 08/14/2023


Colleen M. Pursell, Manager/Secretary