

**MINUTES OF DUBLIN BOROUGH
COUNCIL MEETING
MONDAY, DECEMBER 14, 2020**

1. Call to Order: The December 14, 2020 meeting of Borough Council, which was advertised to the public on the Borough's website with instructions to join the meeting by telephone or by Zoom, and posted on the front door of Borough Hall, was held via Zoom. Council President, Jeffrey Sharer, called the meeting to order at 7:33 p.m.

ELECTED OFFICIALS PRESENT:

Mayor:	Chris Hayes	
Council:	Jeffrey Sharer	Brent Smith
	Matthew Mayes	Gary Mast
	William Benonis	Robert Olsen
	Timothy Hayes	

APPOINTED OFFICIALS PRESENT:

Borough Manager:	Laurie Hagey*
Borough Solicitor:	Michael Kracht, Esq.
Borough Engineer:	Thomas F. Zarko, P.E.
Police Chief:	Michael Regan
Fire Chief:	Kevin Nugent*
Emergency Management Coordinator:	M. Philip Meyers*

*Not Present

2. Pledge of Allegiance: Mr. Sharer led Council in The Pledge of Allegiance.

3. Council President Announcements:

4. Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items: None.

5. Approval of Minutes:

5.1. Minutes of Meeting of November 23, 2020:

MOTION: Mr. Mast made a motion to approve the Minutes of the November 23, 2020 Council Meeting as written. Mr. Timothy Hayes seconded the motion which unanimously carried.

6. Payment of Bills:

6.1. Bill Lists dated December 11, 2020 in the amount of \$281,049.49 (all funds):

MOTION: Mr. Benonis made a motion to pay all bills as presented on the December 11th Bill Lists in the amount of \$281,049.49, seconded by Mr. Timothy Hayes, and it unanimously carried.

7. Borough Official Reports:

7.1. Dublin Volunteer Fire Company: Nothing to add to the written report.

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

7.3. Borough Manager: There was no report at this time.

7.4. Chief of Police: Chief Regan presented the Police Report for December 2020. There were 145 total calls. The department started a BPAIR program, for anyone in need of help for their addiction can go to the Police Station or call. The Police will help them get into recovery. They will be assigned a navigator and transportation. The county pays for this service. If drugs are turned over to the police, no arrests will be made.

Officer Hall completed the yearly MPOETC certification training. Sergeant Kirk and Officer Swinehart completed a de-escalation training course. Sergeant Kirk and Officer Swinehart also completed First Aid/CPR recertifications. Chief Regan completed a Police Liability and Case Law seminar through DVIT. Mr. Mast stated it was nice to see Dublin Police participated with Shop with a Cop at the Walmart in Quakertown. Chief Regan added that there were 180 kids that participated in the Shop with a Cop event.

7.5. Borough Engineer: Mr. Zarko stated the painting work on the Water Tank has been completed. The tank has been refilled and the water has been sampled and sent out to be tested. They need the results back before the tank can be back online. Remaining work includes; reinstallation of cell antennas onto the tank exterior, some touch-up work on the tank legs, removal of the temporary scaffolding and restoration of the site. Mr. Sharer asked how the Borough will pay Bedminster. Mr. Zarko informed him Bedminster will bill the Borough directly for the temporary water supplied.

Mr. Zarko reported on the Lagoon Relining Project. The liner replacement is underway, and the Contractors are performing the work in two sections, due to site space limitations. They are currently installing underdrain in the Lagoon area. He mentioned there was a considerable delay getting this portion of the project started due to the extensive time it took for the sludge removal. He noted that the liner contractor recently encountered some residual sludge in the lagoon that needs to be removed. Mr. Sharer asked if the final amount of sludge removal was consistent with that estimated in the contract. Mr. Zarko stated the final sludge removal quantity will slightly exceed the original contract estimate. Mr. Smith stated if the sludge was removed earlier, the Borough would still have had to pay for it.

Mr. Zarko stated the Borough was awarded \$120,000 from the County for the installation of sidewalks along Middle Road under the Community Development Block Grant Program. The original grant application was a request of \$366,000. The County wants the Borough to modify the scope of work for the Grant. The original application was to replace all the curbs along Middle Road to facilitate construction and provide a uniform final appearance. A re-evaluation was performed focusing on only the defective curbing that would need to be replaced and it was determined that approximately 35% to 40% of the curb should be included in the Grant Project to reduce costs. Borough Council had requested the proposed work be broken into sections beginning at the intersection of Maple Avenue and Middle Road to see how far the grant allocation will go. Mr. Zarko reviewed the scope of work and associated cost estimates for the various sections of the project. There are two alternatives for the first section of the sidewalk installation starting at Maple Avenue. One option is to start the sidewalk on the opposite side of the road. That eliminates some physical conflicts along the northerly side of the road. He noted that Section 1A through 4 as shown on the Project Plan that was included in the Meeting Packet, could be completed based upon the current grant allocation that was received by the Borough. He noted that the Borough would need to obtain Easements for the sidewalk installation due to limited right-of-way as well as existing obstructions. Mr. Mast asked if the 10 % contingencies will be enough to cover the Easements that they will need and everything that is contained in the problem areas. Mr. Zarko stated that the cost

estimates should address the physical conflicts that exist in the project area but did not include potential costs associated with easement acquisitions. Mr. Kracht stated the state law allows the Borough to notify abutting property owners to install curbing and sidewalk at their expense. He suggested preparing a nicely worded letter informing the affected property owners that the Borough is proposing to install curbing and sidewalks at our expense and would appreciate their cooperation in providing the required easements. Mr. Sharer agreed with Mr. Kracht. Mr. Mast added that we made the residents in other parts of the Borough pay for the curbing, while the property owners on Middle Road are getting it for free. Mr. Kracht stated that it is fine since the Borough is getting a grant for the work. Mr. Mayes stated Penn Dot pays for the curbing along Route 313 because it is a state road. Mr. Zarko recommended doing the alternative Section 1A through 4 instead of 1 through 4. Mr. Sharer mentioned for residents to walk across the street to the park, they need to do Section 5. Mr. Zarko stated they can include "add alternate" bid items for Section 5 and 6, and if the bid pricing is lower than the estimates, then they can add it to the project. Mr. Mast asked when the paving on Middle Road would begin and noted it should start after any curbing is completed. Mr. Zarko stated the sidewalk installation project along Middle Road should be bid early in 2022. Mr. Mast asked if Section 1 was off the list and stated there is currently a painted crosswalk on both sides of Maple Avenue, but no painted crosswalk currently exists from Maple Avenue to Middle Road. There was a Consensus to complete Section 1A to Section 4 with the add-alternate items for the remaining with the bids due early in 2022.

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

8. Discussion Items:

8.1. 2021 Budget Adoption: Mr. Zarko stated that Borough Manager presented the proposed 2021 Budget to Council at the November 23rd meeting. Council approved the preliminary Budget at that meeting and the 2021 Budget was advertised on November 30th. The 2021 Budget presented to Council for Final Adoption does NOT propose a Property Tax increase and does NOT propose any increase to Water and Sewer services. No changes were made to the Preliminary Budget and is consistent with what was previously reviewed. Borough staff is recommending that Council adopt the Final 2021 Budget as advertised and included in the meeting packet.

MOTION: Upon Motion by Mr. Smith, seconded by Mr. Mast, Council unanimously approved the 2021 Final Budget.

8.2. Ordinance 328; Setting 2021 Tax Levy: Mr. Sharer stated the 2021 Budget includes no tax increase. Currently the Borough's tax is 21.25 mills with 16 mills dedicated for general purpose, 3.75 mills dedicated for street improvement debt service and 1.50 mills dedicated to street improvement operating costs. The ordinance reflects NO increase to real estate taxes.

MOTION: Mr. Smith made a Motion to adopt Ordinance 328 setting the 2021 Tax Levy at 21.25 mills for Dublin Borough. The Motion was seconded by Mr. Benonis and unanimously carried.

8.3. Approve pay Estimate No. 2 for Contract No. 1447-3 in the amount of \$213,562.38 payable to Suburban Contracting, Inc. for the Water Tower Repainting project: Mr. Zarko recommended approval of Pay Estimate No. 2 for Suburban Contracting, Inc. for the Water Tower Repainting project in the amount of \$213,562.38.

MOTION: Mr. Olsen made a Motion to approve the payment of \$213,562.38 to Suburban Contracting, Inc. for Pay Estimate No. 2 for the Water Tower Repainting Project. The Motion was seconded by Mr. Timothy Hayes and unanimously carried.

8.4. Approve Dublin Town Center Escrow Release #6: Mr. Zarko recommended approval of the Dublin Town Center Escrow Release #6 for the Borough's professional services in the amount of \$55,674.77.

MOTION: Mr. Smith made a Motion to approve the Dublin Town Center Escrow #6 in the amount of \$55,674.77. Mr. Mast seconded the motion and unanimously carried.

8.5. Approve Dublin Town Center Escrow Release #7: Mr. Zarko recommended approval of the Dublin Town Center Escrow Release #7 for site work that has been completed, which includes earthwork, storm water management, paving, water system improvements and miscellaneous items in the amount of \$390,893.25.

MOTION: Mr. Mast made a Motion to approve the Dublin Town Center Escrow #7 in the amount of \$390,893.25, which was seconded by Mr. Smith and unanimously carried.

9. Committee Reports: None.

10. Other Business: None.

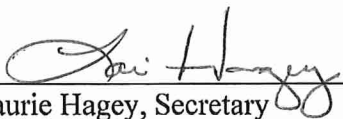
11. Public Comments: None.

12. Comments from Council Members: Mr. Mast asked who coordinates the snow plowing with the expected snowstorm. Chief Regan mentioned the Police Department monitors the snow and road conditions; however, the snow plowing contract spells out exactly what the expectations are of the contractor and any detail is handled between the contractor and the Director of Public Works, Mr. McHugh, while keeping the Borough Manager informed as well.

13. Adjournment: By a motion made by Mr. Smith, Mr. Sharer adjourned the meeting at 8:15 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Date Approved: 11/11/2021


Laurie Hagey, Secretary