

# COUNCIL MEETING WESLEYVILLE BOROUGH

Borough Hall, 3421 Buffalo Road, Erie, PA 16510

August 9, 2023, at 6:00PM

\*\*Approved Minutes\*\*

1. **Call to Order:** 6:00 PM, Mr. Petrini, Vice President
2. **Invocation:** Mr. Petrini, Vice President
3. **Pledge of Allegiance:** Mr. Petrini, Vice President
4. **Roll Call:**
  - a. **Present:** Mrs. Julius, President (By Phone); Mr. Petrini, Vice President; Councilors: Mr. Alfieri, Mrs. Morrow, Mr. Wilder; Mrs. Horanic, Secretary/Treasurer; Mr. Betza, Solicitor; Mr. Ball, PWGS Supervisor; Mr. Jacob, Manager.
  - b. **Not in attendance:** Mr. Johnson, Mayor; Mr. Pitonyak, Council Member; Mr. Silbaugh, Council Member
5. **Citizens to address Council: (5- minute time limit per signed-in citizen)**
  - a. **Justine Stewart:** I live on Woodlawn, and they just recently paved the markers on the road so that the police could do a speed trap, that was probably almost three months ago now. No officer I have seen has been there to do that. I would like to suggest possible can we do that. Can we do something? Just this evening it was about 4:39 PM I have it on camera, a vehicle came out of Eastern flying almost flipped directly in front of my house and then continued on to just about hit the vehicle on the road and turned on Taggart. This stuff happens all the time. There are kids on this street. The next thing along those lines, I love our Chief dearly however, there was that motorcycle accident where that gentleman passed away on Bird drive. Our Chief represented himself in gym shorts and a cut off shirt. That's disgraceful, let's do a little bit better. I'm positive that their union contract says that they must wear a uniform or some type of attire. **Mr. Petrini:** Was he on duty at the time? **Justine:** I don't know but I would suggest that he was within a crime scene in the middle of the section within two hundred feet of where the gentleman died. I would argue that he used some type of authority to be there. **Mr. Petrini:** Well, that was what time? **Justine:** That was Sunday around 2 or 3 o'clock. **Mr. Alfieri:** He probably came out of his house because he wasn't on duty if anything he was first responding because this was in Erie not Wesleyville. **Justine:** I will object to that he was not one of the first on scene. I was toward the end. **Mr. Alfieri:** Everybody comes out when there's lights. **Justine:** I understand but, respectfully I think we need to present ourselves in the best manner. No disrespect I would say that to anyone of you. Even if you showed up here in cut off shirts. It's just not appropriate. Savvy Citizen, I see that we posted a sign. I did read the last couple meeting minutes that we have supposedly been doing something. There's nothing on there. The only thing on there is the council and work sessions. It's been a year and a half to two years now since we've been spending it on it. You raised my tax dollars I have to pay more of what you're going to spend aimlessly. Trash cans, I got a nice orange note on one of my trash cans because I do not have handles on it. Which is perfectly fine. I do not know if you are familiar with this note, but I would advise you to read it. The language of this note is not appropriate for what you're conveying that you're going to throw my trash can away next time it is put out on the curb. There's a few words that would need to be changed

## 8. Old Business:

- a. Quality of Life Ordinance- TABLED
- b. Fire/EMS Issue- Mr. Alfieri attended the meeting in North East about 3 months ago. They presented the beginnings of their research regarding either establishing a county authority or establishing an independent authority that all the municipalities can join in to. Brenton Davis feels that the county is in charge of it all or has an authority than they can have more leverage with any money because the county is big, and the county has leverage and the county can do more stuff. The company that's doing the research on this wants to speak to us the council because they want to know the boroughs option is on it. There currently is nothing to make an option on at the moment. This is still a plan in process. They have not come up with any solutions yet. As far as the Fire/EMS plan nothing has come about yet. Still waiting to get more information. Mr. Alfieri will keep council posted.
- c. Status of a new front loader- Money was received.
  - i. Motion made by Mr. Wilder, seconded by Mr. Alfieri to make Marcus Jacobs the purchasing agent for Wesleyville Borough, unanimous voice vote, motion carries.
- d. Status of outstanding grant applications: Mrs. Foley was able to get the one for the sidewalk all taking care of and submitted. **Mrs. Morrow:** It's been brought to my attention that one of the things holding up the kitchen grant is the leak in the roof. Wish I had known that, but now that the budget has been passed, we think that money in the state budget there was money for us to get a new roof. We need to follow up with that at Mr. Merski's office.
- e. Police Pension- vote at August 9<sup>th</sup> meeting
  - i. Motion made by Mr. Wilder, seconded by Mrs. Morrow to approve an amendment to Wesleyville Borough Police Pension Plan to establish an early retirement benefit for qualifying officers, unanimous voice vote, motion carries.
- f. Merski Lease
  - i. Motion made by Mrs. Julius, seconded by Mr. Wilder to accept the lease with Merski, unanimous voice vote, motion carries.
- g. Kitchen Grant: already discussed.

## 9. New Business:

- a. Proposal for hedges
  - i. Motion made by Mr. Wilder seconded by Mrs. Morrow t allow Wesleyville Baptist church to remove the hedges along the front of the property, unanimous voice vote, motion carries.
- b. Erie County Solar Ordinance development program:
  - i. This is more for towns/boroughs with farmland. This was an FYI for the council.
- c. Fix lawn estimates (Skellie Ave and Euclid Ave):
  - i. This was passed at the last meeting.
- d. New radio for new dump truck
  - i. Motion made by Mr. Alfieri, seconded by Mr. Wilder to spend up to \$500.00 to install a used radio if it works, unanimous voice vote, motion carries.
- e. F550 Blue fail inspection:
  - i. Failed inspection because the fuel tank leaks. Right now, Aurora won't touch it because they can't get it high enough to get the tank out from under it. We are

how many of our volunteer fire fighters are actually being used. I see a large list of 25-30 that are members of the volunteer fire fighters but only 8 hours of service on our emergency calls, but we don't know what we are doing on our fire calls. **Mr. Alfieri:** Mr. Banister does send out a report in the email. The email that you just received there are 3 reports one for EMS drop call, one for QRS and one for Fire calls. **Mrs. Julius:** If Pete could please give us the amount of how many fire fighters actually go to these calls.

- p. Amendola Quote
  - i. Motion made by Mr. Alfieri, seconded by Mrs. Morrow to use ARPA money to pay for the Amendola quote for the storm drain located on Union & Edison in the amount of \$9,996.00, unanimous voice vote, motion carries.
- q. Unwelcoming signs
  - i. **Mrs. Morrow:** Since I've been on the council, I've noticed signs in the building that are unwelcoming. I don't know who decided these signs should be in the building and would like to know what would have to happen to have them removed. I think we need to be more welcoming building. **Mr. Wilder:** What signs? **Mrs. Morrow:** Theres signs up there that say do not sit in these chairs, I put them down. The sign saying appointment only and this means council and mayor. I find this very unwelcoming. **Mr. Petrini:** It was there for a reason because we did have an issue. I instituted it awhile ago. **Mrs. Morrow:** Well, I think this could be addressed without a sign. **Mr. Petrini:** I believe the borough manager can decide.

**10. Mrs. Julius signed off at 7:45 PM**

**11. Executive Session:** convened at 7:49 PM regarding personnel matters.

**12. Reconvene:** 8:06 PM

**13. Treasures Report:**

- a. Bank Transfers
  - i. Motion made by Mr. Alfieri, seconded by Mr. Wilder to approve the bank transfers for July 2023, unanimous voice vote, motion carries.
- b. Check Detail
  - i. Motion made by Mr. Alfieri, seconded by Mr. Wilder to approve check detail for July 2023, unanimous voice vote, motion carries.

**14. Borough Manager:** Mr. Jacobs: I had a chance to look over the strategic plan. If you all could look it over and we can all agree I can get that written up. The strategic plan states that the website needs an update to say the least. I can start accumulating pictures. I can start putting together a skeleton of the website. Then I'll send it to someone to build the website. The dot gov registration I put in for the other day I realize after the fact I did not do the process right. I did send a letter and have the mayor sign it. It will be about a month and a half before they get back to us. Once approved we will have the dot gov domain along with the emails change to dot gov. Terri from DCED mentioned 1-million-dollar match grant opportunity through the Local Shares Account. She stated that this is due at the end of November. When I mentioned this to Regina she said Euclid, we already have a plan together so putting in this application will be easy.

**15. Borough Council Department Chairs:**

- a. Mr. Alfieri-Nothing to report.
- b. Mr. Pitonyak – Not in attendance
- c. Mr. Silbaugh – Not in attendance