



**Borough Council- Regular Meeting
October 2, 2023**

The Regular Meeting of Souderton Borough Council, held on the above date, was called to order by Council President Tracy W. Burke at 7:00pm. President Burke stated that this evening's meeting will not be recorded due to technical difficulties. Councilor Sholly provided the Invocation, which was followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Borough Secretary Stacy E. Crandell noted that Councilor Matthew J. DiNenna and Councilor Richard M. Walczak were absent this evening and the following Borough Council and staff were present:

Council President Tracy W. Burke
Councilor Edward M. Huber
Councilor Daryl W. Littlefield
Councilor Julie A. Munden
Councilor Donna M. Rogers
Councilor Matthew R. Sholly

Mayor Daniel L. Yocum
Junior Councilor Elijah S. Steglik
Junior Councilor Estrela T. Sadiboko
Borough Manager Stacy E. Crandell
Solicitor Brian Gourley
Police Chief Brian A. Newhall
Public Works Director Steven Coll
Finance Director P. Michael Coll

Council President Tracy Burke explained that going forward the minutes and approval of the bills will fall under a consent agenda portion of the Council Meeting per a discussion with the new Borough Manager. This evening in preparation for that change, Council President Burke asked for one motion to approve both the September 11, 2023, Regular Borough Council Meeting Minutes and the September 18, 2023, Borough Council Work Session Meeting.

A motion made by Councilor Matthew Sholly, and seconded by Councilor Julie Munden, to approve both the September 11, 2023, Regular Borough Council Meeting Minutes and the September 18, 2023, Borough Council Work Session Meeting as presented. The motion was approved.

Jessica Cimini, Souderton Connects Manager, provided an update on the recent events including Art Jam and the 5th Anniversary celebration at Downtown Scoops. She gave an update on some upcoming events including the Peppe Steaks Ribbon Ceremony that is scheduled for October 6th, and the Holiday Parade will go live on their website this week. Souderton Connects Annual Meeting will be held on October 24th at 5:30PM at the Branch Creek Taphouse and invitations to stakeholders should be going out soon.

Mayor Daniel Yocum noted some events happening at the Perseverance Fire Company including a cash bingo on October 22nd.

Police Chief Brian Newhall summarized the monthly report of the police department activities. Chief Newhall noted that the first Citizens Police Academy was held this month and was successful.

Public Works Director Steven Coll summarized the activities of the Public Works Department. Mr. Coll explained about the work being done at the Freight House, and the pools being winterized. In addition, Mr. Coll discussed the upcoming road work being done by GoreCon. Inc., which includes South Front Street (Cherry Lane to East Broad Street), West Street (Green Street to W. Walnut Street), W. Walnut Street (West Street to Green Street), Mifflin Street (W. Broad Street to Highland Avenue), Highland Avenue (Mifflin Street to Hunsberger Lane) and Madison Avenue (Mifflin Street to Hunsberger



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Lane). Mr. Coll also announced that PECO just contacted the Borough and stated that they were going to pave a section along Broad Street this week.

Under Committee Reports, Council President Tracy Burke explained that they would not be able to make the anticipated appointment of the new council member for Ward 3 due to a conflict that was expressed by the candidate's employer. He explained that they were going to see if there were any additional interested candidates for this position. A Special Council Meeting is going to be held on October 9th at 7PM to interview candidates and an appointment would most likely take place that evening.

Councilor Sholly stated that the Public Safety Committee will be meeting to discuss the fire pit ordinance. Councilor Littlefield gave an update from the Public Outreach Committee and stated the final 3rd Friday will take place on October 20th and Council will have a table. In addition, there will be Council Office Hours on October 21st from 11AM-1PM.

As previously discussed earlier in the meeting, Council President Tracy Burke asked that the bills be approved by a joint motion. A joint motion made by Councilor Munden, and seconded by Councilor Littlefield approved the Bills for the Month of September 2023 and Recurring Bills for October 2023.

Council President Tracy Burke opened the floor to the audience for public comment.

Mary Montroy, 157 Front Street, wanted to thank Chief Newhall for the Citizens Police Academy. She really enjoyed the program.

Valerie Jobeck, 154 Front Street, also wanted to express her appreciation for Citizens Police Academy and thank Chief Newhall.

Richard Detwiler, 220 Franklin Avenue, citing what happen last year during the budget, he wanted to express his support for the funding to go up for both the Indian Valley Library and the Fire Company.

Michael Pipe, 570 East Garfield Avenue, also wanted to express his appreciation to Chief Newhall for the Citizens Police Academy program. He also expressed support for the additional funding to the Indian Valley Library and the Fire Company.

There being no further public comment, President Tracy Burke moved to the Business portion of the agenda.

Borough Manager Stacy Crandell explained that due to a conflict with the candidate's employer, it is recommended the Council authorize the advertisement for the Special Meeting on October 9th to select a candidate for the vacancy. A motion was made by Councilor Sholly and seconded by Councilor Munden to authorize the advertisement of a Special Borough Council Meeting on Monday, October 9, 2023, beginning at 7:00pm to consider an appointment to fill a vacant Borough Councilor position, representing Ward 3, through December 31, 2025. The motion was approved.

Borough Manager Stacy Crandell stated the bids for the Municipal Building Renovations Phase 1 came in over the estimated budget of \$1.6 million and all of the bids exceeded \$2 million. Ms. Crandell made the recommendation to reject all bids. Ms. Crandell further explained that now that she is on board, she will spend time evaluating other options for the municipal building and other facilities that



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are needed and report back to Council. A motion by Councilor Munden and seconded by Councilor Rogers, to reject all bids received on September 19, 2023, for the Souderton Borough Hall, Addition and Alterations project, given that all bid proposals grossly exceeded budget estimates and allocations. The motion was approved.

Borough Manager Stacy Crandell explained that a contract for Lifeguard Management for the Pool from Bennington Pool Services was received and if approved early, a discount will be given. Ms. Crandell recommended the approval of the contract. A motion was made by Councilor Huber and seconded by Councilor Rogers, to approve the execution of the 2024 Lifeguard Management Contract with Bennington Pool Services, with the noted schedule revisions.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:45PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Stacy E. Crandell

Stacy E. Crandell, Secretary