

Regular Meeting

January 9, 2023

The Regular Meeting of Souderton Borough Council, held on the above date, was called to order by Council President Tracy W. Burke at 7:00 p.m. President Burke reminded the members and audience that the Borough Council meeting is being recorded and will be posted to the Borough web site.

Borough Councillor Richard Walczak provided the Invocation, which was followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Borough Secretary P. Michael Coll conducted a Roll Call with the following members of Borough Council and staff present:

President Tracy W. Burke	Mayor Daniel L. Yocum
Councillor Edward Huber	Junior Councillor Elijah S. Steglik
Councillor Matthew J. DiNenna	Junior Councillor Estrela T. Sadiboko
Councillor Daryl W. Littlefield	
Councillor Julie A. Munden	
Councillor Donna M. Rogers	
Councillor Matthew R. Sholly	Borough Manager P. Michael Coll
Councillor Richard M. Walczak	Police Chief Brian Newhall
Councillor Courtnee Wampole	Public Works Director Steven Coll

Consideration was given to the minutes of the December 5, 2022 Regular Borough Council Meeting. A motion was made by Councillor Daryl Littlefield, and seconded by Councillor Courtnee Wampole, to approve the minutes of the December 5, 2022 Regular Borough Council Meeting as presented. The motion was approved.

President Burke noted that there are several presentation requests for this meeting, first recognizing Mayor Daniel Yocum who recognized the public service of James C. Gallagher, Jr with a “Key to the Borough.” James Gallagher has been a member of the Perseverance Volunteer Fire Company for over 50 years and held all of the administrative offices of the company. He retired as President on December 31, 2022, a position that he held for 27 years. During his tenure Jim Gallagher oversaw the replacement of all of the company apparatus and the recent addition to the firehouse. Jim Gallagher will continue to serve as treasurer for the Souderton Firemen Relief Association, a position that he has held for 42 years. Jim Gallagher graciously accepted the honor and recognition from Souderton Borough, noting that the accomplishments of the Perseverance Volunteer Fire Company belong to the membership and their continued dedication to serve. Jim Gallagher introduced the incoming President Albert Sergio.

Boy Scout Parker Corchiolo presented a proposed Eagle Scout project to Souderton Borough Council. He proposed the construction of two dug outs at the Cherry

Lane baseball fields. The dug outs will be constructed on the upper field. He has a budget of \$4,000 with the Souderton Baseball League pledging \$2,500. Zion Mennonite Church has approved the project. Parker Corchiolo requested assistance from Souderton Borough with the potential of manpower or financial assistance. He is under a deadline to complete the project by November, 2023. Mayor Yocum suggested that the Borough may be able to assist with the procurement or donation of material, however, the project may require assistance from a local contractor. Borough Council will discuss the project at the January Work Session.

Jennifer Arevalo, CEO and Director of Organizational Operations of the Souderton Charter School Collaborative addressed members of Borough Council with some printed materials about the Souderton Charter School and their operations in Souderton Borough. The Souderton Charter School provides education for Kindergarten through 8th grade students. Presently 200 of the total 250 students reside in the Souderton Area School District. They currently have a relationship with the Indian Valley Boys and Girls Club to utilize their facility for gym programs for their students. The Charter School expressed a desire to be a part of the Borough's revitalization efforts. Unfortunately the building at 27 S. Front Street was unable to meet the initial plans of the Charter School and its deteriorated condition led to a decision to demolish the building. They would like to work with the Borough to develop the lot into a mutually beneficial green space.

Mayor Daniel Yocum reported on a fundraising event for the Souderton Fire Company Auxiliary. Mayor Yocum also noted that Souderton Connects will be holding their "So You Think You Can Cook" event in March at the Souderton Firehouse.

Police Chief Brian Newhall briefly summarized police department activities. Chief Newhall will check into NIMS training for elected officials.

Borough Manager Michael Coll summarized the Borough Solicitor's report for the month of December, 2022 which was submitted to Borough Council. The Solicitor completed and submitted documents for the 2023 Tax Anticipation Loan. The Borough received the loan from Univest Bank and Trust Company during the first week in January. The Borough Solicitor completed and advertised the Zoning Ordinance amendment regulating small wireless facilities. Formal consideration of this ordinance is scheduled for the February 6, 2023 Borough Council meeting.

Public Works Director Steven Coll summarized public works activities. Crews completed leaf collection, but can still follow up with spot collections. Weather conditions allowed for pot hole patching and some blacktop repair along newly poured curb. Crews addressed three winter storm events, all of which only required salting. For the coming month, crews will concentrate on routine equipment maintenance, removal of holiday decorations and installation of the gaga pit in the Community Park.

In response to a question from Councillor Richard Walczak, Public Works Director Steven Coll confirmed that the flashing pedestrian crosswalk signs as recommended by the committee have been ordered, but there is an extended delivery date. Crews will install the signs at Second Street and East Broad Street and at Fifth Street and East Broad Street upon delivery.

In response to a question from Councillor Matthew Sholly, Steven Coll explained various disposal sites for leaf waste utilized by the Borough. Most sites do charge a disposal fee but the costs are in line with budget estimates.

Borough Manager Michael Coll noted that the Souderton Planning Commission met last week on Wednesday, January 4, 2023. The next Borough Council work session will be held on January 16, 2023.

The Borough Manager reported on the agenda for the Borough Council meeting. The first item of business is a formal Resolution setting the trash collection fees for the 2023 calendar year. The service rates under the collection contract with J. P. Mascaro & Sons will increase necessitating a \$5.00 increase in the quarterly fee to the residents effective January 1, 2023. This increase is reflected in the 2023 Budget. Resolutions have been prepared to waive member contributions to the Police Pension Plan for the 2023 calendar year and to reduce member contributions to the Non-Uniformed Pension Plan from 5% to 3% for the 2023 calendar year. This action is consistent with the Police Collective Bargaining Agreement and the 2023 Minimum Municipal Pension Obligations as calculated and included in the 2023 Budget. Borough Council and the Police Officers have reached a settlement for a new Collective Bargaining Agreement to become effective January 1, 2023. The settlement is consistent with the 2023 Budget estimates. Recommendations have been made to authorize Styer Associates to complete the 2022 Audit and to appoint William Collier to serve another term as a member of the Zoning Hearing Board and to re-appoint Daniel Houser to serve as Vacancy Board Chairman.

Councillor Julie Munden reported that her committee has solicited proposals for a consulting firm to assist with the advertisement and search for our next Borough Manager. Council President Tracy Burke noted that a soft target is to appoint a replacement later this fall.

Councillor Daryl Littlefield noted that Borough Council office hours are scheduled for Saturday, January 21, 2023 from 11:00 am to 1:00 pm in the lobby of the Souderton Municipal Building.

Consideration was given to paying the bills for the month of December, 2022.

GENERAL FUND

21 st Century Media	\$649.42	Clemens Uniform Rental	\$145.62
Altek Business Systems, Inc.	5,174.50	Comcast Cable	855.67
Association of Mayors	70.00	Cope's Garage, Inc.	544.40
Barnside Farm Compost Facility	43.12	Delta Dental/Gettysburg Benefit	1,305.12
Bow Wow Waste Products	263.97	Freedom Systems Corp	3,570.00
Britton Industries	689.54	Generations of Indian Valley	6,000.00
C & S Lawn & Landscape Inc.	400.00	Good Plumbing Heating A/C, Inc.	397.41
Clemens Uniform Rental	218.43	H & K Materials	282.80
Cope's Garage, Inc.	3,747.37	Home Depot	328.37
Crystal Springs	110.88	Independence Blue Cross	20,652.81
Davidheisers, Inc.	132.00	IV Chamber of Commerce	355.00
Fastenal	16.13	Kenco Hydraulics, Inc.	395.00
Fredericks Flowers	275.00	Lawson Products, Inc.	214.75
Fromm Electric Supply Corp.	23.38	LVL Engineering Group	2,308.26
George Allen Portable Toilets	485.80	Maryjane Yoder	167.42
Gilmore & Associates, Inc.	552.81	Meals on Wheels of IV	6,000.00
Good Plumbing Heating A/C, Inc.	1,201.56	Moyer Indoor/Outdoor	4,117.42
Gouldey Welding & Fabrication	107.00	NAPA Auto Parts	70.09
Independence Blue Cross	20,652.81	Nationwide Trust Company	1,120.44
Moyer Indoor/Outdoor	1,267.90	NetCarrier Telecom, Inc.	298.69
NAPA Auto Parts	96.59	North American Benefits Co.	1,310.09
Nationwide Trust Company	988.36	North Penn Goodwill Service	4,250.00
North American Benefits Company	1,310.09	NYCO Corporation	80.14
North Penn Water Authority	41.44	PSAB CDL Testing Program	75.00
PA State Association of Boroughs	170.00	Pendergast Safety Equipment Co.	892.91
PECO Energy	128.62	PA One Call System	95.04
Rodney Shoemaker Plumbing	80.32	PPL Electric Utilities	1,563.45
Something Better, Inc.	1,400.00	PPL Electric Utilities	162.52
Suburban Propane	1,495.52	Richter Drafting/Office Supply	133.31
The Harrison Group, Inc.	285.00	Rodney Shoemaker Plumbing	82.70
Univest Insurance, Inc.	350.00	Sirchie	3,145.00
Univest VISA	79.61	Souderton Community Dev. Corp.	5,937.50
Univest VISA	85.84	Steven R. Coll	317.36
Univest VISA	177.57	Styer Associates	584.50
Unum Insurance Company	1,172.05	Suburban Propane	603.16
Warehouse Battery Outlet	1,149.78	Univest VISA	78.85
21 st Century Media	1,162.06	Univest VISA	208.28
Altek Business Systems, Inc.	151.96	Univest VISA	91.97
Altek Business Systems, Inc.	500.03	Verizon	74.76
Armour & Sons Electric, Inc.	7,889.07	Verizon Wireless	427.19
Britton Industries	183.71	Total General Fund	\$124,222.24

SEWER FUND

Altek Business Systems, Inc.	\$5,597.50	Fromm Electric Supply Corp.	\$97.57
Bearing & Drive Solutions	774.00	Hangey Contracting, LLC	6,240.00
Cintas First Aid & Safety	132.40	Hangey Contracting, LLC	6,240.00
Clemens Uniform Rental	146.01	Home Depot	403.00
Coyne Chemical	3,801.96	Independence Blue Cross	3,903.52
Derstine Company, Inc.	30,340.00	J. P. Mascaro & Sons	4,151.35
EVOQUA Water Technologies	4,124.25	Lawson Products, Inc.	244.42
Good Plumbing Heating A/C, Inc.	622.32	Maryland Biochemical Co., Inc.	880.94

Independence Blue Cross	\$3,903.52	Midway Industrial Supply	\$2,506.76
J. P. Mascaro & Sons	6,793.15	Moyer Indoor/Outdoor	225.46
Midway Industrial Supply	1,549.78	NAPA Auto Parts	10.44
North American Benefits Co.	263.95	NetCarrier Telecom, Inc.	106.12
North Penn Water Authority	228.33	North American Benefits Co.	263.95
PA DEP	60.00	NYCO Corporation	60.31
PPL Electric Utilities	12,542.91	PA DEP	125.00
Teledyne Instruments, Inc.	1,618.01	PPL Electric Utilities	14,819.08
The Harrison Group, Inc.	60.00	Richter Drafting/Office Supply	70.31
Unum Insurance Company	269.87	Sigmatronics, Inc.	1,902.80
Clemens Uniform Rental	97.34	Suburban Water Testing Labs	1,827.84
Comcast Cable	141.42	Univest VISA	24.59
Coyne Chemical	5,428.62	USA Blue Book	104.65
Delta Dental/Gettysburg Benefit	308.60	Verizon	79.80
EVOQUA Water Technologies	10,162.80	Wise Electric	950.00
FP Finance Program	359.00	Total Sewer Fund	\$134,563.65

POOL FUND

Good Plumbing Heating A/C, Inc.	\$427.77	Comcast Cable	\$174.20
North Penn Water Authority	3,238.42	NetCarrier Telecom, Inc.	90.81
PECO Energy	86.41	PA DEP	50.00
Airgas National Carbonation	101.86	PPL Electric Utilities	615.53
Bergey's Electric, Inc.	479.91	Total Pool Fund	\$5,264.91

CAPITAL RESERVE FUND

Gilmore & Associates, Inc.	\$7,791.25	Kompan, Inc.	\$338,642.77
Moyer Indoor/Outdoor	420.00	LVL Engineering Group	1,005.61
Naceville Materials	1,912.05	Moyer Indoor/Outdoor	510.00
Phillips & Donovan Architects	5,850.00	Phillips & Donovan Architects	13,445.88
Steven & Joy Myers	171.25	Total Capital Reserve Fund	\$369,748.81

LIQUID FUELS FUND

PPL Electric Utilities	\$6,256.58	PPL Electric Utilities	\$78.94
PPL Electric Utilities	859.19	Total Liquid Fuels Fund	\$7,194.71

A motion was made by Councillor Daryl Littlefield, and seconded by Councillor Donna Rogers, to authorize the payment of bills for the month of December, 2022 and the recurring expenses for the month of January, 2023, as presented. The motion was approved.

President Tracy Burke opened the floor to the audience for public comment. There being no public comment, President Burke moved to the business items on the Agenda beginning with the Resolution establishing trash collection fees for the 2023 calendar year.

A motion was made by Councillor Matthew DiNenna, and seconded by Councillor Matthew Sholly, to adopt Resolution No. 2023-01 establishing fees for municipal curbside collection of solid waste and recycling materials. The motion was approved.

A motion was made by Councillor Julie Munden, and seconded by Councillor Courtnee Wampole, to adopt Resolution No. 2023-02 waiving member contributions to the Souderton Police Pension Plan for the 2023 calendar year. The motion was approved.

A motion was made by Councillor Julie Munden, and seconded by Councillor Richard Walczak, to adopt Resolution No. 2023-03 reducing member contributions to the Souderton Non-Uniformed Pension Plan from five percent (5%) to three percent (3%) of gross wages for the 2023 calendar year. The motion was approved.

A motion was made by Councillor Julie Munden, and seconded by Councillor Richard Walczak, to approve and authorize the execution of the Souderton Police Collective Bargaining Agreement effective January 1, 2023 through December 31, 2025. The motion was approved.

A motion was made by Councillor Donna Rogers, and seconded by Councillor Daryl Littlefield, to approve the engagement letter of Styer Associates, Certified Public Accountants, to complete the audit and prepare the general purpose financial statements of the Borough of Souderton for the year ending December 31, 2022. The motion was approved.

A motion was made by Councillor Daryl Littlefield, and seconded by Councillor Courtnee Wampole, to appoint William Collier, 329 N. Second Street, Souderton to serve another three year term as a member of the Zoning Hearing Board through December 31, 2025. The motion was approved.

A motion was made by Councillor Courtnee Wampole, and seconded by Councillor Edward Huber, to appoint Daniel Houser, 436 Central Avenue, Souderton to serve as Vacancy Board Chairman for the 2023 calendar year. The motion was approved.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

P. Michael Coll, Secretary