

**April 10, 2023**

The Alexandria Borough Council met at the Alexandria Volunteer Fire Hall at Alexandria, PA 16611. The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by President Judy Scott. President Scott led council in the Pledge of Allegiance and prayer.

Council members present were President Judy Scott, Mike Peters, Tori Wilt, Vice President Joel Pheasant. Treasurer Leslie Jackson. Also present: Sam Isenberg, Brian Hetrick, Sam Miller, Ron Kuntz, Kim Diggins

- **Motion to approve minutes from March 13<sup>th</sup> Mike Peters. Seconded by Tori Wilt. All in favor. Motion carried.**

#### **FINANCIAL REPORT AND AUTHORIZATION OF BILLS**

President Scott brought to council's attention that the Hometown Heroes invoice will need paid prior to the next meeting. She is also ordering new straps for the installation of the banners to help support them. Vice President Joel asked if we have an idea of the cost for these banners? President Scott said approximately \$1,000 – council will pay for the cost of the straps and the shipping. Vice President Joel made the motion to approve payment. Mike Peters seconded. All in favor. Motion carried.

**Tori Wilt made a motion to approve the financial report and authorization of bills. Vice President Joel seconded. All in favor. Motion carried.**

#### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

- Kim Diggins
  - She asked about the cameras not being put up at the parks yet. She had her grandkids up there today and someone took a knife and cut the dinosaur, there's also damage on a slide that could cause cuts to the kids legs. She asked about the cameras because when she sits on her porch she can see the kids up there damaging the playground. She's see the kids pushing signs and trying to pull them out of the ground. It's the same kids trying to pull the railing off the library.
  - She also asked where are we at with PennDOT and the traffic issues? President Scott said that it's on the agenda as well as the increase in vandalism, the security is on the agenda as well.
  - She also asked if there's any money in the budget to do a memorial bench for Bud Itinger, she was in Martinsburg and they have them sitting everywhere. She inquired with Martinsburg about where they acquired them at. She feels they'd be great for the community.
  - Kim Diggins wanted to thank whoever is manning the Facebook page because she knows it takes a lot of time.

- Sam Isenburg asked when they are going to hang Hometown Heroes tributes out in front of his home. President Scott said they have 5 additional banners to install and they will be up within the borough limits. As we get more we can put them up that way. He would like his dad's banner up that way. President Scott said that each year they submit to Penelec about what poles they can use each year. Sam Isenburg asked if Porter Twp should get involved and ask to get involved. Vice President Joel asked where Sam's house is located and how far down we go now. President Scott said if he would like his father's banner could go solo in front of his house. He feels several other ones would be up there. President Scott said that when the banners come in we will happily go wherever and they have to pre-submit for the poles. She said she will take his information tonight and reach out to Penelec about using that particular pole. Is he okay to have his dad's up there solo? VP Joel asked how long it takes them to get back to us? President Scott said it's about a month turnaround. VP Joel said it looks like there's about 4 poles, President Scott said that she can't guarantee preapproval from Penelec, but she will ask.

## SOLICITOR REPORT

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## REPRESENTATIVE REPORT

- **Ken Patterson**
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  - Reminder for Leighton to send church a thank you note...
- **Code Enforcement Officer and Permit Officer – in public comment**
- **Water Authority**
  - Sam Miller said in the same article that the Porter Twp appointed Sam to the Water Authority. I guess the Water Authority and the Twp need to look that all the policy still exists; the Borough is to have the only authority to appoint Water Authority members. We (as the water authority) weren't advised about anything. President Scott said we need the most accurate bylaws so everyone is on the same page and we follow things in that order.
  - President Scott and Sam Miller talked about which bylaws they have...
  - Sam Miller said the water authority was just astonished to read it without the borough's authority
  - President Scott said the Porter Twp has to have representation on the Water Authority – Alexandria does have the authority of appointment for the Water Authority. She asked if Mike Peters and Sam Isenberg and Kim Diggins as proxy for Mark to set up a meeting for the authorities to meet and discuss this matter altogether and a lot time with our solicitor not here.
  - Mike Peters feel the three solicitors should talk, Sam Miller agrees with Mike that the attorneys need to be there and represent the entities.
  - President Scott asked if they'd like the secretary to send a letter to each solicitor about the Alexandria Borough, Porter Twp, Water Authority, and Sewer

Authority to resolve this matter that is an issue to the bylaws. We need clarity and it needs to be a matter of record and unfortunately someone walked off with past records and they were never returned.

- *I make a motion to draft a letter to schedule an action meeting to clarify the bylaws between Alexandria Borough, Porter Township, Water Authority, and Sewer Authority???* Void
- Sam Isenberg said there is definitely confusion because we purposely kept the plaque over there that says Alexandria Borough, Porter Twp, Water Authority, and Sewer Authority, but they are separate...
- Solicitor Greg Jackson arrived at 7:31 pm council and all paused to ask him questions. Mike Peters reiterated the above... Porter Twp made decisions about appointees without anyone knowing and there are questions about their authority to do so. We feel they have done some things that they are not able to do. It's all over the place and we want to get it straightened out, so our thought was to get all four entities together and the solicitors. Perhaps we start over.
- We start from the position that anything is possible. When the authorities were created they would have been created as a joint initiative with the municipalities. There would have been an organizing document by the members that time; I have never seen one from the Water Authority or the Sewer Authority. When you appointed someone in January it was made from the board, if you appointed an individual to that board and you said it was a 5 year terms and it turns out from the organic document it should be a 3 year terms then you appointed for a 3 year term. It doesn't invalidate it. The authorities should have that information; I can reach out to their solicitors and see if they can provide me that information then I can give further advice after looking at it.
- Mike Peters said he had a lot of paperwork a long time ago when the authority was 3 and 2 and then went back to 3 and 3.
- Solicitor Jackson said To answer your question to whether or not you can make changes. You can, I would assume that it would allow you to make amendments.
- Mike Peters is concerned people will have paperwork that says all different things.
- If there was a difference of agreement over the bylaws or documents as to which one was to govern or followed then an action could be filed and put before a judge and the judge could make a declaratory judgment as to which one is to be followed.
- Mike Peters will look through his paperwork.
- President Scott asked about a workshop, but would defer to Solicitor Jackson's schedule. He said that's fine, his schedule would be easier to work with than the other solicitors.
- Vice President Joel asked if it needs to be a public meeting even as a workshop and Greg said yes. Anytime the municipality and authority get together to discuss things, the public has to have the opportunity to be there and make comment. You're not obligated to answer questions.

- President Scott asked if you want the secretary to send out an invite or wait until May? Mike Peters said we probably shouldn't wait until May –Vice President asked what is the issue with the sewer authority right now?
- Mike Peters said nothing really, but as we're looking into the declaration state what do we think we have for terms for the sewer authority verse what their terms are for? We haven't been reappointing anyone the past few years... I don't think there is issues except to say what are the terms supposed to be.
- President Scott said with different projects coming up sometimes the different entities don't communicate and this will help create a dialogue that people are working more openly together.
- Mike Peters said maybe we should wait until May and that allows people to gather information.
- Solicitor Jackson said if you're going to see Dave tomorrow ask him if he has the bylaws for the authority. The Sewer Authority goes back before the Water Authority...
- Sam Isenberg said the Philips family donated the Water Authority to the town of Alexandria...
- Sam Miller said there will certainly be some members of the groups that can fill things in...
- President Scott said we will table the discussion and wait to hear back from Greg in May's meeting.
- Mike Peters will be in touch with Greg... and he will take a look at them and see what they have
- **Sewer Authority**
  - Mike Peters said two meetings ago they had asked about the one municipality and how they are doing their fire protection...obviously Greg's not here tonight, but we can ask him. Brian Hetrick said they get the full 3%, but they are going around about way of getting it, not the way they agreed about it. Brian said a certain municipality isn't doing it the way everyone else is.
  - Mike Peters said it was in the paper that the township removed Sam Isenberg and kept Tom Anders to a one year term, they never let us know anything, so I don't know what's going to happen tomorrow. President Scott said we need to appoint two other members, Mike Peters said there's no issue on the borough side we have 3 representatives, not Porter Twp though. They didn't make us aware, but it was posted in the paper. Porter Twp changed the membership, but didn't alert the sewer authority of the change – they just found out in the paper.
  - President Scott needed to clarify that the Sewer authority is 6, 3 for Porter and 3 for Alexandria Borough – Porter Twp was making the change
  - Sam Isenberg said their previous meeting they replaced two other members at the township meeting.
  - Mike Peters as a sewer authority member is not sure what is going to happen tomorrow night. They told Sam Isenberg not to attend as a board member.
- **Alexandria Volunteer Fire Company**
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- **Tree Report**

## NEW BUSINESS

- **Dain Davis Brewhouse Lane Ext Survey**

- The Brewhouse Lane Ext that you asked my firm to do an aerial deed search – he reviewed large scale map – aerial survey and deed surveys of the area
- Half the deeds refer to an alley and half the deeds don't – the alley referred on Smith and Creswell is 10 ft – the deeds on your building refer to a 20 ft alley
- For you to take the alley over you need a 20 ft right away and 16 ft (?) park way
- President Scott pointed out where the Smith property has the right away blocked and in some degree laid claim to it, but it's a right away
- Tori Wilt asked what's in the alleyway right now, Dain said the Smith's junk and some other people are putting stuff on the road. The road parallels the deed – the true 20 ft right away that some of the deeds refer to
- The Fries go back 20 some years... so for PennDOT reimbursement you have to have control of the alley and it has to be over 400 ft and your alley is 450 ft from Hartslog to Main St. Each deed would have to be amended to show the alley is adjacent to their deed or part of their deed
- There's a lot of work to be done to improve it – you can take it over without asking for reimbursement from PennDOT
- Dain has the aerial survey and the survey – he made copies for council to read prior to the next meeting.
- President Scott said that the reason we were having this additionally surveyed is for development for the museum. For decades this has been ignored. Another interesting factor regarding the river... Dain said the road would be in the floodplain and you're only allow to develop that for passive recreation – President Scott said think kayaks or pavilions for the river. Dain explained lines and property passing further... President Scott asked when the one area changed to Porter Twp? Dain said he was not sure.
- Tori Wilt said that the purpose of clearing this is for the estimated \$400 or so back a year and future plans? President Scott said also for parking access for the 300 block especially during the winter. Tori asked if they can park back there right now. Dain said he thinks they can, but he does not know. Dain said someone put a tent right in the middle of this... Kim Diggins said it was temporary because they had a tree struck by lightning. President Scott asked if Kim remembered it being open and she did, Vice President Joel also recalls driving through that alley in high school.
- Dain said you need a true land survey; Greg could help amend the deeds. Most of the time people ask the municipality to take the road over so it's the municipality's responsibility.
- Tori Wilt asked the cost for all this... Dain said for the survey to seal you're looking at \$8,000 to \$12,000 – to seal it as an action it has to go Greg

- Tori Wilt said if it costs \$8,000 and we only get around \$400 a year back... Greg said it will be a lot more too because that's just survey costs.
- Greg said there are ways to get it added to liquid fuels inventory
  - 1<sup>st</sup> way all of the adjoining property owners to consent to the opening of the alleyway to a public road. If all of the adjoining property owner's consents then you could have them sign deeds as a travel way and it can be added to the liquid fuels inventory. If one or more property owners reject the voluntary then you file an action to take the road as imminent domain and calculate the loss that would then be paid to them. What exists now is a private right away in favor of the adjoining property owners – the borough owns one of the lots therefore the borough has access. Mike Peters asked as one of the owners we can ask them to keep it clear? Greg said yes, the borough can bring action against the individual blocking the road, but that has nothing to do with liquid fuels funds. It would just keep it from being obstructed.
- Mike Peters given the expenses we've talked about – you'd have to widen the road by 10 feet; I can't see spending that much money. I would never vote to give him money. Maybe we should look at that...
- Kim Diggins asked how it got to that.
- President Scott said because people don't do what's necessary and then you have land grabs. Solicitor Jackson said to clarify if there are alleyways which are laid out in a borough plan which are not open with a 21 year period of them being laid out then the property line of the owner moves to the center of the alleyway. If the alleyway is set forth on a plan and the descriptions for adjoining parcels, but the alleyway is never dedicated or added to your liquid fuels then the individual owners to the center of the alleyway. That is subject to an easement for property owners... if the area between those two property owners have then become the owners of that additional part of land, but private easements still exist.
- Tori Wilt said she thinks it's a lot of money; it's not that she doesn't want to take care of it, but where does the borough get \$10,000 for it. Here's what we're going to do – I don't think we should use tax monies for this
- VP Joel said Greg based on what you just said nobody should be blocking it?
- Greg Jackson said if the alleyway has been blocked then you can bring cause of action against the owners blocking the alleyway. It's your ownership of the property that's adjoining the alleyway that allows you to bring that action. Right now it's a private alleyway, the maintenance is the responsibility of the owners. If there's obstruction to the alleyway the council can bring an action to have that taken care of.
- VP Joel said yes, because we have the ability to do that. TO me it's petty that he's blocking the alleyway, whether we own it or the others own it, we should

not be blocking an alleyway. VP Joel makes a motion for the Solicitor to file an action... pause and ensure everyone is on the same page...

- Greg said you won't get much response from a letter, but given the history of the situation the letter is most likely to be disregarded.
- President Scott said how can we properly get this stopped then?
- If you want to force a response for the obstruction of the roadway would be to file a lawsuit against him. With respect to your ordinance violations you have given someone the responsibility to cite violations.
- Mike Peters said we have to use a lawsuit because it's not a borough road? The citation is for the ordinance violations.
- Tori Wilt asked if he realizes what he's doing.
- VP Joel said he realizes he's blocking a road, which he's not allowed to do
- Greg said the alleyway is still subject to a private easement based on its layout on the plan
- President Scott said the fact they served on council so many years and used these same bullying techniques – they served on council and bully and intimidate people to obtain property that is not theirs. Neighbors have asked them to move things and to not do things.
  
- Greg said if the other property owners want to be participants in the lawsuit you can ask them to join as well? President Scott asked how we ask them. Greg said according to Dain's work Bill Lalli and Van Cresswell own the other lots that would be affected so you can let them know that you are intending to file an action and ask them if they'd like to join in the lawsuit? President Scott asked if that's okay with council.
- Mike Peters said yes.
- VP Joel requested that we send them a letter in advance letting them know and requesting that he stop blocking the alleyway and this is the action we are prepared to take if he's not compliant.
- Tori Wilt said if we send the letter is there a time frame?
- VP Joel said I'm okay that the obstructions blocking the alleyway are removed within 24 hours?
- Motion failed. All in favor.
- VP Joel we will proceed with sending a notice to the property owner who is currently blocking the alleyway that obstructions be removed within one week, failing to do so will result in us pursuing
- You direct the solicitor to send a notice to the land owner that the obstructions are removed within one week and I will have the notice sent out within the next couple days. If the property owner doesn't comply council can make a motion at the next meeting for a lawsuit. Mike Peters seconded. All in favor. Motion carried.

- **Traffic Calming Follow-up**

- Army Corps of Engineers has brought more ways to help us with funding. At May's meeting we will be discussing more grant opportunities and she will be sending information to Joel and Greg and then be able to review in May's meeting. VP Scott said they were very helpful and positive and Michelle Ivory's office as well. Dain said they are looking at two possible crosswalks and signs as well. Ron Kurtz asked if the solution is a crosswalk?? Dain said no there are many possibilities and hardly any of them work?
- President Scott said there's a combination for things to be done and increasing police presence is requested as well.
- Dain said to Ron to ask his question – Ron said what the specific options are?
- President Scott said we have specific projects happening – we have Multimodal happening and the streets are getting dug up, so we are trying to align all the projects for the most efficient and cost effective ways. She said bump outs are an option, but not going to remove Main Street parking. Digital signs are an option, also talking to Porter Twp. to reduce their speed coming in – if it's 25 mph there the troopers have a longer reference for stopping speeding.
- Ron said so the suggestion is speed signs, crosswalks, bump outs
- President Scott said that bump outs are a big deal
- Dain said we're waiting for the PennDOT District 9 to present their recommendations, they've talked about the options, but they are waiting to sit down and present. Dain said soon – he thinks April 23<sup>rd</sup>... he said we will meet with them and then get them here. The top guy moved and his assistant is an acting engineer – so they have staffing issues that we are working around. We're talking
- Ron said excuse me for being a bit pushy, but how many meetings have there been on a very simple problem, I'm not upset with you guys, but we have a straight stretch where people fly down there sometimes 50 mph. This is frustrating because it's been no less than 6 or 7 meetings and it could be this or that, but at some point we need to have our State Representatives in the room and I went around and did the petition and people are not happy. They are not happy. We need more people, how long do we have to put up with this? Let's get a good old community meeting and let them answer the public, I get it, it's government and it's frustrating.
- Dain said one thing is it that 5 or 7 property accidents have involved alcohol. Dain said they are really trying, they really are. Ron asked who's trying. District 9 is dealing with a lot of areas and them trying to help.
- Ron said when he goes through Hollidaysburg and hits the bumps – those communities have taken action in a big way. If we can't get the action taken, it's a problem. It's mind boggling that this is still happening. I'm not yelling at you guys, but I'm frustrated and so are other people.
- Sam I. asked if a crosswalk consists of a stop sign too or no?
- President Scott said this is why we're giving you a synopsis overview – they gave me additional funding resources to find the money so we can actually implement these changes. I'm grateful that they've done that. I'm trying, we are trying. I

told the State Trooper and the head of District 9 to give me a chair and a ball, I want to get these people to stop doing what they are doing. I've called companies about their truckers.

- VP Joel asking
  - Is there anything that prevents us doing speedbumps? President Scott said no, that's a suggestion. She doesn't want to quote figures on anything – in her mind we're talking a few \$100,000 – curbs, bump outs, etc. I'm thinking of a whole big picture. VP Joel said he's thinking of actions he wants to take now. Is there anything preventing us from putting in speed bumps. President Scott said we can't do anything because it's a PennDOT roadway, a state roadway – they are willing to work with us. In different municipality's we can do whatever we want, but Main Street is a State roadway – Judy is extremely grateful for PennDOT helping us. Ron said he appreciates her thankfulness, but he's not thankful until the problem is solved. We need results, results, results.
  - We can't install stop signs without their permission? What about the permanent speed signs. President Scott said she would like us to apply for the digital ones and apply for the funding to do so. VP Joel said that will keep the honest people honest.
  - Ron said that sign was right in front of my house and I could think of a handful of people that it affected.
  - VP Joel said that he's noticed increased presence at the corner and the Sheriffs have been pulling people over for running the stop sign. He thinks that maybe the digital stop signs can help those
  - Ron said that a police presence would help
  - VP Joel said that it's the same thing with the vandalism we can't enforce things right now
  - The Sheriff's office has cooperative agreement with other boroughs and the borough could look at entering into that type of cooperative agreement which would give you a degree of coverage. The Sheriff's office main duty is for courthouse security and civil process, but some members have their municipal police officer certification which gives them the law to enforce the code if their working on behalf of the municipality. Right now the State Police are responsibility.
  - VP Joel said that he hears people accelerating on Main Street.
  - Ron is frustrated with this problem. We need to have every option open and the Sheriff's option is an opportunity. I did some research of what some municipality's spent and it wasn't as much as they thought
  - PennDOT will give us ideas then there's plan A, plan B – it's a lot of speculation – I want to see somethings moving on to here are our options, here is our plan, etc.
- **Multimodal Transportation Fund**
  - President Scott said that the borough of Alexandria has been awarded a grant of \$500,000 which is a big deal for us. We are the only one within their district that has been awarded funds. We are very thankful! There has been... we have \$500,000 and we have tough decisions to make. We are able to select our engineer and a letter of justification is all they need from us for that part. I'm on the phone a lot with them, but I need to take baby steps. So at next month's meeting... Dain...

- Dain said that \$150,000 is fees that will come from that grant. He feels the main drainage system is what we should be focusing on... we are going with the Army Corps of Engineers recommendation. PennDOT has a little bridge project right across from Bluegills and their drainage – they are going to increase their pipe size about 2” or something to adapt to what the Corps recommended which will take a good bite of money off of what the borough needs. Their project goes up towards the bridge so the borough’s funds would start with the bridge and head west. It looks good in my opinion as your volunteer – that if you replace what is likely crushed you’re going to solve a lot of flooding issues from a ten year storm and if there’s money left over you go up the side streets and identify where you want them.
- President Scott said that a part of what is down here at Main Street is a huge help. VP Joel said that takes care of the water coming over the road right past Bluegill’s and it’s getting done, but not with our funds.
- Mike Peters asked if it’s just Main Street – that’s Main Street that Dain said, but at the bottom of High St. we will get stuff in there President Scott said.
- President Scott said with Dain as our volunteer consultant we have tough decisions to make. We also have been informed to apply for other grants... because we’ve applied for these. Is it okay with council that I work on other grant applications in regards to this project? There is so much work involved and I need official approval.
- Vice President Joel makes a motion for President Scott to pursue additional grants. Mike Peters seconded. All in favor. Motion carries.
- Vice President Joel said that what Dain is recommending makes sense and aligns with the Army Corps recommendations. Dain said you’ll see a big benefit even with the bridge project down by Bluegill.
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## **OLD BUSINESS**

- **Girl Scout Color Run**
  - VP Joel made a motion to approve the Girl Scout Color Run May 13, 2023. Tori Wilt seconded.
- **USACE**
  - Over 20 properties willing to participate. President Scott said that she’s working to get more, but that’s pretty good. The more we get the better. Jason said that they will be coming the week of April 24<sup>th</sup> – tentatively. President Scott shared the letter and she asked Jason about putting his number on it and he could answer people’s questions directly.
  - This is positive and paid for with grant money
- **Fence Permit**
  - When it comes to the fence permit
  - President Scott has a petition wall and she gave her husband the notice that she doesn’t want any conflicts. We have a barrier wall in our driveway that the wood is next to and he wants to replace it except new and nicer. We have an arrangement with the previous owner, but we got a new agreement with the

new neighbors. President Scott is asking for council's approval for her new barrier wall fence? May she submit it to the permit officer for a permit.

- VP Joel motions to approve President Scott's fence. Tori Wilt seconded. All in favor. Motion carries.
- Benevity
  - Tabled. Want Rachelle's
- Park
  - Porter Township has submitted a grant for \$100,000 - \$40,000 was specifically for playground equipment
  - VP Joel asked about the cameras for that park? President Scott said yes, she did, but his costs came in way exceeding what they discussed so the meeting was cancelled. That doesn't negate the fact that we have to get security.
- **Social Media Policy**
  - President Scott said that we talked about Social Media Policy, but we don't have a copy and we don't have anything official. We need to adopt a social media policy.
  - Tori Wilt said she feels like you're (Judy) eluding to the egg post...President Scott said we cannot engage in conversation, but she wasn't eluding to anything she was saying we need a social media policy. Tori Wilt said that social media is social and conversational.
  - President Scott said that we post things as we should because it is helpful, but when council engages in further discussion or conversation as an individual on social it could potentially become problematic. The posting, and everything Tori is doing is great. We want the public informed and we want the feedback – we just have to be careful engaging in dialogue on behalf of the borough. When we send emails we cannot send to the whole group. You have to keep it under quorum. I send to Joel on everything I do so he is in the loop. When we are on social media and if we become involved in conversation if more than a quorum occurred on our social media page it could potentially cause a problem and be in violation of the Sunshine Act, that's all. I dropped the ball on social media and wanted to revisit. It's a protocol and procedure thing. I've explained you talk directly to people that makes it simpler. I keep Joel in the loop because he is the Vice President. I talk with others one on one to avoid violation of the Sunshine Act, that's all I'm saying.
  - VP Joel said yes we did talk about a social media policy. It was before you were on council Tori. When we're posting as the borough we need to ensure we're posting information as the borough, but not engaging in conversation as the borough.
  - Tori Wilt said President Judy, why don't we solve this dilemma and you take over the social media page. President Scott said no Tori – your gift is definitely social media, you do a great job. Tori said it may be better if she doesn't do it. Tori Wilt said to President Scott that they will not see eye to eye and she's ticked Judy off

beyond. President Scott reiterated that the social media policy is nothing against Tori, but that President Scott just wanted to cover what's best practice.

- President Scott said that Tori Wilt is fishing for compliments or acting victim and Tori Wilt said don't do that with me Judy and said she's done, so done
- VP Joel said I've been paying attention and have not seen anything that's giving me concern, but we should have a social media policy and review with council members every time they come on board. If we have rules that council doesn't know it doesn't help
- Kim Diggins asked are you saying they can't announce things to the public? NO. Clearly all said no, that's not what was said. President Scott and Tori Wilt both said no, they are just saying that council can't engage in dialogue under the Alexandria Borough page to avoid potential problems.
- President Scott said yes we should post everything the good the bad and the ugly to inform our residents of what's happening.
- VP Joel said that other people can engage in dialogue, we just as council have to be careful of what's posted.
- President Scott asked Greg if he has a social media policy – he said the only issue that comes up is that if you have a 7 person council and that 4 of you are engaging in a back and forth dialogue – that could be viewed as a Sunshine violation. Unless it's 4 of you and simultaneous... if there's 3 hour gaps – that is not going to be viewed as a violation... it's only if the dialogue is happening at the same time. So long as there aren't 4 of you talking about one particular issue at one particular time you're safe
- Greg said If you want to set up policy you can certainly do that, but the postings are for conveying information only. So long as it's not 4 of you having conversation that would come up in front of borough council
- VP Joel said it sounds like we don't need an official policy, but we just need to know the rules
- Greg said If you would like drafted a social media policy as an ordinance... I can do that, one is that the borough has a social media borough page and information can send information out on behalf of the council, that's essentially a committee assignment. A separate issue is the Sunshine Act which is conducting business or discussions outside your meeting times... less than 4 council members you can discuss, but 4 or more you cannot.
- VP is comfortable as is. Mike Peters said that the Sunshine law is the most important. Council agreed to share these rules moving forward.
- **Procedures and Protocols**
  - President Scott said she puts that down as a reminder for others and herself.
- Mike Peters said that someone has daffodil bulbs and wouldn't mind giving to us and potentially put around the bridge. President Scott said that's a beautiful idea.
- Mike Peters asked that Review Scout House Insurance and see if we can drop the coverage please put on May's agenda. **Find out what we're paying for insurance now...**

- **Security**

- We budgeted \$200 for cameras we didn't install yet. President Scott asked if anyone has proactive measures or suggestions? VP Joel said has anyone filed against them? President Scott did put out feelers... but only company responded.
- We also have Art money and we need to be fiscally responsible with all of it. The Marcellus Shale grant we applied for in regards to the bridge, we were denied, but we can reapply. President Scott asked Leslie if we had to pay a comfortable fee what could it be.
- The tax increase that occurred is for our preservation of our town and to keep things as is... we are trying to find other funds to do these projects.
- President Scott asked council if they have any ideas for security outlets...
- VP Joel said putting up cameras will help, but he's also concerned they will move their targets
- Tori Wilt said we do know who a lot of the kids are and it was about 9:00 pm and one of the parents said 6 or 7 boys were over at the playground causing a ruckus and they are there all the time. Kim Diggins asked where are the parents? President Scott asked if you have any video footage? Tori Wilt said that the parents know.
- VP Joel said if we have a witness of them vandalizing things isn't that good? Solicitor Jackson said yes that is.
- Mike Peters said obviously our trail cams don't cut it, but I wonder what if we could get a decent camera to put on the light poles to put at this park... President Scott said that we just need permission from the pole owner. Mike tried the trail cameras and they just weren't going to cut it.
- President Scott said what about the Ring systems and we agreed on one person as our security watch monitor? The device records, but it can also be monitored. So we can file appropriately. Would the borough be willing to pay for wifi just for this system? VP Joel asked where would we put that? We could come back in May with approval of poles... Joel said you have to have wifi directly connected to it. So we would need to have a router for each of these ring devices...
- Mike Peters said we don't need the pole decision by next month, but if that guy had scaled down...
- What about one community watch person independent from council? Mike Peters said we can talk...
- President Scott what about liability? Solicitor Jackson said if you're setting up camera of your own you're fine, at the parks you own you don't have any liability, but if it is on someone else's property including poles you'd need consent from them so that your camera on their poles don't damage their poles. Until you do exactly what you're going to do I can't give you an assessment.

- **Trees**

- Sam Monkern showed up at 9:26 pm

- Cost estimate he is still going back and forth with Daniel and he gave Sam a rough estimate based on what Sam provided... he said if you go with 26 trees and then 4 more for the park... you're looking between \$4,500 and \$5,000 on plant material, but no cost on installation. President Scott said that she told council we will apply for Marcellus Shale grant again and show them what they've done already.
- President Scott asked Sam for a hard invoice. He said it sounds like this week is a finalizing week for them – he mentioned that he'll give a lump deal, but estimated high on that just to be safe. She asked if council had any questions for Sam? President Scott said are we okay to apply for that funding option?
- Sam said as long as he brought information and he can spread his dust, that's good. I love the trees...
- President Scott said that Sam and Jane did a walking assessment and he has an inventory of all the trees in the borough... some municipalities don't have this and it's a feather in our cap. This is intensive Sam said, but once it's there it is a big benefit that runs itself.
- Sam will follow up with an email once he hears back from Daniel
- **Brandon Foster Code Enforcement Officer**
  - President Scott said that M-W-F from 8:00 am – 2:00 pm he is available, but he wants people to call the borough number because he doesn't want his cell phone number used.

**Council entered Executive Session at 9:37 pm**

**Council ended Executive Session: 9:46 pm**

**Meeting Adjourned: 9:46 pm**