

April 27, 2023

The Alexandria Borough Council met at the Museum at the Old Bank Building in Alexandria, PA 16611. The meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m. by President Judy Scott. President Scott led council in the Pledge of Allegiance and prayer.

Council members present were President Judy Scott, Vice President Joel Pheasant, Tori Wilt (via phone), Mike Peters. Also present: Lucas Parkes, Dain Davis
Rachelle Hopsicker present at 7:36 pm

OLD BUSINESS

- **

NEW BUSINESS

- President Scott said that we called this meeting based off of the letter of resignation from Solicitor Greg Jackson. **Motion to accept Greg's resignation made by VP Joel Pheasant. Seconded by Mike Peters. All in favor. Motion passed.**
- Jeff Stover is a recommendation of our new solicitor. President Scott asked if everyone has had time to review his contract. Dain Davis said that he is making this recommendation as a friend of the borough. He is making this recommendation based on professional relationships with Jeff. Dain worked at PennDot for 31 years and then EADs for many years and Jeff would come to all the meetings when asked. He is good. He is fair. Since Dain has worked with him Jeff has moved up to be President of his area, council needs someone and they need someone quick. He works well with the township, the engineer, and at some meetings can get contentious with the public, but he's not wimpy. He would make a good solicitor for the borough.
- Mike Peters asked if they are plans to have him on retainer or per fee schedule. President Scott said that Jeff is not requesting a retainer from the borough which is very generous and nice. Dain Davis said that he's been through it all. Lucas said if you read his resume that he is on a lot of zoning boards and he is not afraid of municipal governments and very capable. Lucas said that they work with quite a few prominent attorneys and they are all retiring, but he is still here and very good
- Rachelle arrived and Dain Davis reiterated what he said - Rachelle commented this recommendation makes sense if you have a good relationship with him. Dain said he has a spine. VP Pheasant said it sounds like he has the experience we are looking for and I don't see any reason not to move forward.
- **VP Joel Pheasant made the motion to accept the contract presented by the Solicitor to have Jeff Stover as the attorney for the Borough of Alexandria effective April 27, 2023. Seconded by Rachelle Hopsicker and Tori Wilt. All in favor. Motion carried.**

Engineering for the Stormwater Drainage Project

- President Scott said everyone has had time to review the contracts and Lucas is here from the EADs Corporation.
- President Scott said the attorney will be requested to have a letter of justification as to why we have selected the EADs corporation.

- Dain said again we are in such a time crunch and the people I have from EADS, I will attend the meetings and they are a good team that can do that storm water, boat launches, and Penn Vest. There are other good engineers, but I don't think you have time to wait to pick up and finish a great product for the borough. EADs can do this project. Dain shared of many projects EADs group worked on including the one for Flight 93. They are very familiar with the grants and are very successful. They got 18 out of 20 grants they put in for... Lucas shared about how when a county couldn't get the funding they needed – they worked with them to get additional funding, around a million dollars – they also managed to get a lot more done for the townships than initial expected
- Lucas said the agreement before you is 2 pages, a retainer agreement, but with no fee associated, it's simple and straightforward. Alexandria Borough put EADs as the group working with them and Lucas's team is able to think of Alexandria when going out there for grants. Lucas shared of growing up and his professional experience and how he met Dain. They opened in Lewistown in 2011 and they've grown very quickly. They are also working with Huntingdon County on their action plan for transportation and movement. They are the Lewistown Borough engineer so they understand what you can uncover digging up the streets. Lucas said that having Dain here will be the day to day guy and it will good. He asked if council had any questions or thoughts...
- President Scott shared with council that Lucas was at the grant meetings. Lucas said that we got the permit to get the pedestrian bridge. They are familiar with the Oliver Township engineering.
- President Scott said that Lucas made it very clear that whatever our needs might be there are grants out there that we could possibly find funding for so bring them up. Lucas said that we see with declining population and things of that nature they are always on the lookout for grants. We hope to take the half a million that Alexandria has gotten and hope to turn that into more. Rachelle said get some matching grants. Lucas said for Judy to pull this off and get the grant is pretty cool
- **President Scott asked if council is comfortable with the EADS group being the engineer for this project and the projects moving forward. Rachelle Hopsicker was so moved with that as a motion. Mike Peters seconded. All in favor. Motion carried.**

Multimodal Grant Award

- **President Scott shared that on May 8th we have a meeting and we will get to meet Mr. Stover at that time and May 18th we have a meeting with PennVest and Mr. Stover will be required for that also – that meeting is looking for more funding opportunities. Mike Peters asked if they are in the evening.**
- Dain Davis said so your borough council is comfortable with me? Rachelle, VP Pheasant said yes, you're vested in!
- Lucas said when we went over the grant project you had a bit over a million dollars and you had the sketches and rough sketches of cost... now that you received half a million and there's a time frame allotted to that is the idea is to reevaluate how far half a million dollars will go within Phase 1. We want to put a commonsense approach to how we're staging Phase 1. Refresh the cost estimate and move forward with getting final survey and field data collected – this is what we look to accomplish and possible hurdles. Perhaps so street scape work and we don't want new inlets in the way of

pedestrian crossing and/or ADA accessibility ramps. We want to work above the legion, etc. We really want to capture and utilize dead areas with the yards and get the pipes discharging as they should through town. President Scott said that a great thing is that the 200 block portion is covered by PennDOT.

Motion to adjourn the meeting, Mike Peters. Vice President Pheasant seconded. All in favor. Motion carried.

Meeting Adjourned: 7:53 pm