

## **Alexandria Borough Meeting**

**Monday, June 9, 2025 at 7:00 PM**

### **Attendees:**

Jason Showalter; Ken Patterson, Dain Davis, Solicitor Jeffrey Stover

### **Council Members Present:**

Vice President Mike Peters, President Judy Scott, Jane Pilch

### **Opening**

- Pledge of Allegiance
- Prayer
- Welcome by President Scott

### **Roll Call:**

Present: Jane Pilch, Mike Peters (Vice President), Judy Scott (President)

**Approval of Minutes:** Secretary Leighton Kyle has not yet submitted the May minutes. She is in the process of locating and providing them due to technical recording.

## **Financial Report & Payment of Bills**

Jane Pilch inquired about the \$12,000 used for the Nature Park and engineering services. President Scott explained that the funds were allocated from AARP funding as part of the required match. VP Peters confirmed, saying, "That was our match." President Scott added she also has a call in to Southern Alleghenies.

**President Scott emphasized** the need for accurate documentation and logging of all invoices related to the Nature Park. DCNR requires this level of record-keeping for funding purposes.

**MOTION: VP Peters made a motion to approve the financial report and authorization of bills. Seconded by Jane Pilch. All in favor. Motion carries.**

## **Representatives Report**

### **Ken Patterson:**

- Reported working four days with inmates (two days down near nature park until incident, two days on the street).

- Noted Dick Philips fell and broke his hip. Ken offered to mow their lot.  
**President Scott confirmed** the Borough will maintain the property, as it belongs to the Borough. She will get written consent from Mrs. Philips to also mow their lawn and help this couple who has so generously helped others and the borough.
- Swings were given to Ken by President Scott for immediate installation. He was ensuring other items were wrapped up before installing.

**Jason Showalter:**

Expressed gratitude for the project collaboration and hopes to work with the Borough again.

**Sewer Authority Report – VP Peters:**

- Noted concerns about the parking lot across from Bud’s old house. Todd Musser scoped the culvert and found a hollow area beneath the blacktop.
- President Scott asked if sewer or storm drains run through the area. Discussion ensued about next steps, including whether the study addressed this location.
- Dain Davis contributed to the technical discussion.

**Entered Executive Session: 7:18 PM**

**Exited Executive Session: 7:38 PM**

**Solicitor's Report**

- The Borough received the court order regarding council reduction. The referendum to reduce council seats from 7 to 5 will appear on the next ballot.  
**VP Peters noted** this asks residents to approve or deny the reduction.  
Jane asked about the new quorum number; Solicitor Stover confirmed it would be 3.

**President Scott emphasized** the importance of civic participation, suggesting outreach to young people as part of civic education. Council hopes to see younger individuals getting involved and weighing in on discussion.

**Ordinance Discussion**

**Derry Street Project:**

- The 200 block, once completed, will be designated as a No Parking Zone on both sides—initially during construction, then permanently.
- The goal is to improve safety and accessibility for trucks off the bridge, others, etc.

**Security Cameras and Lighting**

- President Scott asked if Council was comfortable with the app for security cameras. VP Peters said yes.
- A solar, motion-activated light with remote control was proposed for installation at the top of the swings at Canal Street Park.
- Jane preferred the pavilion location and questioned the need for lighting if cameras are in place.  
**Dain clarified** that lighting is part of the grant and will be angled toward the park. This is all to promote safety and reduce vandalism issue.
- Council discussed light strength, vandalism risks, and options. Jane presented alternative papers with light thoughts, but does not want lights installed at the park.
- **President Scott reassured** that the light can be removed if problematic. During this time council needs to follow the outline of the grant and also wants to be proactive in protecting the park and those who play there.

**MOTION: VP Peters made a motion to purchase the light for the project. Vote: VP Peters – In favor; President Scott – In favor; Jane Pilch – Opposed. Motion carries.**

### **Nature Park Master Plan**

- Scheduled for completion by end of June according to borough engineer Lucas Parkes. A hard copy is needed to process reimbursement.
- Jane questioned the engineer selection.  
**President Scott confirmed** they chose Lucas, who has done quality work on prior projects and will do a good job.

### **Traffic Calming**

**Tabled.**

### **Grant Submissions**

- DCNR grant submitted in April. No issues reported, awaiting to hear back..
- No new grant applications will be pursued at this time commented President Scott.  
**VP Peters and Jane agreed** to focus on current resources.

### **9/11 Trail – Segment 1**

- VP Peters asked about Emily's presentation to ACCO Leadership. **President Scott responded** that contact has been made, but the delay was on their side. They plan to revisit in a month ideally when there's a lull in production. Perry Smith continues as liaison.
- Emily of ACCO has expressed support, and the team remains ready to assist. The necessary information was delayed in getting to her which has bumped things back unfortunately.

## General Updates

- Scout House door was found open one evening. Jane noted overgrown bushes near the fence line; Ken will address them.
- Playground mulch at Canal Street looks excellent and is backed by a 20-year warranty. President Scott noted its safety and longevity. Jane expressed how nice it was as well.

## Engineering Selection

**Tabled.**

## Hometown Hero Banners

- Submissions for next year are due end of August/first week of September.
- **Robbie Goss's annual check** is due in July. He installs banners, maintains solar boxes, and handles Christmas lights.

## Huntingdon County Fireman's Convention

- Council may publish a letter encouraging caution with increased visitor traffic.
- **Event Dates:** Sunday to Friday, July 6–11. Parade and festivities expected.

## Ms. Gahagan's Tree

- A historic tree near Ms. Gahagan's home is in the process of being safely removed.
- She was open to meeting with Artisan Tim Kluck who has a plan to repurpose the tree into a bench (or multiple benches) for community use. This is in the early phase of conversation, nothing solidified. **Jane and VP Peters responded positively.**

- Potential locations: Canal Street Park, behind the library.
- **Solicitor confirmed** the Borough can proceed independently via the Tree Committee.
- VP Peters raised funding questions and asked if grants or donations are an option. Also he and Jane expressed that having an idea of the cost or artistic plan will help with gathering support and funds needed to make this happen.  
**President Scott noted** the Borough cannot fund the project directly.  
Discussion continued regarding cost estimates and possible partnerships (e.g., Historical Society).

## **Adjournment**

### **MOTION:**

**Jane Pilch made a motion to adjourn at 8:28 PM.**

**Seconded by VP Peters.**

**Vote: All in favor. Motion carries.**