

October 10, 2022

The Alexandria Borough Council met at the former location of First National Bank at 402 Main Street, Alexandria, PA 16611. The meeting was called to order at 7:08 p.m. by President Judy Scott. President Scott led council in the Pledge of Allegiance and prayer.

Council members present were Judy Scott, Mike Peters, Jane Pilch, and Joel Pheasant. Treasurer, Leslie McDermott was also present. Mark and Kim Siggins, Sam Isenberg, Ron Kuntz and Ken Patterson were present.

- Meeting Minute Amendments: Judy Scott is not “Simpson,” but Scott
- Mike Peters motioned to accept the minutes pending the amendment, Joel seconded. Motion carried.

FINANCIAL REPORT AND AUTHORIZATION OF BILLS

- **Mike Peters made a motion to accept the financial report and authorized the payment of bills even going into next week. Jane seconded. Motion carried.**

PUBLIC COMMENT

Ron Kuntz – will you vote on budget today? No, the budget will be voted on in November

Two questions:

1. The budget has \$200 earmarked for signs for next year and that doesn't seem like enough to get our speed signs in compliance? Is that something we will be looking at for this or next year? President Scott said that council does hope to get the signs completed, but council is hoping for PennDOT to help. Ron feels that the signs need done sooner than later
2. Expense for the walk bridge \$500 – President Scott said that council proposed to set that aside for future maintenance for the bridge. Vice President said we've already had vandalism on the bridge and there is also the possibility of new construction. The \$500 is on there, but we also have a proposed sale of Memorial/Honoree Leaves that will help to bring in funds for any costs incurred with the bridge.
3. Ron feels that we need legal speed signs in the borough immediately
4. Mark Diggins asked Ron what he means by legal speed signs
 - a. Ron said that our signs are not legally enforceable because they aren't legal height, reflective, etc. so folks can get away with speeding – Mike Peters said we are responsible for the signs on Main Street even though we don't have to maintain the road.
 - b. Ron said that under a certain speed limit is the responsibility of the municipality not PennDOT – PennDOT okay'd us as a community to do something, is that

correct? President Scott said PennDOT denied us to put Stop Signs, VP Pheasant said that was councils initial

- c. Ron is there a plan of what council wants to achieve... is there a plan in place? President Scott said council is requesting stop signs, speed humps, and also said that letters from the community would be helpful.
- d. Ron would like council to really see this through, do the pros and cons – he doesn't feel confident that we really – Mike Peters said that we have discussed a lot during meetings, stop signs, speed humps, bump outs, etc.

Sam Isenberg:

New water line work in town, how are you all involved in that? I want to do the water pipe from the property line and I need a period of time to do that work. I'm a member of the sewer authority and there is a lot of piping laying out in our yard that was to be taken care of months ago. November 2nd is the next meeting where they will discuss these items. He asked if this authority is in charge of the water authority. President Scott said that we don't micro manage them, we oversee, but with the water authority itself they are running...council is with you. I'm a plumber and take care of my own work. President Scott asked if he contacted the water authority and he said no because contacting them is like contacting a brick. President Scott is concerned how the one at the head of the water authority does not speak to the people of this community and address the concerns; she intends to be present at the next meeting. Three members of the sewer authority are present at the meeting tonight, but there is no help from the water authority. Mark Diggins said the water authority behaves as if others do not exist. President Scott said that the water authority cannot disrespect and ignore the community's concerns. Sam said that even with the loan that came through it never specified a cap on our water bill even though they've already been charged a large amount. Logan, Porter, and Alexandria should be positively affected by this; President Scott said that their concerns and complaints are valid. Any questions and details with the project and bill should be directed to Ken Post and the project leads overseeing it. Sam said while he knows all of that, the water authority is not very open about anything (President Scott said the firm overseeing the project is trying to keep people in the loop). Sam asked if the representatives from the authority have been replaced since they lost two – he said the distribution of people is uneven. The sewer authority is even, but the water authority is not represented very well. Ron said that his understanding was the Phillips donated the land and that was partially why it has to stay in the ownership of the borough. President Scott said we will take it under advisement and ask any necessary questions to the solicitor.

Jane Pilch asked what Sam would like from the water authority

Sam said he wants: a construction schedule and what materials are homeowners allowed to use as he updates

SOLICITOR REPORT

- Not present

REPRESENTATIVE REPORT

- **Representatives from Ken Patterson**
 - President Scott and I put the new swings up
 - Got the curbs painted, grass is cut, Jane Pilch read out the flower bed at the Scout House

OLD BUSINESS

- **Hartslog Day**
 - Mike Peters asked that there's always oil or something on the street on the 600 block and on a couple other spots and wants to know if we should ask about keeping that cleaner, doesn't want it getting into the storm drains
- **Alexandria Cemetery – tabled**
- **Survey – tabled**
- **Alexandria Day of Caring**
 - President Scott said that it was a success and folks seem to have more fun
 - Vice President Pheasant said that you may get more general community support if it was on a weekend instead of a weekday
 - President Scott said they would look to do it the last Saturday of September or the first Saturday of October
- **Property Maintenance – tabled**
- **Parks and Rec – President Scott thanked Ken for getting those swings up**
- **Violation Letters**
 - President Scott had draft of Notice of Violation letters for all of council, any comments?
 - Vice President asked if all of our ordinances are a 72 hour turn around, he and Jane Pilch wanted to ensure that some ordinance violations cannot be repaired within 72 hours, they may need more timing. Mike Peters said that folks can look into the ordinance to find out the time frame to comply
 - VP Pheasant said that he would be better if the paper said to “respond” within 72 hours with a plan to take care of it. Jane Pilch said that she will need a little bit of time to look over the wording. VP Pheasant said that council has said some violations of ordinances need more time. “to respond to the Violation Code Enforcement Officer on steps to resolve this matter.” Edit
 - Jane Pilch has taken issue with the wording of the violation letter and fines. Do the letters really say what the council wants it to say...
 - Kim Diggins asked about certifying both letters
 - The second letter gives residence addition time to resolve an issue
- **Naming of the Street – Jane asked which street are we naming, President Scott said the Brew House Lane extension, tabled**
- **Girl Scouts – tabled to November**
- **Trick or Treat Night – President Scott asked if council was okay to do it October 31st, Mike Peters made a motion to have Trick or Treat night on October 31st from 6:00 pm – 8:00 pm, Jane Pilch seconded. Motion carried.**
- **Resignation - Brandon Foster submitted resignation due to moving to Porter Twp. Mike Peters motioned to accept his resignation with regret. VP Pheasant seconded. Motion carries.**

- **Code Enforcement Officer and Permit Officer** – Brandon Foster submitted an application for both positions. Mike Peters doesn't have a problem with it, he knows what council is planning. Jane Pilch seconded. Motion carries.
- Sam asked what are your rules and regulations for the Code Enforcement Officer – what is he enforcing? President Scott said that he is enforcing the Borough of Alexandria Ordinance book and residence also have to go to the Bureau Veritas, he'll have to enforce that as well
- **Property Maintenance Ordinance – tabled**
- **Returning to Violation Letters – Joel reading adjustment**
- **This letter is being sent to you to make you aware of a Borough Ordinance violation. Please be advised that you have 72 hours from the date of this letter in which to respond and discuss with the enforcement officer to resolve and comply with the matter. If the matter of the violation is not addressed within the allotted time a fine may be imposed as stated in the ordinance.** (Leighton needs to type up immediately)
- **Mike Peters motion to accept the Notice of Violation read by Joel, Jane seconded, motion carries.**
- **VP Pheasant motioned that we accepted this ordinance violation letter. Mike Peters seconded. Motion carries.**
- **VP Pheasant motioned both letters are sent by certified... motion failed**
- **Mike Peters made a motion that the ordinance violation letter is sent by certified mail. Jane Pilch seconded. Motion carries.**
- President Scott asked about speed limit signs that is approximately \$300 or more (under \$500) for compliance
- **Mike Peters made a motion to buy 6 new speed limit signs for Main Street and accessories. Jane Pilch seconded. Motion carries.** Ron said, yay. Thank you. Ron asked if they will be used where the existing ones were or? President Scott said that PennDOT will need to post them in the spots mapped.
- **Parks and Recreation** – Porter Twp is applying for a \$250,000 grant for the new ball field, fencing, dugout, etc. they have a whole scheme – engineering fees, etc. President Scott is looking for the 2008 documentation of when the park was last worked on up there from when DCNR worked on some things, but she doesn't know what it was, Mike Peters asked about when that was up. Matching funds would be a 20% which is \$50,000 and President Scott asked what our contribution would be and at this moment council has decided it is zero. Council wants to be included in the conversations and planning not excluded. Porter would like to meet with council tomorrow night specifically about the park at 7:00 pm over in Porter, Mike will be at a sewer meeting. Mike, Jane, and Judy can attend. Leighton send an email making council aware of the meeting to see if anyone else can attend. President Scott said they have to say under quorum. **Some of our discussion when Ron showed up VP Pheasant said was that we are willing to find volunteers for them to help if they are willing to discuss what is needed and when.**
 - The leaves for the memorial/honoree bridge need advertised...
 - **Mike Peters made a motion to advertise the leaves for the bridge project on Facebook and the Borough page. Jane Pilch seconded. Motion carries.**
 - **Ron asked how much you get profit off of the leaves – President Scott said \$125**

Entered Executive Session: 8:36 pm

Meeting Adjourned: 9:00 pm