

DUBOISTOWN BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING
THURSDAY October 3 2024
6:00 PM

MEETING MINUTES

The General Council meeting was called to order at 6:00 pm by Harry Rogers, Council President.

Present were, Harry Rogers, Dance Drier, Kate Weaver, Patrick Melloy, Norman J Cowden, Dori Rankinen, John McCormick, Shawn Millard, Ann Marie Baker
 Borough Manager

Absent were, Mayor Richard Knecht

Motion #1 was moved and seconded (Norman Cowden/John McCormick) to approve the minutes from previous meeting September 5, 2024.

Motion #1 carries by a Unanimous Vote (7-0)

Name	Nomination	Motion	2 nd	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
John McCormick			X	X			
Patrick Melloy				X			
Harry Rogers				X			
Dori Rankinen				X			
Mike Rodgers				X			
Norman Cowden		X		X			
Shawn Millard				X			
Mayor Knecht							X

Motion #2 was moved and seconded (Patrick Melloy/John McCormick) to approve the trick or treating to October 31, 2024 6-8pm

Motion #2 carries by a Unanimous Vote (7-0)

Name	Nomination	Motion	2 nd	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
John McCormick			X	X			
Patrick Melloy		X		X			
Harry Rogers				X			
Dori Rankinen				X			
Mike Rodgers				X			
Norman Cowden				X			
Shawn Millard				X			
Mayor Knecht							X

Public Comment – noise ordinance Issue with VFW outdoor entertainment

Chief Emback only had one formal complaint from County 911 this was for August 16
 PLCB received complaint as well.

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Katie Caputo Valley Street stated that the noise was very loud from the band

Mike Wall Euclid and Winter Street Sunday afternoon the music could be heard at his house he is a VFW member as well

Kathy Wither Valley Street May 1st till Sept 13th felt that the noise was too loud, and she would leave her home as she prepared herself on Thursday to leave her home on Sunday and Fridays nights with her dog due to the noise from the VFW outdoor activities.

VFW commander did state that they had new management and contacted the borough to see what the noise ordinance was and asked about the restrictions in their zone they are listed in business district. He stated that they were trying to get back to more community events and assistance and to do that wanted to boost their memberships. They wanted to utilize the outdoor space that they have had for years. He did state that the one band that was loud they would not be back next year. He also stated that the outdoor entertainment season was over the week before the meeting and that they would not be doing any outdoor music till the spring.

The council was asked to review noise ordinances for other municipalities and table till the discussion could be held with the mayor present and to update the borough noise ordinance within the next couple of months.

The Police Report was read,

Fire Department – Chief McKinley stated that calls 28 Fire 30 EMS average no printouts for council

Sewer Report – Report was distributed to all the council. No questions.

Amendment for the contracted services from LCWSA was reviewed and will need to be finally approved in next months meeting.

Borough Manager – Report was distributed to all council.

Borough Manager reported that the project on Cochran and Edgewood was complete and that the paving would begin within the next week or so. The reporting from the project is being completed and council will need to in the next couple of months decide on the next steps for those that are not in compliance with the ordinance. Communication to residents will be done prior to the end of the year and discussion on the next phase of inspections and the process will be discussed.

Borough Manager discussed concern she has heard from residents and a few council on how to access the office in the event that the Borough Manager and Assistant Treasure (who are the only ones with access for legal reasons at this point) in the event the Borough Manager and Assistant Treasure have both been pronounced deceased. Borough Manager discussed the security processes in the borough and asked if the council would like to have a code give to the solicitor in a sealed envelope that in the

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event this tragedy would occur the President would contact solicitor, and he could get the code to the office with the passwords to computers to conduct borough business.

All of the council agreed with this new process.

Park Survey – Borough Manager reviewed the survey information from Vassello and will make arrangements to move the shed from the alley way. The Borough Manager also advised that the park is landlocked at the moment as there is not proper access to the parking for the park use. The park will continue to have public works maintain the equipment and lawn but until our street's projects are complete this will not be top priority for the borough as the plans for the park now need to be researched more. 2025 we will create a committee and work with county and DCNR on getting plan in place for future of the playground.

Motion #3 was moved and seconded (Norman Cowden/John McCormick) to approve the subdivision on Sortman Ave.

Motion #3 carries by a Unanimous Vote (7-0)

Name	Nomination	Motion	2 nd	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
John McCormick			X	X			
Patrick Melloy				X			
Harry Rogers				X			
Dori Rankinen				X			
Mike Rodgers				X			
Norman Cowden		X		X			
Shawn Millard				X			
Mayor Knecht							X

Motion #4 was moved and seconded (Mike Rodgers/Norman Cowden) to accept the September expenditures report.

Motion #4 carries by a Unanimous Vote (7-0)

Name	Nomination	Motion	2 nd	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
John McCormick				X			
Patrick Melloy				X			
Harry Rogers				X			
Dori Rankinen				X			
Mike Rodgers		X		X			
Norman Cowden			X	X			
Shawn Millard				X			
Mayor Knecht							X

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Norman Cowden wanted to know why were did not bid out for a new solicitor or codes group or insurance this year. The Borough Manager explained that we could do this but that it should have been done at an earlier time in the year. She explained that typically these are looked at in the Borough every reorganizational year which would be 2026. This of course can be done when the council would like but needs to be put out there prior to the end of the year.

President Rogers stated that if council would like a report that is separate from what is given during meetings, they are to email him what they are requesting, and he will work with the Borough Manager to determine the appropriate format to give to council.

The Property Maintenance & Building Codes Report was read Norman Cowden did express concern for money we are spending on property maintenance inspections and enforcement. Discussion was conducted on what it would take to hire our own person to do the inspections and enforcement.

The Borough Manager will work on getting information for blighted property ordinance for council to review and pass.

Tax Collector – Nothing new to report

Solicitor – still waiting on update on Armstrong MOU

Presidents Report – Nothing New to report

Mayor Report – tabled his topics due to his absence

Public Comment #2

Mr. Gordon Valley Street discussed the FEMA assistance for flooding.

Mr John Yeagle Euclid Ave expressed concern for the accident that took place across the street from his home and that it took police 10 -15 minutes to get there and then it was Penn College Police not South Williamsport – Chief Embeck did give in his report earlier that they were on a call in South Williamsport and on a mutual aid call in the city when this call came in and that part of mutual aid Penn College was backing them up. The fire department was not dispatched as there were no safety concerns other than the fire police for traffic control.

Motion #5 was moved and seconded (Norman Cowden/Patrick Melloy) to adjourn at 8:10 pm

Motion #5 carries by a Unanimous Vote (7-0)

Name	Nomination	Motion	2 nd	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
John McCormick				X			
Patrick Melloy			X	X			
Harry Rogers				X			
Dori Rankinen				X			
Mike Rodgers				X			

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Norman Cowden		x		x			
Shawn Millard				x			
Mayor Knecht							x

Approved: Ann Marie Bakos Date: 11/7/2024
Motion: Norman Cowden Second: John McCormick Date: 11/7/2024