

**STEELTON BOROUGH
COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**
February 20, 2024

Present:

Vanessa Bowers, President
Natashia Woods, Vice President
Brian Proctor
Michael Segina
Julianna Paoletti
Willie Slade
Ciera Dent, Mayor

Kathy McCool, Borough Manager
Randy Watts, Engineer, HRG
Ryan Gonder, Solicitor
Aaron Curry, Codes Enforcement Officer
William Shaub, Police Chief

Absent: Denae House

President Bowers opened the meeting at 6:35 p.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor Dent led the group in a Moment of Silent Reflection.

Special Presentation: Neighboring Academy Presentation – Frances Lavender and Helen Spence. Looking to possibly acquire and redevelop unsightly properties. One possible site is 247 Adams St (Frank S Brown Blvd). The council will send their information to NEDC for review.

Roll Call:

Roll call was conducted by Kathy McCool, and the attendees listed above were present.

President Bowers announced that an Executive session was held at 5:30 p.m. prior to this meeting to discuss various legal, personnel, and real estate matters.

Additions to Agenda:

None.

Public Comments on Agenda items only:

No comments were made.

Approval of the Minutes for 2/5/24 Council Meeting

President Bowers presented for approval for 2/5/2024 minutes.

Motion made by Mr. Segina, seconded by Mr. Slade to approve the minutes for 2/5/24 with Mr. Gonder's final review. Motion passed.

President Bowers presented for approval schedule of billing, requisitions, and change orders as presented for January 2024.

Motion made by Vice President Woods, seconded by Mr. Segina to approve schedule of billing, requisitions, and change orders as presented for January 2024. Motion passed unanimously.

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Department & Committee Reports:

Fire Department and Ambulance (Written Report)

Nothing to add

Police Department

Chief Shaub notified the Council that the intern on the agenda is no longer coming to Steelton Police Department.

Codes Department (Written Report)

Nothing to add

Public Works

No comments

NEDC Committee

Vice President Woods announced that the first meeting of the year is tomorrow (2/21/24).

Events Committee

Ms. Paoletti announced that the first meeting is 2/28. Egg Drop & Bunny Hop is Mar 30 from 2-4p. Received permission from SHSD for football field use.

Mayor's Report

No comments

Borough Manager's Report

Ms. McCool announced that she attended NEMO boot camp training on Jan 26-27. The DLCBA meeting is on Feb 27. The annual Conference for PA State Association of Boroughs is Jun 2-5 at Hershey Lodge. NIMS training is available for elected officials and is highly recommended. The new cleaning company starts on Mar 2 with a deep clean.

Motion made by Mr. Slade, seconded by Ms. Paoletti to approve reports as presented. Motion passed unanimously.

Unfinished Business:

Mr. Gonder presented for consideration and approval Consideration and approval, Resolution 2024-R-8 - INTERGOVERNMENTAL COOPERATION AGREEMENT FOR THE PREPARATION OF THE INTERMUNICIPAL AGREEMENT WITH CAPITAL REGION WATER. The agreement was approved on February 5.

Motion made by Mr. Slade to approve Resolution 2024-R-8, seconded by Vice President Woods. Motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Gonder presented consideration and approval, Resolution 2024-R-9 - RESOLUTION REGARDING DOTGRANTS AND DOTGRANT'S ONLINE REPORTING SYSTEM for PennDOT.

Motion made by Vice President Woods to approve Resolution 2024-R-~~8~~9 seconded by Mr. Slade. Motion passed unanimously.

Mrs. McCool announced that a public hearing regarding a Petition to vacate a portion of Christian Street will be March 4, 2024 at 6:30 p.m. for PA American Water to expand the building.

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New Business:

Mrs. McCool presented for consideration and approval for a solicitor to work with Swatara Township and Lower Swatara Township for an intergovernmental agreement regarding the Steelton Terminals project.

Motion made by Mr. Slade to approve to have a solicitor work with Swatara Township and seconded by Ms. Paoletti. Motion passed unanimously.

Mrs. McCool presented for consideration and approval of agreement with HRG for grant submission for Steelworks Redevelopment projects completed in 2021.

Motion by Mr. Segina to approve the agreement with HRG for grant work and seconded by Vice President Woods. Motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Segina presented for consideration and approval to notify the Tri-County Regional Planning Commission of Steelton Borough's participation level in the Water Resources Enhancement Program (WREP). Level B is the Steelton Borough Stormwater Authority's recommendation. The funds will be paid by the Borough because they own the permit, but it will be reimbursed by the Authority. Proctor asked about the portion being 3.92% for this year. Segina and McCool stated it is \$558 for this year and \$33,359 for the 2nd year. It is the program utilized to get the credits for the program and will need to use it again.

Motion by Mr. Segina to participate at Level B in the WREP program and seconded by Vice President Woods. Motion passed unanimously.

Mrs. McCool presented for consideration and approval of the donation request from Midland Cemetery.

Motion made by Mr. Proctor to donate \$500 to the Midland Cemetery and seconded by Mr. Slade. Motion passed unanimously.

Mrs. McCool presented for consideration and approval for Portnoff Law Associates to proceed to Sheriff Sale of properties.

Motion made by Mr. Segina, seconded by Vice President Woods to authorize Portnoff Law Associates to proceed to sheriff sale of properties presented. Motion passed unanimously.

Mrs. McCool presented for consideration and approval to pay the Colliflower Hose and Fittings invoice for \$3,173.92 to replace a sewer jetting hose.

Vice President Woods made a motion to approve the invoice, seconded by Ms. Paoletti. Motion Passed unanimously.

Mrs. McCool presented for consideration and approval to pay Morton Salt, \$17,004.14, for road salt from the liquid fuels account.

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Mr. Segina asked if it will be taken out of the budgeted sewer and general fund or the liquid fuels account, as there is \$15K budgeted in the general fund and \$20K in sewer for road salt, anti-skid, etc.

Mr. Segina made a motion to approve the payment to Morton Salt and seconded by Mr. Slade.

Vice President Woods asked to make sure the workers are being properly trained, as there were large amounts of salt dumped throughout the Borough.

Motion passed unanimously.

Mrs. McCool presented for consideration and approval to pay LLK Repairs for \$6,450.27 for emergency repairs to the scissors lift as approved by the Finance Committee. Mrs. McCool explained that the scissors lift is for the bed of the dump truck. It was needed to drop salt.

Mrs. Slade made a motion to pay LLK Repairs and seconded by Ms. Paoletti.

Mr. Segina asked about how this falls under emergency repairs. With it being over \$2K, there are questions about filling one truck, multiple trucks, etc. Was it working before? How did it stop working? Mrs. McCool can find this information.

Motion passed unanimously.

Mrs. McCool presented for consideration and approval to pay HB McClure for \$3,671.31 for emergency repairs to a heater in the Public Works building as approved by the Finance Committee.

Vice President Woods made the motion to approve, seconded by Mr. Segina. Motion passed unanimously.

Mrs. McCool presented for consideration and approval to purchase a police vehicle to replace the 2006 Toyota Sequoia and purchase a 2011 Lincoln MKX for the purchase price of \$14,526. Mrs. McCool explained that this has been discussed before. Mr. Segina asked about the trade-in. Mrs. McCool explained that the trade-in is not happening anymore.

Mr. Slade made a motion to approve the purchase of the police vehicle, seconded by Ms. Paoletti.

Vice President Woods asked why the vehicle was not being traded in. Chief Shaub said that the Toyota will be put up for bid.

Motion passed unanimously.

Mrs. McCool presented for consideration and approval to nominate a delegate and alternate delegate for CapCOG. Mrs. McCool stated that for historical purposes, the last time delegates selected were Doug Brown and Denny Heefner.

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Vice President Woods nominated Mr. Segina for delegate and Mrs. McCool as an alternate delegate. Seconded by Mr. Slade. Motion passed unanimously.

Mrs. McCool presented for consideration and approval to appoint the following individuals to the Board of Directors of the Steelton Economic Development Corporation: Kathy McCool, Michael G. Musser, II; Douglas Brown; George Connor; Joseph Beck, Jr.; Gerald Morrison, and Charles Wallace, Jr.

Mr. Proctor made a motion to appoint board of directors for the Steelton Economic Development Corporation. Seconded by Mr. Slade. Motion passed unanimously.

Mrs. McCool presented for consideration and approval to appoint an Interim Fire Chief, as discussed in Executive Session, for the Steelton Borough. The appointed person will be called Acting Fire Chief.

Motion by Mr. Segina to appoint Stephen Brubacher as Acting Fire Chief. Seconded by Mr. Slade. Motion passed unanimously.

Mrs. McCool presented for consideration and approval for personnel action as discussed in executive session.

Notice of Police intern Chad Irwin for summer of 2024.

Mr. Segina made the motion to table these items. Vice President Woods seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Notice of vacancies on the Stormwater Authority, Planning Commission, and Zoning Hearing Board. Mrs. McCool stated that there is 1 vacancy on these boards and that information is listed on the Borough site. Mr. Segina stated that the Codes Appeal Board needs new members because the last time it was set was in 2018.

Correspondence:

Mrs. McCool presented Council with the following correspondence:

- Email regarding Capital City Dump Site
- General Inspection Report – Capital City Dump Site
- Letter from Zelenkofske Axelrod LLC regarding planned work for 2023 financial audit.
- Notice of rule for Judicial Sale

Public Comments:

- Richard Hankerson, Elks Lodge – In existence for over 100 years. Been at 140 Adams Street since 1948. Were at a house before that up the street. The people who created problems at

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the lodge have been barred. The shootings have not been the fault of the lodge. Have 6 security guards and 2 military members. Their security was in the line of fire. Asked cars and people to keep it down. Asked police to patrol there late at night. Concerned for the residents of the block to avoid violence. Hard to prevent these things. Mentioned the Super Bowl parade shooting in Kansas City. Said residents do not come to the lodge, only when there was a food bank. Wants to invite them for a dinner. Said they are not a nuisance bar. Had a letter from Musser last time he was at a Council meeting saying they can use the lot to park. Wants to meet with the police chief to see what can be done. Mentioned the club across from Turkey Hill that does not have a license. Wants a working relationship with the police.

- Percy Harrison, Elks Lodge – Said they follow all PLCB rules. Said he cannot control gun violence. Concerned for the residents of Adams Street. Plans to cut the hours. Wants to keep his security team safe. The average age of a member is approximately 60, so they are hurting for membership. The primary mission is to serve the local residents. COVID hurt them. They had a food bank, the Youth Steppers program, children's events, veteran's events, etc. Hosted the state convention. They are part of a larger organization. Wants an opportunity to remedy the situation. Mentioned the hookah lounge. Wants to be a part of the Easter Egg hunt, as they used to hold their own on Adams before the homes were built.
- Charles Ark, Elks Lodge – They have lodges across the globe. Mentioned their special programs where they donate annually to an individual with a disability, give out scholarships, and help the elderly. Saw the foundation of the building in 1948. Never had issues like this. Mentioned their youth programs again. Asked for police help.
- Paula Postelli, Elks Lodge – The Elks is not a bar, but much more. Remembers the days when her parents visited. Trying to revamp the joint management team. Asking for a chance to remedy the situation. Hosting another lodge currently.
- Paquita Curry, Elks Lodge – Give us a chance.
- Thornton Mills, 3517 Walnut St – Asked for a blank police car during closing hours to deter violence.
- Pat Gordon, 117 N Front St – There are 3 businesses on Front Street right by the police station and they do not deter crime.

Council Concerns:

Chief Shaub – Nothing

Mr. Curry – Nothing

Mr. Watts – Nothing

Mr. Gonder – Nothing

Mrs. McCool – Nothing

Mr. Proctor – Addressed the Elks Lodge and their enforcement changes.

Ms. Paoletti – Nothing

Vice President Woods – Thanked attendees. Willing to work with the Lodge.

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Mr. Segina – He is a lodge guy. Been a member of St. Al's. The after-hours needs to be addressed. Would be a shame if we lost the Elks, but a common ground needs to be met to ensure everyone's safety

Mr. Slade – Thanked attendees. Wants to see the Elks thrive and open to the suggestions.

President Bowers – Thanked attendees and wants to work together to address the issues and better the community.

Mayor Dent – Thanked attendees. There was a meeting in Nov/Dec 2023 to address the concerns and provide corrective actions, advice, etc. Frustrated with the lack of contact with the leadership. Nothing personal with this. There is a public safety issue and has to put herself in those situations. We have to make it safe for everyone. Only 2 officers are on shift and do not have time to babysit any 1 location. Logistics need to work. Open to communication.

Executive Session:

None

Other Business:

None

With no other business to discuss, a Motion made by Mr. Segina, seconded by Vice President Woods, to adjourn at 8:07 PM. Motion passed unanimously.