

The Duncansville Borough Council meeting was held on Wednesday, December 11, 2023, at 6:00 P.M. at the Duncansville Community Center

Attendance Eric Fritz, Mayor
Cindy Blontz, President
Donald Detrick, Vice President
Dave Shaw, Pro Tem
Annette Lewis, Council Member

Absent Jeffrey Lynn, Council Member

Cindy Blontz opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag and roll call by the Borough Secretary.

Annette Lewis made a motion to approve the Council minutes held on November 13, 2023. Dave Shaw seconded the motion, all in favor, motion carried.

Annette Lewis made a motion to approve the Council minutes held on November 29 & 30, 2023. Donnie Detrick seconded the motion, all in favor, motion carried.

Dave Shaw made a motion to accept the Duncansville Municipal Authority minutes held on October 5 and November 2, 2023. Annette Lewis seconded the motion, all in favor, motion carried.

Visitors: Bill Lloyd, Gary Detwiler, Ashlyn Dugan

Gary Detwiler was visiting and spoke with Chief Estep regarding the way people travel on 6th Ave. A discussion was held. Chief Estep stated he will keep an eye out.

Ashlyn Dugan was visiting to speak with Council regarding her upcoming project behind Coffee on 3rd. She is planning on putting 12x20 buildings in her backyard project. In these buildings she is planning on putting a produce stand, bakery, boutique/gift shop, Eden's Donuts and a greenhouse/pavilion where she would rent out for parties. There will be no water at this time in these buildings. For her loan to go through, the produce, bakery and gift shop would need to be permanent building which she would put on cement slabs. She would like to move forward on this project but the only thing that is holding up her project would be a land development plan. Kelller Engineer, which is Ashlyn's engineer, stated it would not be a land development project. Tom stated that in the land development ordinance states when you add 1 or more nonresidential buildings a land development is required. Mike stated that she would need a final formal developer's agreement before the project could be started. The final plans need to be reviewed by Blair County Planning Commission. The Planning Commission could take up to 30 days to approve. All the paperwork needs filed and voted on in a meeting. If there is no meeting scheduled for the end of the month, an advertisement for a special meeting will need to be placed. Annette Lewis made a motion to advertise for a special meeting after all the paperwork is filed and reviewed. Donnie Detrick seconded the motion, all in favor, motion carried.

Secretary:

1. The property at 1209 5th Avenue, that needs to be demolished due to a fire, has not been cleaned up yet. Paula asked how much time we give them to get it cleaned up. The fire happened in February. It has been close to a year with no activity. Mike stated he would send them a letter and give them 30 days and after that we would use the escrow money to clean it up.
2. Paula asked council if they would like to sign up for the pollution insurance April Ressler spoke about at last month's meeting. Annette Lewis made a motion to decline the pollution insurance. Dave Shaw seconded the motion, all in favor, motion carried.

Mayor:

Annette Lewis made a motion to accept the Police report for the month of November 2023. Donnie Detrick seconded the motion, all in favor, motion carried.

Solicitor:

1. Mike received an email from a property owner behind Coffee on 3rd and was asking about the process of vacating an alley. Mike told her to send information and he will bring it to the council. Mike advised her to file a petition and there will be a hearing.
2. Mike stated that we need to advertise for the reorganization meeting next month. Annette Lewis made a motion to advertise for the meeting. Dave Shaw seconded the motion, all in favor, motion carried.

Engineer:

1. Stormwater Management revisions to the SLDO
 - a. Tom reported that he and Mike have been working on the revisions for the Stormwater management. The revisions would need to be advertised. Annette Lewis made a motion to advertise the revision. Donnie Detrick seconded the motion, all in favor, motion carried.
2. Floodplain Review 1208 3rd Avenue
 - a. The property owner at 1208 3rd Avenue would like to put a shed on his property. It meets the building code. He recommends the council to approve the floodplain review. Dave Shaw made a motion to approve the floodplain review. Donnie Detrick seconded the motion, all in favor, motion carried.

Committees:

Buildings & Grounds-Donnie Detrick: Chief Estep gave an update on the Community Center Project. The engineer will be ready early January to put the project out for bid.

Finance-Dave Shaw: Dave Shaw made a motion to pass and accept the 2024 budget and sign the tax rate resolution. Donnie Detrick seconded the motion, all in favor, motion carried.

Fire Company-Donnie Detrick: Chief Estep reported that the Comedy Club on December 8, 2023, was a huge success.

Parks & Recreation-Annette Lewis: Annette reported that the DCED grant that she has been working on with Blair Planning has been submitted.

Personnel-Cindy Blontz: Cindy reported that interviews were completed for the Water & Sewer Asst Operator have been completed. They would like to offer Isaiha Mitchell the position. Dave Shaw made a motion to hire Isaiha Mitchell for W/S Asst Operator position. Donnie Detrick seconded the motion, all in favor, motion carried.

Streets & Equipment-Dave Shaw: Dave reported that Scott McGonigle is coming back since he is on winter break from school. He will work through mid January.

Water & Sewer-Jeff Lynn: Annette Lewis made a motion to approve the Water and Sewer Report for November. Dave Shaw seconded the motion, all in favor, motion carried.

Duncansville Community Days: Mayor Fritz reported the tree lighting went well. The attendance was down this year due to the weather.

Unfinished Business: Nothing at this time.

New Business: Mayor Fritz brought up the fact that the borough needs a borough manager. Dave Shaw would like to see something in writing which would detail the duties and pay scale for the position. Mayor Fritz will have something in writing in the future.

Annette Lewis made a motion to pay the monthly bills for the month of December 2023. Dave Shaw seconded the motion, all in favor, motion carried.

Next Meeting: Monday, January 8, 2024

Cindy Blontz adjourned the meeting at 7:26 PM

Paula J Fox
Secretary/Treasurer