

EXETER BOROUGH
JANUARY 3, 2023
MEETING MINUTES

Call to Order. Chairman Pizano called the meeting to order at 7:07 p.m. and welcomed Zoom participants, then all recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll Call was taken. Present were Joseph Pizano, Council Chairman and John Morgan, Vice Chairman; Council Members David Balent, Lori DeAngelo, Joseph Esposito, Carmen Marranca, Richard Murawski; Solicitor Ray Hassey; Borough Staff Ralph Dixon, Bob Hyzenski, Mike Miller, Vince Ninassi, Gloria Kijek and Amy Sorokin Huntington.

Person of the Month – Mayor Adams presented a certificate to Lynda Hyzenski, honoring her 30 years of service to Exeter Borough, Exeter Events, Lions, Historical Society and Cherry Blossom Committees, and thanked and congratulated her and her family in attendance, on her retirement.

December 6, 2022 Exeter Borough Council regular meeting minutes. Motion to approve made by Lori DeAngelo, seconded by Carmen Marranca, passed unanimously.

December 28, 2022 Exeter Borough Special Council meeting minutes. Motion to approve made by John Morgan, seconded by Dave Balent, passed unanimously.

Treasurer's Report. Amy Sorokin Huntington reported \$139,148.57 monthly income; \$182,092.27 expenses; 3,079,694.82 total assets.

Citizens' Input on Agenda Items. No input was made.

Correspondence. Amy Huntington reported correspondences to join the Northeast PA Land Bank, to participate in the Home Grant with the Pittston Redevelopment Authority, to facilitate participation in the national opioid settlement litigation, and to confirm Barber Ford zoning classification.

Refuse Report. Gloria Kijek reported trash sticker sales began today, 21 trash stickers sold. Prices are \$170/\$130 senior discount before 3/1/2023, \$200/\$150 starting March 1.

Recycling Report. Amy Huntington reported December: 39.95 tons; YTD 12/2022: 484 tons; YTD 12/2021: 534 tons.

Report of Committees

Police. Chairman Pizano noted the successful disbandment of Exeter Borough Police Department on 12/31/2022 at 11:59 p.m. and transition to the Wyoming Area Regional Police (WARP) led by Chief D.F. Pace.

Finance & Insurance. No activity to report.

Fire. John Morgan reported the EMA Plan will be revised with the assistance of Ralph Dixon, and open burning was reported on Cherrywood near the old Star Garment on Penn Ave. and is not permitted.

Street/Recycling. John Morgan reported washing out and ice issue conditions on Old Exeter Avenue, and asked Solicitor Ray Hassey to check with Borough Engineer Harold Ash to determine Exeter Borough's obligation to maintain the private-owned road, and identify possible solutions.

Parks & Recreation. No activity to report.

WVSA. Vice Chair John Morgan reported consulting with John Hood of WVSA, 37 flushed sewers in December 2022.

Zoning. Chairman Pizano noted Zoning vacancy was advertised, and he consulted with Pittston Mayor Michael Lombardo to discuss possible collaborative zoning arrangement, also possibly including Wyoming Borough, to pay by the hour for a regional zoning officer.

Hicks Creek. David Balent noted we should look for dredging funding through Congressman Cartwright's Office, Growing Greener or other programs through PA DEP and PA DCED.

Building & Grounds. Joseph Esposito inquired about the status of the snowblower shed, and Amy Huntington reported an additional 5% price decrease on the display shed, anticipated delivery is 2-4 weeks from Home Depot.

Mayor's Remarks. No further remarks were made by the Mayor at this time.

Solicitor's Report. Solicitor Ray Hassey requested a motion to add two additional items (motions) to the agenda: (1) 2023 Exeter Borough Tax Levy Ordinance; and (2) Exeter Borough membership in the Northeast PA Land Bank Authority, as the revised agenda did not post on the website. John Morgan made the motion to add two items, Lori DeAngelo seconded, the motion to add the two agenda items passed unanimously.

New Business

Motion was made by John Morgan to approve Ordinance No. 1 of 2023, approving the 2023 Exeter Borough Tax Levy Ordinance, Tax Rate of the sum of 0.020079 mills on each dollar of assessed valuation. Seconded by Lori DeAngelo, the motion passed unanimously.

Motion was made by John Morgan to approve Ordinance No. 2 of 2023, approving Exeter Borough's participation in the Northeast Pennsylvania Land Bank Authority, pending membership acceptance in the Land Bank. Seconded by Lori DeAngelo, the motion passed unanimously.

Motion was made by John Morgan to accept the 2023 Regular Council Meeting Dates: Jan 1, Feb 7, Mar 7, Apr 4, May 2, June 6, no July, Aug 1, Sept 5, Oct 3, Nov 7, Dec 5, 2023. Seconded by Dave Balent, the motion passed unanimously.

Motion was made by John Morgan to approve the current and prepaid bills in the amount of \$194,915.45. Seconded by Dave Balent, the motion passed unanimously.

Motion was made by Dave Balent to approve Kuharchik Construction, Inc. to replace the loop sensor to repair the street light timer at Wyoming & Penn Avenues, total \$1,860.00. Seconded by Richard Murawski, the motion passed unanimously.

Motion made by John Morgan to accept the resignation of Timothy Reed of Exeter Borough Streets Department, effective December 30, 2022, and declare a vacancy. Seconded by Carmen Marranca, the motion passed unanimously.

Motion made by Dave Balent to accept the resignation of Edward Mackey from the Exeter Borough Planning Commission, effective December 31, 2022 and declare a vacancy. Seconded by Carmen Marranca, the motion passed unanimously.

Motion made by Lori DeAngelo to accept the resignation of Patricia Williams as School Crossing Guard, effective January 13, 2023 and declare a vacancy. Seconded by Dave Balent, the motion passed unanimously.

Motion to Adjourn at 8:02 p.m. was made by Joe Esposito, seconded by John Morgan, passed unanimously.