

## Eagles Mere Borough

# AGENDA

July 5, 2022

Regular Monthly Meeting

Time: 7:00 pm

William Feese, Louise Middleton, Dennis Craig, Tom Graff, Doug Smith, Jim Way, and Richard Liebert. Mayor John Brownback. Also present may be Secretary/Treasurer: Dave Carson, and Street Superintendent: Jeremy Moore and Emergency Management Coordinator: Wendy Hastings.

(For those wishing to participate by phone, the Dial-in access number is 1 605 562 8400 and the Participant access code is 8026073#. Please let the Secretary know if you plan to dial in so the call can be set up.)

Per PA Statutes for Boroughs, a quorum consists of only those Council members in the room but Council members attending by Conference Phone may vote once a quorum is established.

**In the Gallery:** Eric Casanave from Stiffler McGraw,

**Call to Order-Regular Monthly Meeting:** (President of Council presiding)

**Motion to Revise the Published Agenda:** (if needed)

**Public Issues & Comments:**

**Minutes:** Approve June 6, 2022 Regular Meeting minutes as included with Agenda.

**Treasurer's Report:**

- Interim reports sent with agendas. Reports are through June 30, 2022.

**Open Records/Right to Know Officer:**

- Routine requests for tax collection data.

**Zoning & Ordinance Officer report:**

- The Zoning Hearing Board met on May 26 to hear the appeal of John and Sharon Hayes to the denial of their zoning application for their property adjacent to 422 Pennsylvania Ave. The meeting was attended by approximately 40 residents and statements and arguments were made relating to the requested application. A follow-up public meeting is scheduled for June 30, 2022 for the Hearing Board to deliberate and announce their decision.
- An application for a sign permit has been received, reviewed, and approved for Dorko Wealth and Estate Planning at 929 Laporte Ave. The permanent sign will be applied to the front of the building. The specifics of the sign are well within the Borough Code guidelines.

**Street Superintendent Report:**

- The drainage pipe installation/repair and the resurfacing and base repair on Morgan/Dunham Aves is complete. The chip and seal portion of the project on Dunham Ave. will be scheduled soon and be done by a different contractor. The previous

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approved surface repair on Sullivan Ave has also been completed within the amount approved by Council.

### **Mayor's Report:**

### **Emergency Management Coordinator's report:**

### **Points of Interest and Information from the Secretary:**

- Real Estate transfer taxes for April, in the amount of \$1463.75 (Burley>France) have been received.
- Real Estate transfer taxes for May, in the amount of \$3,393.25 (Shively>Papianou and Hayes>Bishop) have been received.
- Attorney Fred Holland's fee to represent the Borough and the EMA at the Zoning Hearing Board hearing on the appeal of Hayes denied application was \$2,148.83. Per our agreement with the EMA they will bill us for half of the cost or \$1,074.42. Other costs incurred to hold a Zoning Hearing Board meeting are \$106 for advertising, and \$281.25 for a court reporter for the first meeting with a second billing to come for the second meeting on June 30. These other costs are divided between the Borough and the appellant.
- By a unanimous 3 – 0 vote, the Zoning Hearing Board held that Zoning Officer Carson's denial of the Hayes zoning application was proper. The only appeal at this point for Dr. Hayes is to file at the Commonwealth Court in Laporte in hopes that the Judge may draw a different conclusion.
- The Borough has received the allocation for reporting year 2021 of Unconventional Gas Well Funds (Act 13) in the amount of \$9,405.86. In accordance with guidelines, this money will be placed in a separate bank account for future use per the decision of Council.

### **Committees:**

#### **Finance-**

- Interim financial reports through May 31, 2022 are attached to this Agenda.
- The Finance Committee recommends the implementation of a plan to have all financial data input, exclusive of payroll, become the responsibility of Kase Moore. All transactions will be entered at her remote location including bill creation, receivables recording, payables generated, and reports created. Some hardware and software changes will be required to implement this plan. The expected software and hardware costs are not yet known.

#### **Infrastructure-**

#### **Museum-**

- The Museum is now open daily. Several special programs and fundraisers are scheduled.

#### **Ordinance-**

#### **Personnel-** No activity

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**Website-** Updates continue to be made by Kase Moore as needed.

**Continued Business:**

- The Borough, on behalf of three organizations (the Borough, the EMA, and the Conservancy) applied for and received a Low Volume Road grant in 2021 in the amount of \$42,498.50 to address Phase 1 of the needed drainage repairs and improvements on Clay Ave. This amount is less than half of the estimated cost for the full project. No construction has been performed to date and no costs incurred beyond engineering and permit application expenses. The Grantor (Sullivan County Conservation District-Low Volume Road Program) does not have funds to award a follow-on grant. Instead, they have referred us to the Growing Greener Program administered by PA Department of Environmental Protection. This program has funds which we may qualify for in 2023. In the meantime, we need to implement Phase 1 and advertise for bids for construction to be done after Labor Day. Eric Casanave of our engineering firm, Stiffler McGraw, will be present to review what needs to be done to proceed with Phase 1. An application for Phase 2 will be made to Growing Greener.

**New Business:**

- Andrea Scarry has asked to be able to request Borough support for community Holiday decoration projects this Christmas.

**Workshops/Conferences-**

- None Scheduled.

**Payment of Bills-** Approval to pay the bills (as reviewed) for the Borough and Museum is requested.

**Adjourn the meeting at \_\_\_\_\_ pm.**