

JUNE 14, 2023
ELKLAND BOROUGH
REGULAR MEETING

The regular meeting called order at 6:30 pm by Council President Mike Jones.

MAYOR: BILL SHERMAN-ABSENT

COUNCIL MEMBERS:

PRESIDENT – MIKE JONES	VICE PRESIDENT – MARK KOHUT
RICK COLLINS	WENDY GRAHAM - ABSENT
KYLE ELDRIDGE	JOHN DORRANCE
PETE VAN GORDEN - ABSENT	

Secretary/Treasurer: Jill Hall

PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS:

- Jon Cox, attorney from Eckert Siemens Law Group, spoke to the council about the received bids for financing borough infrastructure. Citizen and Northern Bank offered the best interest rate at 5.1% for 12 or 15 years for a \$1,500,000 principal. The principal can be drawn over five draw periods or taken in full at the time of signing the loan agreement. There would be no prepayment penalties.

COUNCIL ENTERED EXECUTIVE SESSION FOR LEGAL REASONS AT 6:48 PM AND EXITED AT 7:16 PM.

MINUTES: Councilman Collins motioned to accept the May 10, 2023; minutes as presented. Councilman Eldridge seconded the motion. All present were in favor with Councilman Kohut abstaining because he did not attend the May 10, 2023, meeting. Motion carried.

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS:

- Councilman Dorrance motioned, and Councilman Collins seconded to accept the May 2023 financial statements as presented. All present were in favor. Motion carried.
- Councilman Kohut motioned, and Councilman Dorrance seconded to pay the bills in the amount of \$78,857.58. All present were in favor. Motion carried.
- Councilman Kohut motioned, and Councilman Dorrance seconded to make the following revenue transfers:
 - Lockbox to General Fund - \$14,169.18
 - Lockbox to Sewer Fund - \$52,099.20
 - Lockbox to Water Fund - \$14,169.18.

All present were in favor. Motion Carried

MUNICIPAL REPORTS:

- DPW - No comments on report – Dan Clark, DPW supervisor said that work was going well.

- SEWER/WATER
 - No comments on report
- POLICE
 - No comments on report
- AUTHORITY - No report
- FIRE
 - House fire occurred on 2nd Street in Elkland Borough. One hydrant failed but has since been repaired.
 - Sold old rescue truck for \$55,00
 - Purchased a used rescue truck from Selkirk, NY for \$65,000.
 - Fire Banquet was held, and one award still needed to be given out.
 - The fire department and the State Senate recognized John Dorrance for 50 years of service and dedication to the Elkland Borough Fire Department.
- ZONING
 - No comments on report.

OLD BUSINESS:

- North Buffalo Erosion – Larson Design and Elkland Borough are teaming up to apply for the Growing Greener grant to make necessary repairs to Kizer Creek and the North Buffalo erosion issue. The potential grant payout is \$3,000,000. The process from now until completed work will take approximately five years.
- River Street Rail- There has been no response to the offer of half bill payment with fines and removing the business from the Elkland Borough sewer system.
- Infrastructure Improvement Financing-
 - No movement was made on this topic.
- NYPUM Building –
 - No Update
- Rod and Gun Club
 - No update

NEW BUSINESS:

- Street Paving Bid Packets –
 - Bid number 1 was from HRI, Inc for \$366,710
 - Bid number 2 was from Glenn O’ Hawbaker was for \$369,442.60/
 - Councilman Collins motioned to accept the \$366,710.00 bid from HRI, Inc using funds from Liquid Fuels fund, Act 13, and the Capital Improvement fund. Councilman Eldridge seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken with the following results: Councilman Dorrance – Yes, Councilman Kohut – Yes, Councilman Eldridge – Yes, and Councilman Collins – Yes, and Councilman Jones – Yes. Motion carried.
- 2023 Sewer Plant Rehabilitation Bids
 - This was moved to the July 12, 2023, meeting. The request for sealed bids will be advertised shortly.
- Animals–At- Large Ordinance

- Councilman Collins motioned to advertise the Animals-At-Large Ordinance. Councilman Kohut seconded the motion. All present were in favor.
- Billing Software Upgrades
 - Councilman Dorrance motioned to purchase the Muni-Link Cloud-based billing software program for \$12,000 up front conversion cost and \$480/month subscription cost. This software will replace the current Virtual Utility Billing software program. Councilman Collins seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken with the following results: Councilman Dorrance – Yes, Councilman Kohut – Yes, Councilman Eldridge – Yes, Councilman Collins – Yes, and Councilman Jones – Yes. Motion carried.
- Office hours for July and August 2023
 - The office will be closed on Thursdays in July and August. Appointments can be made by calling or texting Jill at 207-649-9983.
- Open Water Fund Capital Improvement Account
 - Councilman Kohut motioned, and Councilman Eldridge seconded the motion to open an account at Citizen and Northern Bank to transfer \$9,958.85 monthly from the water checking account. This money is available because the Penn Vest Water Improvement Project loan was paid in full in 2023. This will allow monies to be accumulated for future water plant projects. A roll call vote was taken with the following results: Councilman Dorrance – Yes, Councilman Kohut – Yes, Councilman Eldridge – Yes, Councilman Collins – Yes, and Councilman Jones – Yes. Motion carried.
- Dikes/Levees site visit
 - The DEP and the Army Corp of Engineers will be in Elkland on July 24, 2023. To prepare for the site visit, the dike behind Barney Hill, west of the bridge, will be repaired. This area is eroding and was pointed out as an area of concern during last year’s visit.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

- Holly Schoonover questioned when the potholes in town would be filled. Holly also asked where the sale or lease of the land to the Rod and Gun Club.
- A resident inquired about the Solicitor’s progress on creating a mobile home age ordinance for the borough.

The meeting adjourned at 8:22pm.

Respectfully,

Jill Hall
Secretary