

April 7, 2025

The regular meeting of the Montoursville Borough Council held in the John Dorin Municipal Building was called to order by Council President Eric Greenway at 7:00 PM with the following answering roll call: Eric Greenway, Mark Tillson, Mayor Bagwell, Tina Kline, Misty Emick, and Robert Brown. Absent Chris Lucas.

The Pledge of Allegiance was observed.

The March 3, 2025 minutes were approved on a motion by Mr. Brown, second by Dr. Kline. The motion carried.

TREASURERS REPORT/BOROUGH BILLS – Motion by Mr. Brown to approve the March 2025 Treasurer’s report, second by Mrs. Emick. The motion carried.

VISITORS AND PUBLIC COMMENT FOR AGENDA ITEMS – Nothing at this time.

Council President, Mr. Greenway announced that Council will be going into an executive session to discuss legal and personnel issues and will be returning to reconvene the meeting. The council meeting was reconvened at 7:19 PM.

NEW BUSINESS –

MOU – LYCOMING COUNTY & MONTOURSVILLE BOROUGH –VOTER SERVICES ADA COMPLIANCE REIMBURSEMENT & BIG ROCK PAVING QUOTE FOR SIDEWALK REPLACEMENT -

Council President, Mr. Greenway presented a MOU between Montoursville Borough & Lycoming County for reimbursement for Voter Services ADA Compliance requirements for the John Dorin Municipal Building for review. Also presented was a quote from Big Rock paving for the replacement of the John Dorin Municipal sidewalks for review.

Motion by Mr. Brown to approve MOU between Montoursville Borough and Lycoming County for reimbursement costs only for Voter Services ADA Compliance requirements in the amount of \$11,000.00 in conjunction with the Voter Service ADA Compliance quote from Big Rock Paving in the amount of \$11,000.00 and quote from Big Rock Paving for the replacement of sidewalks at the John Dorin Municipal building in the amount of \$ 6,324.00 as presented; second by Dr. Kline. The motion carried.

AGREEMENT WITH PA ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES, INC TO CONDUCT A WATER AUDIT OF THE MONTOURSVILLE BOROUGH WATER SYSTEM- Council President, Mr. Greenway presented an agreement with PA Environmental Services, Inc. to conduct a water audit of the Montoursville Borough Water System for review.

Motion by Dr. Kline to approve the agreement with PA Environmental Services, Inc. to conduct a water audit of the Montoursville Borough Water System not to exceed \$500.00; second by Mrs. Emick. The motion carried.

JOHN DORIN MUNICIPAL BUILDING ROOF REPLACEMENT – Council President, Mr. Greenway presented John Dorin Municipal Building Roof Replacement from Costars Vendor, T Ross Brother’ Construction Inc. for review.

Motion by Mrs. Emick to approve John Dorin Municipal Building Roof Replacement from Costars Vendor, T Ross Brother’s Construction Inc. as presented; second by Dr. Kline. Council Vice President/Finance Committee Chairperson, Mr. Brown shared and explained the quote; a metal roof would be \$97,046.00 versus an asphalt shingle roof would be \$49,434.00. He explained that the Finance Committee has recommended the replacement roof with the asphalt shingles. Council President, Mr. Greenway stated that he felt the metal roof would be better for longevity, however there are budget constraints as well to consider. At this time, Council members, Mrs. Emick & Dr. Kline request to rescind their motion to approve. Council member, Mrs. Emick questioned Borough Solicitor, Chris Kenyon, whether it would be less expensive to bid the project. He responded to Council member, Mrs. Emick’s question that bidding the project out would not really be saving any money.

At this time, Council members, Mrs. Emick & Dr. Kline requested to rescind their motion to approve and requested the subject be tabled until the next council meeting.

AUTHORIZATION TO SELL 2014 FREIGHTLINER DUMP TRUCK –MUNICIPAL - Council President, Mr. Greenway requested the authorization to sell 2014 Freightliner Dump Truck through Municipal for review.

Council member, Mr. Tillson expressed concern that the vehicle should be fixed as it is paid for instead of selling it “as is” based upon what it is worth. Council member, Mrs. Emick expressed her desire to reduce the fleet since it requires a CDL license to operate and feels the borough does not need it. A discussion ensued regarding replacement versus repairing the vehicle. Street and Water Project Coordinator, Mr. Hoffman announced that if there is a heavy snowfall this truck would be essential to have as the lighter trucks cannot manage some heavy snowfalls.

Motion by Dr. Kline to approve the authorization to sell the 2014 Freightliner Dump Truck on Municipal as presented; second by Mr. Brown. The motion was denied.

AUTHORIZATION TO PURCHASE NEW PAVILION - Council President, Mr. Greenway requested the authorization to purchase new pavilion for review. Council member and Finance Committee Chairperson, Mr. Brown explained that the dimensions of the pavilion would be 10’x 20’ for \$18,934.00 noting its location was to be near where the previous brush pile was. He continued to explain that the location will need to be reseeded including the area where new fields are proposed. He also stated the idea that there will be money from the previous insurance claim from the destruction of pavilion #6 and pavilion #3, with the additional money needed coming from the Capital Improvement Fund. Mayor Bagwell expressed concern with the location and visibility of this new pavilion at night.

Motion by Mr. Greenway to approve authorization to purchase new pavilion as presented; second by Dr. Kline. The motion carried

PLANNING & ZONING – Central Keystone COG Reports March 2025.

RECREATION – Council member, Mrs. Emick reviewed and explained Event Permits 2025-05, 2025-06 and 2025-09 as presented.

Motion by Mrs. Emick to approve event permits 2025-05, 2025-06 & 2025-09 as presented; second by Mr. Brown The motion carried.

STREETS/WATER – Nothing at this time.

MAYOR – Mayor Bagwell stated there seems to be misconceptions regarding the Water SCADA system not working properly when it is actually working very well. He shared that Montoursville Borough is one of the last water systems in the area to implement a SCADA system. He then expressed that if individuals suspect monies are missing from the Borough funds it should be presented properly and through the correct channels instead of generic posts online.

Mayor Bagwell also stated that he has been made aware of a letter sent to Borough Council members from Mr. Denny Holt. He shared that Mr. Holt’s letter states council members should do nothing until he is elected to council. Mayor Bagwell explained that he does not believe this would be a wise decision as it is borough council’s job to work to the best of their ability, noting there is no guarantee that Mr. Holt will be elected to council. In addition, he noted Mr. Holt’s past history, with the borough, where he is the author of many of the problems Borough Council is currently trying to fix.

POLICE CHIEF – Chief Gyurina reviewed the March 2025 police report noting there were ninety calls last month.

COUNCIL PERSONS – Council member, Mr. Brown explained it has come to his attention that clock on Broad Street is in disrepair; it is crumbling noting it at any point could fall on its own. He shared that Street and Water Project Coordinator; Mr. Hoffman will be removing the clock at his earliest convenience. He explained it would cost more to repair than to replace it noting this issue can be discussed at a later point in time.

He also updated Council regarding the advertised Civil Service Commission meeting that took place earlier in the day, where the civil service list was certified. At this time, Council Vice President, Mr. Brown shared that there are various volunteer boards and commissions with openings; Zoning Hearing Board, Property Maintenance Board of Appeals, Recreation Board and Civil Service Commission.

Council member, Mr. Tillson announced the brush pile is now open as of April 1st, 2025. He questioned if and when the Borough building was going to be power washed. Street and Water Project Coordinator, Mr. Hoffman stated he had received quotes for the power washing of the building however he was waiting until the replacement of the roof was completed. Council member, Mrs. Emick requested an update on the demolition on Spruce Street. It was noted that Borough Council approved an extension through May, 2025. Council Vice President, Mr. Brown reminded residents that they are required to stop in the Borough Office and show proper ID before going over to the brush pile. He continued stating that only Montoursville Borough residents may use the brush pile and that only brush, not trash is accepted. He explained the reason for this is because taxpayers pay for the dumpster utilized by the brush pile, and by requesting the ID protects the taxpayer from individuals from other areas using Borough using these resources. Council member, Mrs. Emick announced the Montoursville High School Jazz Band is performing in Indian Park on May 21st, 2025 with the time to be announced. She also announced that on April 26th, 2025 @ 9:00am there will be the Great American Cleanup at Indian Park and volunteers are to meet in front of the pool house. Gloves and garbage bags will be provided.

SOLICITOR – Nothing at this time.

COUNCIL VICE PRESIDENT –

PENDING MATTERS – Nothing at this time.

CORRESPONDENCE AND ANNOUNCEMENTS – The next Council meeting will be held Monday May 5th, 2025 @ 7:00PM.

VISITOR AND PUBLIC COMMENTS – Willing Hand Hose member, Mr. Scott Konkle presented and reviewed the March 2025 WHH report, that report included 127 EMS calls, fifty-six of which were in the borough. Mr. Konkle also stated that there were no fire calls in the borough in the month of March.

Resident, Mr. Jim Bennett, 815 Willow St., questioned Street and Water Project Coordinator, Mr. Hoffman if the roof was put out for bid. Street and Water Project Coordinator, Mr. Hoffman explained he received quotes from COSTAR vendors, which does not require the project go out for bid. Borough Solicitor, Chris Kenyon then explained to Mr. Bennett that it costs a lot more money to have an engineer inspect and write the bid, the cost for the advertising and further explained what COSTARS is and how it works. He also stated that if a project is over \$25,000.00 prevailing wage must be paid and the project must be bid out., if not utilizing a COSTAR vendor.

Resident, Ms. Melissa Magargle 1023 Spruce St., stated that the Amish do jobs quicker while regular companies take longer to get more money. Borough Solicitor, Chris Kenyon explained that state government dictates what and how smaller governments are required to abide by, in the instance that a company takes longer to finish a project, they do not get paid any additional money.

Resident, Mr. Ken Raker, 1127 Elm St., wanted to revisit the topic of hydrant flushing. Street and Water Project Coordinator, Mr. Hoffman explained the borough is going through the entire system, logging the maintenance, and flushing of all the hydrants. Mr. Raker then complained that it was eight years since they were last completed. Street and Water Project Coordinator explained to Mr. Raker that the hydrants are being done and logged accordingly, noting that all 200 hydrants will be completed within the next couple of months. Council member, Mrs. Emick questioned if the hydrants are being logged and can residents see what hydrants are being completed to date. Street and Water Project Coordinator again explained that all the maintenance on the hydrants and flushing is being logged and recorded. Council member, Mrs. Emick requested a schedule of when and which hydrants are being flushed so that we avoid an eight-year delay again. Council Vice President, Mr. Brown then stated if the borough's Facebook page can give a post weekly for the general location of the hydrants being flushed. Council member, Mr. Tillson then questioned the number of hydrants located in the borough. Street and Water Project Coordinator, Mr. Hoffman shared that there

are 200+ hydrants located in the borough. A discussion took place regarding the ability of the Willing Hand Hose Fire Company flushing the hydrants. Council Vice President, Mr. Brown then stated that the Willing Hand Hose Fire Company does not have the ability to de-chlorinate the hydrant water, therefore the borough is responsible to make sure the water is de-chlorinated. Street and Water Project Coordinator, Mr. Hoffman then explained to the public that it is a recommendation to flush the hydrants twice a year, but there are no requirements, noting it takes a lot of manpower, time and resources involved in the maintenance and flushing of these hydrants. He continued stating that is the reason a lot of smaller boroughs and municipalities do not do it.

Resident, Mrs. Kim Myers, 1127 Elm St., inquired if there was an update regarding the hiring of a new borough engineer. Council Vice President, Mr. Brown shared that prior to voting on the subject he wants to know explicitly, why a new borough engineer is required, would it be a benefit to the borough or harm the borough, and what kind of cost will it be to the borough. He continued stating these questions need to be answered in order for him to determine if it is a good idea. Mrs. Myers then stated that a new borough engineer is needed because of the letter that was sent out deeming their curbs needing replaced, noting her engineer refuted this. She then stated there were three different engineering companies that called the borough engineer to say that what he is doing to the residents in the borough is wrong. She then shared that they had to wait for the borough engineer to return from his beach house to evaluate their curbs, noting that he does not care about standards of the curbs. She stated the borough engineer is not doing his job. Council President, Mr. Greenway thanked Mrs. Myers and others for their opinions, however they are not engineers. Mrs. Myers continued stating that she had three engineers come out. Council President, Mr. Greenway asked for the reports from those engineers and stated those engineers would not go on the record therefore no reports have been submitted.

Resident, Mrs. Melissa Magargle, 1023 Spruce St., stated that since so many people are upset about the borough engineer, would it hurt to get a second opinion paid for by the borough. Council President, Mr. Greenway stated that this would cost the borough taxpayers thousands of dollars, and it is not justified and/or necessary.

Resident, Mrs. Annette Baker, 1133 Broad St., explained she has 92 feet of curbs that need replaced, meaning that all her curbing needs replaced. She then stated that she had a reputable concrete gentleman that said her curbs are fine. Council President, Mr. Greenway then stated that if engineers that have made independent evaluations of the curbs would submit them to the borough, that would be helpful, but no reports have been submitted, and no other engineers have gone on the record. Council member, Mr. Tillson then stated that a finite definition of a curb needs to be put in place.

Resident, Mrs. Doreen Matty, 1129 Locust St., stated that everyone in the borough is upset with the Borough Council absolutely everyone. She then blamed the borough council for putting too much on the taxpayers to pay for the things in the borough, some of which she mentioned was a pavilion, curbs, and roofs. She stated that people will not buy houses in the borough because of all that is going on. Council President, Mr. Greenway stated he disagrees noting that the houses listed for sale in the borough are selling very fast.

Resident, Mrs. Danielle Lanzer, 412 Willow St., stated that residents should not have to pay for curbs because they are part of the street system noting the curbs needing to be replaced could have been damaged by salt and/or the plows. She then stated that the residents will continue to speak up and post on FB as that is why the curbs got postponed. Secondly, she questioned if the Borough did any financial planning like a budget and if there was a 5-year plan for the money in the borough. Council Vice President, Mr. Brown responded by questioning Mrs. Lanzer if she ever came and reviewed the budget when it was up for the required public inspection in the fall. Mrs. Lanzer stated that she did not. Council Vice President, Mr. Brown then said that the budget explains where all the money in the borough goes and is the plan for the future year. Council President, Mr. Greenway stated that they cannot plan over two years in advance due to the fact that you cannot bind over future councils. Council President, Mr. Greenway also explained that the money made several years ago from bulk water sales was returned into the bank for water system repairs like fixing water main breaks and prior projects. It is also being used to fund the upcoming water project of replacing reservoir

#4. He continued explaining that a previous council used some of the profit from the bulk water to subsidize water rates even though they knew they were selling water at a loss to residents in order to have low rates. So, unfortunately, due to water rates not being increased accordingly over the course of the last few years, is the reason that the water rates were required to be raised over the past two years and not to make money, but to break even and not sell it at a loss.

Resident, Mrs. Annette Baker, 1133 Broad St., asked several questions regarding her about her curb stop, the pipe from the curb stop to the house noting that it was required to be changed, and she had it replaced. Street and Water Project Coordinator, Mr. Hoffman stated that it should be replaced with copper pipe.

Resident, Mrs. Theresa Detato, 106 N. Washington St., asked if instead of making curbs higher, can't they just take the road away. Street and Water Commissioner, Mr. Hoffman explained when a road has been milled, it is replaced with the same amount of material that was removed therefore the curbs stay approximately at the level prior to the milling. However, due to only overlaying some roads, it reduces the curb reveal, the only way to fix the issue would cost a lot of money as the utilities and drains etc. would have to be adjusted, an example of this issue is Montour Street.

Resident, Mrs. Myers, 1127 Elm St., then stated that PennDOT is supposed to adhere to the borough code, so why did they not have to replace the curbs when they paved their roads, such as on Montour Street. She continued that M & M Paving told her, as well as giving her paperwork that there is no way that her curbs need replaced and the street can just be paved. She then stated that the residents are being treated like an HOA. A very heated discussion took place with Council President, Mr. Greenway requested her to please stop as she was not acting appropriately.

Council member, Mr. Tillson thanked everyone for attending the meeting and stated that the residents, in attendance, bring up valid points but it is important to know that it is essential to have a solid understanding of the laws. It should be understood that borough council is required to go by borough and state codes so please be considerate. If you would like to be a part of borough council, consider running for council so you can learn all the laws and restrictions that pertain to borough's.

Council member, Mrs. Emick asked status of the guide that defines what is considered a deficient curb. Council Vice President, Mr. Brown suggested reviewing the ordinance to investigate if any changes would be needed. Council member, Mrs. Emick was against changing the ordinance. At this time, a lengthy discussion took place regarding curbs that involved multiple individuals and council simultaneously.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 9:30 PM on a motion by Mr. Greenway, second by Mr. Brown. The motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Ginny Gardner, Borough Secretary