

KANE BOROUGH COUNCIL
March 13, 2024

CALL TO ORDER

The regular monthly meeting of Kane Borough Council was called to order at 6:30 P. M. by President Tom Kase. The meeting was held at the Kane Borough Building, 112 Bayard Street, Kane, PA 16735. Members were notified of the meeting on December 13, 2023.

INVOCATION

A moment of silence in memory of Mr. Gary Schul was observed, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL

Present: Tom Kase (President), Jack Zelina (Vice President), Brandy Schimp (Mayor), Melanie Clabaugh, Kelle Bari, Jerry Milliron, Don Payne (Secretary), Tony Alfieri (Solicitor), Carrie Klaiber (Recording Secretary), Heath Boyer (Police Chief), Mick O'Rourke (Street Department Manager), Joe Geer (Code Compliance)

Telecommunications: None

Excused: Sam Cummings Jr., Mick O'Rourke (Street Department Manager)

Absent: Matt Bressler (Fire Chief)

VISITORS

Debra Miller, Andy McKowan (Kane Republican), Steve Dyne, Nikki O'Rourke

STATEMENT OF CITIZENS ON AGENDA ITEMS

None

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Mrs. Clabaugh, seconded by Mr. Zelina, to approve the minutes of the February 14, 2024, regular monthly meeting. Motion carried.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- a. Nomination and voting to fill the vacancy in the Borough Council. Mr. Payne read the code pertaining to appointment to the council. Mrs. Clabaugh nominated Dr. Debra Miller. Votes were taken in roll call manner, ayes from all present.
- b. Mayor Brandy Schimp performed the swearing in of Dr. Debra Miller, who then took her seat at the table for the remainder of the meeting.

CORRESPONDENCE

- a. Lutheran Home at Kane addition/renovation announcement.
- b. Court update for juvenile involved in Evergreen Park vandalism.

MONTHLY REPORTS

Budget – Report submitted to Council.

A motion was made by Mr. Zelina, seconded by Mr. Milliron, to approve the Budget Report, as presented. Motion carried.

Tax Collector – Balance on duplicate = \$673,395.73 (previous balance \$736,688.30)

A motion was made by Mrs. Clabaugh, seconded by Mr. Zelina, to approve the Tax Collector's Report as presented. Motion carried.

BILLS FOR PAYMENT

Check detail in the amount of \$457,338.47 was presented to Council for approval. (\$368,635.26 was repayment to PLGIT accounts for funds used until grants were received)

A motion was made by Mrs. Bari, seconded by Mrs. Clabaugh, to approve the Bills for Payment. Motion carried.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Office – Report submitted. In addition to his report, Mr. Payne stated that he, Mr. Zelina, Mrs. Klaiber and Mrs. Laura McDonald met with Elise Grovanz of North Central to discuss their grant finding and writing assistance.

Code Compliance - Report Submitted

Solicitor – Report Submitted. In addition to his report, Mr. Alfieri stated that the funds transfer from the Industrial Development Fund to KAIDC was ready for approval. This will allow KAIDC to accept candidates for loans from this fund and present them to council for approval. A motion was made by Mrs. Bari, seconded by Mr. Zelina to approve the transfer. Motion carried.

Police – Report submitted. In addition to his report, Chief Boyer stated that Officer Federoski, who had been employed by the department previously, would be returning on a part-time basis in the near future. There was discussion about retention and recruitment of officers.

Street - Report Submitted.

Assessment – Report submitted.

Health Board - Report submitted.

Fire – No Report submitted.

A motion was made by Mrs. Clabaugh, seconded by Mr. Milliron, to approve the Department Reports, as presented. Motion carried.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Cable/IT – Mr. Zelina reported that he heard from one of the Erie Television Stations that he wrote to and they are interested in speaking with him further.

Parks Commission – Minutes from the February 28, 2024 meeting were submitted. Mr. Payne stated that the Parks Commission voted to recommend to Borough Council to make Santilli Field usable for the 2025 Baseball season. KASD is due to either renew or discontinue their contract to play in Mt. Jewett in 2025, therefore if we want to get the team playing back in Kane, we need to act. This will be further addressed in new business.

Library – Minutes from the February 20, 2024 meeting were submitted. Ms. Nikki O'Rourke reminded council of the Soup and Pie Luncheon fundraiser taking place Thursday, March 14th.

NEW BUSINESS

- a. Janet Bard from the Kane Garden was on the agenda as requested but did not attend the meeting. However, Mr. Kase did state that September 21, 2024 is the 100th anniversary celebration of the Garden Club and to keep that date open.
- b. Approval for StoryWalk at Evergreen to be set up by the Friends' Memorial Library. A motion was made by Mrs. Clabaugh to approve the project, seconded by Mr. Zelina. Motion carried.
- c. A motion was made by Mr. Milliron and seconded by Mrs. Bari to commit up to \$100,000.00 from our controlled account to the repair and renovation of Santilli Field to make the field playable for the 2025 baseball season. It was pointed out that a grant match of the same amount was approved October 25, 2022, and this would be in lieu of that match.
- d. Approval for the 2024 Paving Project to go out to bid beginning March 16, 2024, with bids to be opened and awarded at a Special Meeting of Council on April 3, 2024 (prior to workshop) was presented. A motion was made by Mr. Zelina and seconded by Mrs. Clabaugh. Motion carried.
- e. Resolution #04-24 for commitment of a \$2,500.00 per year match over four (4) years to the KACC for the Creative Communities Initiative Grant from the Pennsylvania Council on the Arts. A motion was made by Mrs. Bari, seconded by Dr. Miller. Motion carried.
- f. Resolution #05-24 naming Dr. Debra Miller to fill the vacancy on Council. A motion was made by Mr. Zelina, seconded by Mr. Milliron. Motion carried.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Report Submitted. Mayor Schimp also stated that the Police have been instructed not to comment to citizens about activity of other law enforcement agencies within the Borough. Research and planning has been lost because of FaceBook streams and public commentary, so she suggested that council also not share any information they may hear. She also stated that we are happy to support outside agencies that want to work with us in the Borough.

STATEMENT OF CITIZENS

None

End regular session at 7:29 P.M.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

The council held an executive session regarding property.

Return to regular session at 7:54 P.M.

A motion was made by Mrs. Clabaugh and seconded by Mrs. Bari authorizing Mr. Alfieri to prepare the necessary paperwork for the Borough to purchase 8 Beech Street. Motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT

Being no further business, a motion was made by Mrs. Clabaugh, seconded by Mrs. Bari to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 7:55 P. M.

Carrie Klaiber, Recording Secretary