

# Eagles Mere Borough

## Minutes

February 6, 2023

Regular Monthly Meeting

The Eagles Mere Borough Council meeting was called to order at 7 PM on the above date by Council President Bill Feese with the following Council members in attendance in the room: Lee Middleton, Dennis Craig, Rick Liebert, Kathy McCorkle and Jim Way. Also present were Mayor John Brownback, and Secretary/Treasurer Dave Carson and Street Superintendent Jeremy Moore.

**In the Gallery:** Residents Brian Smith, Kase Moore, Barb Swinick, Pete Swinick, and Liz Johnson

**Pledge of Allegiance** was recited by all in attendance.

**Moment of Silence in Honor of Tim Borges:** Tim Borges, a Council Member from 2004 to 2014, died on January 24, 2023. President Feese called for a moment of silence to honor and remember him.

**Quorum Present:** Council President Feese declared that a Quorum was present based on Council Members in the room.

**Motion to Revise the Published Agenda-** No changes or additions were requested.

**Public Issues and Comments –** An email item submitted by resident Susan Dahm re: dog wastes, was read and discussed. It was agreed that the problem was the irresponsibility of owner. Education on the issue and reminders are needed. No action beyond discussion was taken.

**Minutes-** A motion to approve the minutes of the January 2, 2023 regular meeting was made by Jim Way and seconded by Lee Middleton. The motion was approved.

**Treasurer's Report** – Interim financial reports through January 31, 2023 were distributed with the Agenda. It was moved by Jim Way and seconded by Lee Middleton to receive the report and to defer approval of the monthly financial report until the Auditor completes the audit. The motion passed.

**Open Records/Right to Know Officer:** No requests

**Zoning & Ordinance Officer report:**

- No new requests received. There have been preliminary consultations on several potential projects.

**Street Superintendent Report:** Barry Garverick, of PennDoT, has started the planning and documentation process for the budgeted and approved Sullivan Ave project.

**Mayor's Report:** No report.

**Emergency Management Coordinator's report:** President Bill Feese, Wendy Hastings, and Rick Liebert have interviewed a person who is interested in appointment to the position. He is a property owner in the Borough who lives within 30 minutes of town. He has impressive credentials. Further investigation is planned.

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

- There was one Real Estate transfer in December generating \$5,390.00 in transfer taxes. Ecker > Caviston.
- PSAB has called to our attention that Eagles Mere Borough will celebrate the 125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of its incorporation on April 1, 1898. They have offered a plaque from PSAB to honor this occasion and I have accepted. Should the Borough undertake any other celebration or recognition during this anniversary year? After brief discussion, it was the consensus that no action is planned by the Borough but others, such as the Museum may want to recognize the anniversary.
- Sullivan County Conservation District has provided final payment and a Certificate for the Clay Ave Phase I project in their Dirt Gravel and Low Volume Road program. Combined with their initial payment, this makes their contribution \$42,498.50 toward Phase I of Clay Ave. project. We have also received an initial \$22,933.36 toward the Clay Ave Phase II project which is partially complete but on hiatus for the winter. An application for Phase III will be completed when the Conservation District is ready to receive it.
- PSAB has published the initial announcement of the 2023 Annual Conference. It will be June 4-7, 2023 at the Hershey Lodge. This is a week later than the traditional time. Unfortunately, our June Council meeting is scheduled for June 5, 2023. If several Council Members in addition to the Secretary Treasurer are interested, we may want to reschedule the June Council meeting. It appears that Lee Middleton, Kathy McCorkle, and Dave Carson will attend and will adjust their schedules to not miss the meeting.
- The President of the Ambulance Association has incurred a work-related injury to her right shoulder while responding to an ambulance call. (Her previous injury in Aug, 2020 was to her left shoulder). This has been reported to the Borough's Workers Comp insurance carrier. (Ambulance Assoc. personnel are on the Borough's W/C policy. The State Workers Insurance Fund covers Fire Company personnel only.) She is expected to have surgery in the near future and be unavailable for ambulance calls for six months.

**Committees:**

**Finance:**

- Interim financial reports through January 31, 2023, are attached to the Agenda.

**Museum:**

- The Museum is now closed until Spring except for opening on Easter Saturday, April 8, 2023.

**Infrastructure:** No Activity

**Ordinance:** No Activity

**Personnel:** No Activity

**Website:** Updates continue to be made as needed.

**Continuing Business-** None

**New Business:**

- Annual reports for the Fire Company and the Ambulance Association have been submitted. After review, it was moved Rick Liebert and seconded by Jim Way to Accept the Report. The motion passed.
- It was moved by Rick Liebert and seconded by Jim Way to approve the list of scheduled non-emergency events of both the Fire Company and the Ambulance Association as revised to include the Annual Tree Lighting gathering in the village. The motion passed.
- It was moved by Dennis Craig and seconded by Lee Middleton to approve Operation Support Activities of the Fire Company requested by State Workers Insurance Fund. The Fire Company is preparing a list of members who are active for operational activities but not a first responders. The motion passed.
- Borough Appointments for 2023 are needed. The following is a list of positions and incumbents which need to be revised or renewed:

President Pro Tempore	Rick Liebert
Vacancy Board	Suzanne Lee
SulCo Council of Governments	Dave Carson
Eagles Mere Borough Authority (3-year term)	Cathy Coniff
Emergency Management Coordinator	TBD
Emergency Liaison	Mayor John Brownback
Museum Board (3-year term)	Jill Johnson, Karen Gardner, Betsy Lingenheld, Joe Laurie, Kathy McCorkle, Patrick Lacon
Zoning Hearing Board (3-year term)	Julie Adams
Borough Solicitor	J. David Smith, Esq., McCormick Law Firm
Borough Engineer	Eric Casanave, PE, Stiffler McGraw
Building Inspection	Code Inspections, Inc.
EMAA 4 <sup>th</sup> of July Commissioner	Brian Walheim
SulCo Tax Committee	Lee Middleton
Zoning and Ordinance Officer	Dave Carson

- A new home (Stall) is being built on Prospect Ave. The buried electrical conduit in that area is not acceptable to Penelec and they require an easement to run their power cables under Prospect Ave through new conduit installed by others. Paperwork for the easement is in process. The Borough will need to sign the easement papers when they are complete. The Borough will incur no costs in this process. Authority to sign the documents after review by the Street Superintendent was moved by Dennis Craig and seconded by Jim Way. The motion passed.

**New Business:**

**Workshops/Conferences-**

- PSAB Annual Conference - June 4-7, 2023. Several Council persons are scheduled to attend portions of the event.

**Payment of Bills-** Approval to pay the bills (as reviewed) for the Borough was moved by Dennis Craig and seconded by Tom Graff. The motion passed.

**Executive Session-** At 8:05, President Feese called for an executive session of Council for the purpose of discussing Personnel issues.

**Return to Regular Session-** At 8:22, Council returned to regular session. There was no action necessary following the Executive Session.

**Adjournment-** The meeting was adjourned by the President at 8:30 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

David R. Carson  
Secretary/Treasurer