

NAZARETH BOROUGH COUNCIL--REGULAR MEETING--JUNE 7, 2021

The regular monthly meeting of the Borough of Nazareth was held on Monday, June 7, 2021 at 6:00 p.m.. The meeting was called to order by the President, followed by the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag. Present were President Daniel Chiavaroli, Vice President Carl A. Fischl, Mayor Lance E. Colondo, Councilpersons Carl R. Strye Jr., Jessica Teel, Laureen Pellegrino, Charles A. Donello, Kayla Green, Michael Kopach and Christopher D. Crook, Solicitor Alfred S. Pierce, Borough Engineer Albert Kortze, Police Chief Randall Miller and Public Works Superintendent Keith Knecht.

Neil Shook of the Nazareth Kiwanis Club addressed Council and presented a check to President Chiavaroli and Mayor Colondo to help with costs for the new pavilion at the pool and the new scoreboard for Bill Gold Field. Shook told Council that the club's membership was in steep decline and that they sadly had decided to disband and distribute their remaining funds. The Borough received \$10,000.00 to help with the costs of the new Pool Pavilion and an additional \$1,000.00 for the scoreboard at Bill Gold Field. The Club's only request was that their benevolence be recognized with a plaque at each location to which Council readily agreed. Shook's brief message was greeted with applause and congratulatory gestures of appreciation and a photo opportunity followed.

Kayla Green moved and Christopher D. Crook seconded a motion to direct the Secretary to send a Letter of Appreciation to the Nazareth Kiwanis Club for their decades of community service and the current \$11,000.00 donation they have made to our Borough.

The motion passed unanimously.

Sandi Klotz of 481 E. Center Street had questions about restricted parking in front of the Shafer School. Klotz told Council that she was told that she would not be allowed to park in an unmarked area because only teachers had permission to park there. Chief Miller had no knowledge of any "approved" parking changes in that area and stated that he would check on the situation.

Communications: The Secretary/Treasurer reported on his filing for the Borough's share of the American Rescue Plan funding through the filing of a Single Application For Assistance through the Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development. The Borough is scheduled to receive \$596,823.84 in two segments...\$298,411.92 in 2021 and another \$298,411.92 in 2022.

The Secretary's minutes from the regular meeting of May 3, 2021 were approved as presented.

On a motion by Michael Kopach seconded by Carl R. Strye Jr., the Treasurer's Report for the month of May 2021 was approved.

On a motion by Michael Kopach seconded by Laureen Pellegrino the Treasurer’s Report for the month of May 2021 was approved as follows:

General Fund--Cash on Hand April 30, 2021	\$ 1,503,080.66
Waste & Recycling Fund--Cash on Hand April 30, 2021	\$ 674,078.02
General Fund--Total Receipts	\$ 256,928.34
Waste & Recycling Fund--Total Receipts	\$ 11,278.18
General Fund--Total Receipts & Cash	\$ 1,760,009.00
Waste & Recycling Fund--Total Receipts & Cash	\$ 685,356.20
General Fund--Total Disbursements	\$ 335,654.09
Waste & Recycling Fund--Total Disbursements	\$ -0-
General Fund--Cash on Hand May 31, 2021	\$ 1,424,354.91
Waste & Recycling Fund--Cash on Hand May 31, 2021	\$ 685,356.20
ESSA Payroll Account	\$ 1,273.60
Embassy Bank State Fund Checking Account	\$ 309,096.18
Embassy Bank Park Account	\$ 52,376.20
Embassy Bank Reserve Account	\$ 1,132,038.58
Pennsylvania Investment Trust Fund (Reg + Term Investment)	\$ 25,683.44
Total of All Borough Funds.....	\$ 3,630,179.11

Michael Kopach moved and Carl R. Strye Jr. seconded a motion to approve the payment of bills totaling \$335,654.09.

The motion passed unanimously.

A Report of the Zoning Officer for the month of May 2021 was presented as part of the Code Enforcement Report and was approved.

Public Property: Carl R. Strye Jr. moved and Charles A. Donello seconded a motion to direct the Secretary to send out bid inquiries for 2021-2022 fuel oil

The motion passed unanimously.

Carl R. Strye Jr. moved and Laureen Pellegrino seconded a motion to direct the Secretary to send out bid inquiries for the 2021-2022 HVAC contract

The motion passed unanimously.

Carl R. Strye Jr. moved and Laureen Pellegrino seconded a motion to approve the purchase of two (2) Samsung Tablets to be used as the mobile entry registers for the Pool. Cost of the two Tablets is \$520.00.

The motion passed unanimously.

Carl R. Strye Jr. moved and Christopher D. Crook seconded a motion to approve the use of the Bandstand behind the Refreshment Stand in the Park by the Nazareth Community Band on Sunday, July 11, 2021 from 6:30 pm to 7:30 pm. This is a free concert in the Park.

The motion passed unanimously.

Carl R. Strye Jr. moved and Charles A. Donello seconded a motion to formally accept a \$10,000.00 donation made by the Nazareth Kiwanis Club to help defray some of the costs of the new Pavilion at the Pool. The Borough will memorialize the donation with a plaque. Councilman Strye requested that an announcement about the donation be placed on the Borough website.

The motion passed unanimously.

Carl R. Strye Jr. moved and Charles A. Donello seconded a motion to approve the ordering of the scoreboard for the baseball facility at Bill Gold Field. This scoreboard will be placed to the rear of the scoreboard which Nazareth Area Youth Baseball will install and pay for through a Lehigh Valley Iron Pigs Grant which they received and work and the Borough scoreboard will operate in conjunction with that scoreboard. The price of the Borough financed scoreboard is not to exceed \$5,000.00. Councilman Strye requested that the motion be amended to include that Borough Rec Funds would pay for the project

The motion, as amended, passed unanimously.

Carl R. Strye Jr. moved and Christopher D. Crook seconded a motion to approve reserving the Tennis Courts in the Park on Thursday evenings from 4:30 pm till 6:00 pm for the Nazareth Tennis Club.

The motion passed unanimously.

Carl R. Strye Jr. moved and Laureen Pellegrino seconded a motion to approve the purchase of three (3) "Impellers" for the Pool Filtration System at a cost of \$900.00 each to keep on hand for Pool emergency situations and future needed replacements. Total cost of the purchase is \$2,700.00.

The motion passed unanimously.

Carl R. Strye Jr. moved and Kayla Green seconded a motion to approve the request of Rebecca Pieper for use of the stage/bandstand behind the Refreshment Stand on Friday, July 2, 2021 from 4:00 pm to hold a free outdoor performance for the showcase of her performing arts studio at the conclusion of their camp. The raindate for the event is Saturday morning, July 3, 2021 at 11:00 am.

The motion passed unanimously.

Finance: Jessica Teel moved and Lauren Pellegrino seconded a motion to approve the installation of "Remote Capture Deposit" for check scanning and to expedite the deposit of checks received by the Borough. There is no charge for the service with Embassy Bank. The purchase of the required terminal comes at a "one time" cost of \$425.00.

The motion passed unanimously.

Jessica Teel moved and Charles A. Donello seconded a motion to approve the renewal of the Borough's "Package of Insurances" with Brown & Brown of the Lehigh Valley at a total cost of \$127,102. Last year's total cost at renewal time was \$129,162. The "Package" renewal includes liability, vehicles, inland marine, contractor's equipment and police and public officials errors and omissions with Brown & Brown of the Lehigh Valley and also QBE Insurance Group for our Public Officials Policy and Employee Practices. CNA Pack would provide the general liability and vehicle policies while QBE Insurance Group would also provide Law Enforcement coverage. Total cost of the Municipal Entity Insurance Package to include Worker's Compensation coverage is \$204,365. The 2018 - 2019 total package cost was \$177,630 and in 2019-2020 that total with all approvals was \$188,291 and in 2020-2021 it was \$186,594. The renewal includes professional services for administering the Borough's Worker's Compensation coverage with both the State Fund for our volunteer firemen, administering the regular Borough Worker's Compensation with Susquehanna Municipal Trust...\$41,148 in 2018 premiums, \$40,567 for 2019, \$55,383 for 2020 and \$61,693 for the next twelve months. It also includes administering benefits services for health insurances and their yearly renewals plus Human Resource consulting and compliance counseling.

The motion passed unanimously.

Jessica Teel moved and Carl R. Strye Jr. seconded a motion to approve the retention of a part-time office assistant clerk to serve on an "as needed" basis only. This assistant would generally fill in on the day or days when the assistant clerk or the Borough Clerk are not available or when either of the Clerks has vacation or sick days. The position is not regularly scheduled and includes only hourly compensation. A question from Councilman Christopher D. Crook followed about hourly compensation which would remain at the current \$18.00 per hour.

The motion passed unanimously.

Police: Carl A. Fischl moved and Lauren Pellegrino seconded a motion to acknowledge the receipt of a Northampton County LSA Gaming Grant in the amount of \$49,700 to help finance the purchase of a Ford F-150 Police Utility Pickup vehicle.

The motion passed unanimously.

Carl A. Fischl moved and Jessica Teel seconded a motion to acknowledge the receipt of a Monroe County LSA Gaming Grant in the amount of \$43,000 to help finance the purchase of a Ford Interceptor Police SUV vehicle.

The motion passed unanimously.

Carl A. Fischl moved and Christopher D. Crook seconded a motion to notify the Nazareth Borough Civil Service Commission that there is a vacancy in the position of full time patrol officer which is to be filled and direct the Commission to certify a list of eligible candidates.

The motion passed unanimously.

Carl A. Fischl moved and Jessica Teel seconded a motion to approve a five year Labor Agreement with the full time police officers of the Nazareth Police Department. The new agreement, negotiated by the Borough's Police Committee and the officer's bargaining group, would take effect on January 1, 2022 and end on December 31, 2026.

The motion passed unanimously.

Fire: Laureen Pellegrino moved and Kayla Green seconded a motion to approve the Fire Chiefs Report for May 2021.

The motion passed unanimously.

Laureen Pellegrino moved and Kayla Green seconded a motion to accept the proposal and plans of Alliance Architecture for structural changes to the Fire Station. Cost of the plans and acceptance of their services is \$9,900.00. This expenditure would come out of the Fire Budget.

The motion passed unanimously.

Laureen Pellegrino moved and Carl R. Strye Jr. seconded a motion to acknowledge the receipt of a Northampton County LSA Gaming Grant in the amount of \$40,000 to help finance the purchase of a Bauer Breathing and Oxygen Refilling Cascade System for the Vigilance Hose Fire Company #1.

The motion passed unanimously.

Environmental Steering & Lighting: Charles A. Donello moved and Carl R. Strye Jr. seconded a motion to hire Richard Tobias as a part-time yard waste monitor for the Borough's Yard Waste Recycling Center.

The motion passed unanimously.

Technology: Kayla Green moved and Christopher D. Crook seconded a motion to approve the May 2021 NEDC Report.

The motion passed unanimously.

Kayla Green moved and Jessica Teel seconded a motion to approve the purchase of "licenses" for Borough owned video surveillance cameras from CSI. Annual cost for the licenses is \$5,356.

The motion passed unanimously.

Kayla Green moved and Jessica Teel seconded a motion to approve the purchase of a new PC for the Police Department to support the video surveillance camera system and new PC's for the Borough Clerks. Costs for all of the PC's is not to exceed \$5,000.00.

The motion passed unanimously.

Kayla Green moved and Christopher D. Crook seconded a motion to propose to move forward with the process of acquiring new Accounting Software plus other Borough software improvements with Edmund's GovTech. The process will involve determining what software and modules are needed and then moving forward with obtaining quotes for the software and services.

The motion passed unanimously.

Public Works: Christopher D. Crook moved and Kayla Green seconded a motion to approve the waiving of permit fees for work done by Pennsylvania American Water Company for a main installation project on N. Whitfield and Hickory Street. Councilman Christopher Crook asked that the motion be amended to include that the waiving of fees would occur "in consideration for the extra paving to be done on Hickory Street"

The motion passed unanimously.

Christopher D. Crook moved and Kayla Green seconded a motion to approve the Public Works Report for the month of May 2021.

The motion passed unanimously.

Law: Michael Kopach moved and Carl A. Fischl seconded a motion to Resolution No. 6-21 which designates a Handicapped parking space at 163 S. Green in proximity to the Sack Family Chiropractic Practice.

The motion passed unanimously.

Mayor: Mayor Lance E. Colondo presented the Police Report for May 2021. Mayor Colondo thanked everyone who attended the Library's anniversary party held on June 4, 2021 and the Parade of Seniors of Nazareth High School, Class of 2021 and mentioned meeting new downtown owners

Kody Unangst of the Nazareth Army & Navy Store recently sold to Unangst by Borough Secretary/Treasurer Pail Kokolus who had owned the business along with a partner for 49 years and new clock shop owner, Trish Rodman.

Solicitor: No report.

Engineer: No report.

Police Chief: No report.

Old Business: None.

New Business: Carl A. Fischl told Council that new Code Officer Anthony DiSante is overwhelmed with calls and issues involving property maintenance. Fischl recommended that four (4) weekly hours be added to DiSante's weekly schedule until December 31, 2021 to get caught up with all of the needed work.

Carl A. Fischl moved and Laureen Pellegrino seconded a motion to add four additional weekly hours to the schedule of Borough Code Officer Anthony DiSante until December 31, 2021 only.

The motion passed unanimously.

Laureen Pellegrino expressed her concern for the dwindling membership and actual closing down of local service organizations. She asked if the Borough might play a role in making the public aware of what is transpiring.

Carl R. Strye Jr. told Council that his Committee is exploring further options for expanding Council Chambers to include two (2) upstairs "handicapped bathrooms", a new conference room and a bathroom accessible from Veteran's Memorial Square only.

Carl R. Strye Jr. moved and Christopher D. Crook seconded a motion to seek conceptual drawings for a possible expansion of Council Chambers. Strye added that pricing for the addition would come at a later time and that this initiative was to get ideas and designs for what we might do to expand.

The motion passed unanimously.

President Chiavaroli stated that he had been approached by an individual, Steven Barber, who wanted to do a statue or monument of Mario Andretti and place it somewhere in the Borough. Chiavaroli told Council that further talks with Mario Andretti would first have to occur to secure his permission, an investigation into Mr. Barber would be a further priority, questions about costs and

who would pay for the monument would need to be answered and then a location would have to be found should Andretti agree to the venture. Chiavaroli concluded that there was a long way to go on this proposal and lots of questions yet to be answered. Carl R. Strye Jr. told Council that he would gladly speak with Mario Andretti and tell him about this inquiry from Steven Barber. Strye hoped to return to Council next month with further details from Andretti.

There being no further business at 7:16 pm, on a motion by Carl A. Fischl seconded by Michael Kopach, the Meeting was adjourned.

Paul A. Kokolus, Secretary

Daniel Chiavaroli, President