

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

The regular monthly meeting of the Borough of Nazareth was held on Tuesday, September 7, 2021 at 6:00 p.m. at the Nazareth Borough Municipal Building. 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, Kayla Green, Lauren Pellegrino, Michael Kopach, and Christopher D. Crook, Solicitor Alfred S. Pierce, Engineer Albert Kortze, Police Chief Randall Miller and Public Works Superintendent Keith Knecht. Absent was Councilman Charles A. Donello.

Recognition of Citizens From the Floor: Sandi Klotz of 481 E. Center Street had questions about the potential contract extension of Refuse and Recycling Services with J. P. Mascaro & Sons asking why other bids were not being sought and considered.

William Buskirk of 532 E. Belvidere Street approached Council with complaints about parking in the vicinity of the Shafer School. Buskirk complained that residents of the area were being ticketed for parking violations while others who were parking there were not receiving tickets and presented pictures showing illegally parked vehicles without tickets.

Communications: None.

The Secretary's minutes from the regular Business Meeting of August 2, 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 August 2021 was approved as follows:

General Fund--Cash on Hand July 31, 2021	\$	928,526.71
Waste & Recycling Fund--Cash on Hand July 31, 2021	\$	701,645.37
General Fund--Total Receipts	\$	358,655.71
Waste & Recycling Fund--Total Receipts	\$	12,295.88
General Fund--Total Receipts & Cash	\$	1,287,182.42
Waste & Recycling Fund--Total Receipts & Cash	\$	713,941.25
General Fund--Total Disbursements	\$	341,331.19
Waste & Recycling Fund--Total Disbursements	\$	127,324.58
General Fund--Cash on Hand August 31, 2021	\$	945,851.23
Waste & Recycling Fund--Cash on Hand August 31, 2021	\$	586,616.67

ESSA Payroll Account	\$	1,726.70
Embassy Bank State Fund Checking Account	\$	279,305.05
Embassy Bank Park Account	\$	238,112.41
Embassy Bank Reserve Account	\$	1,132,322.21
Embassy Bank American Rescue Plan Funds	\$	298,442.56
Pennsylvania Investment Trust Fund (Reg + Term Investment)	\$	25,684.59
Total of All Borough Funds.....	\$	3,508,061.42

Michael Kopach moved and Kayla Green seconded a motion to approve the payment of bills totaling \$468,655.77.

The motion passed unanimously.

Public Property: Carl R. Strye Jr. moved and Carl A. Fischl seconded a motion to approve Resolution No. 9 -21 - A which certifies the Borough's submission of a 2021 Monroe County LSA Gaming Grant for a Police Dodge Durango Pursuit vehicle as follows:

WHEREAS, the Borough of Nazareth, Northampton County, Pennsylvania, is eligible to apply for a Monroe County Local Share Account Gaming Grant,

WHEREAS, the Borough of Nazareth seeks to add a Dodge Durango Pursuit Police Vehicle to assist with the transport of equipment, traffic barricades, truck weighing scales and other monitoring apparatus and to help in the performance of other regular Police duties,

WHEREAS, the need for such a vehicle has been deemed critically important by Nazareth Borough Council and its Police Committee for the execution of its Department's law enforcement duties,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, and it is hereby resolved by the Borough of Nazareth, in Borough Council assembled, that the Borough seeks the assistance of the Monroe County Local Share Account Grant Program to help fund the purchase of this key vehicle for continued effective Borough policing. The Nazareth Police Department has expanded its duties of everyday policing to meet the needs of our community and requires updated equipment and functioning vehicles to help it deal with an increase in truck traffic from nearby warehouses and fulfillment centers. Growth in our area has expanded our Department's duties to include a major uptick in daily responses, more traffic control, an increase in domestic crime and in 2021, overseeing and contributing to safety and disinfecting efforts due to the Pandemic. In short, Nazareth Borough policing has taken on an even more critical role than ever before and with that comes the need for a better equipped Police Department. The assistance of the Local Share Account Monroe County Gaming Grant program is solicited to help fund this most important vehicle acquisition. The Borough seeks sixty thousand (\$60,000.00) dollars in Monroe County LSA grant

assistance and is prepared to provide fourteen thousand, three hundred and thirty two (\$14,332.57) dollars and fifty seven cents in grant match funding to make this acquisition become a reality and to see Nazareth policing become more effective in its duties. A Pennsylvania COSTARS vendor quote has been secured to ensure this price. The Borough Secretary/Treasurer is therefore discharged to write a grant proposal and request consideration for this funding and to place the grant match amount in the Borough's 2022 Municipal Operating Budget.

The motion passed unanimously.

Carl R. Strye Jr. moved and Michael Kopach seconded a motion to approve Resolution No. 9 -21 - B which certifies the Borough's submission of a 2021 Northampton & Lehigh Counties LSA Gaming Grant for a Public Works vehicle as follows:

WHEREAS, the Borough of Nazareth, Northampton County, Pennsylvania, is eligible to apply for a Northampton & Lehigh Counties Local Share Account Gaming Grant,

WHEREAS, the Borough of Nazareth seeks to add a Chevrolet Tahoe SUV Public Works Utility Vehicle to assist with the performance of regular maintenance functions,

WHEREAS, the need for such a vehicle has been deemed critically important by Nazareth Borough Council and its Public Works Committee for the execution of its Department's regular maintenance, snow plowing, mowing and other duties,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, and it is hereby resolved by the Borough of Nazareth, in Borough Council assembled, that the Borough seeks the assistance of the Northampton & Lehigh Counties Local Share Account Grant Program to help fund the purchase of this key vehicle for continued regular and more effective public works functions. The Nazareth Public Works Department has expanded its duties of everyday maintenance, road repairs and park upkeep to meet the needs of our community and requires updated equipment and functioning vehicles to help it deal with the increase in parks, snow plowing and mowing. Growth in our area and the increase in recreational areas and playing fields has expanded our Department's duties. In short, Nazareth Borough's Public Works Department has taken on an even more critical role than ever before and with that comes the need for better vehicles and a more diverse and multifunctional fleet. The assistance of the Local Share Account Northampton & Lehigh Counties Gaming Grant program is solicited to help fund this most important vehicle acquisition. The Borough seeks forty thousand (\$40,000.00) dollars in Northampton County LSA grant assistance and is prepared to provide seven thousand, seven hundred and ninety five (\$7,795.00) dollars in grant match funding to make this acquisition become a reality and to see Nazareth Public Works become more effective in its duties. The Borough Secretary/Treasurer, Paul A. Kokolus, is therefore discharged to write a grant proposal and request consideration for this funding and to place the grant match amount in the Borough's 2022 Municipal Operating Budget.

The motion passed unanimously.

Carl R. Strye Jr. moved and Michael Kopach seconded a motion to approve the request of the Lehigh Valley Chamber of Commerce to conduct a "Fall Festival" event on South Main Street between Belvidere Street and Walnut Street plus use of the Main Street Parking Lot on October 16, 2021 from 2:00 pm till 6:00 pm. The Lehigh Valley Chamber of Commerce will be required to adhere to all tenets of the Borough's Parks/Events/Facilities Use Policy requiring a signed contract, one hundred (\$100.00) dollar deposit and insurance certifications and insurance certifications.

The motion passed unanimously.

Carl R. Strye Jr. moved and Christopher D. Crook seconded a motion to approve the placement of two signs in the Circle for 60 days by the Memorial Library of Nazareth & Vicinity announcing their annual Touch A Truck Event and the Book Sale.

The motion passed unanimously.

Carl R. Strye Jr. moved and Laureen Pellegrino seconded a motion to approve a time change for the December 10, 2021 Tree Lighting Ceremony. The Chamber had received approval for a 6:00 pm start time and is requesting this change

The motion passed unanimously.

Carl R. Strye Jr. moved and Michael Kopach seconded a motion to declare and schedule Trick or Treat Night in the Borough on the evening of Sunday, October 31, 2021 from 6:00 pm till 8:00 pm.

The motion passed unanimously.

Carl R. Strye Jr. moved and Laureen Pellegrino seconded a motion to approve a 9/11 Memorial Service in the Circle at 9:00 am on September 11, 2021

The motion passed unanimously.

Carl R. Strye Jr. moved and Jessica Teel seconded a motion to approve the request of Feline Urban Rescue (FUR) for a Pumpkin Roll event in the Park on November 7, 2021 from 9:00 am till 1:00 pm. The event will include craft vendors and food trucks.

The motion passed unanimously.

Carl R. Strye Jr. moved and Christopher D. Crook seconded a motion to post signs prohibiting overnight parking in the parking lot on the east side of S. Green Street across from Bill Gold Field. Discussion followed. Christopher D. Crook asked if the motion could be amended to allow parking only if permission to park there was sought from Council and was granted. The original proposed motion did not include the amendment concerning specific Council permission following a request. The amended motion, to include the request and Council approval for parking, was proposed by Carl R. Strye Jr. and seconded by Christopher D. Crook.

The motion passed unanimously.

Finance: Jessica Teel moved and Laureen Pellegrino seconded a motion to approve the submission of a list of delinquent taxes, Refuse & Recycling fees and sewer charges to Northampton County for the September 2021 Upset Sale

The motion passed unanimously.

Jessica Teel moved and Carl R. Strye Jr. seconded a motion to approve the 2022 Police Pension Budget as submitted by the Treasurer calling for no Borough contribution because the Plan is overfunded.

The motion passed unanimously.

Jessica Teel moved and Christopher D. Crook seconded a motion to approve the 2022 Non-Uniformed Pension Budget as submitted by the Treasurer calling for a Borough contribution of \$5,755 above the amount the Borough will receive in state pension aid

The motion passed unanimously.

Jessica Teel moved and Carl R. Strye Jr. seconded a motion to approve the renewal of Borough Health Insurance with Highmark for the period December 1, 2021 through November 30, 2022. The renewal includes a 4.9% price increase and the following rates...Family Plan \$27,649 per year, Husband/Wife Plan \$21,452 per year, Parent/Child Plan \$21,452 per year and Single Coverage Plan at \$9,534 per year. The Borough's total health insurance obligation will be \$264,074.00 which includes five (5) plan "buyouts".

The motion passed unanimously.

Jessica Teel moved and Christopher D. Crook seconded a motion to approve the renewal of COG administered Dog Agreement with Pibbles & Paws calling for a Borough assessment of \$12,000 for 2022. Discussion followed. Carl R Strye Jr. asked if the motion needed to be made and if a decision had to be made at this time.

The motion passed. There was one (1) "No" vote recorded.

Jessica Teel moved and Kayla Green seconded a motion to approve the proposal of Barry Isett Associates to conduct the Borough's Rental Inspection Program. The program will begin following the receipt of 2022 rental registrations.

The motion passed unanimously.

Police: Carl A. Fischl moved and Christopher D. Crook seconded a motion to approve Resolution No. 9 -21 - E which certifies the Borough's submission of a 2021 Northampton County Round 2 GROW-NORCO Grant for Police equipment. The grant includes a Borough match of \$36,153.00 as follows:

WHEREAS, the Borough of Nazareth, Northampton County, Pennsylvania, is eligible to apply for a 2022 GROWNORCO Grant,

WHEREAS, the Borough of Nazareth seeks to add a Police Evidence Storage Facility, ballistic shields, license plate readers, software upgrades to its body cameras plus enhanced Use of Force training,

WHEREAS, the need for all of these improvements has been deemed critically important by Nazareth Borough Council and its Police Committee for the execution of its Department's law enforcement and everyday patrol duties,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, and it is hereby resolved by the Borough of Nazareth, in Borough Council assembled, that the Borough seeks the assistance of the Northampton County GROWNORCO Grant Program to help fund the purchase of all of these key items for continued effective Borough policing. The Nazareth Police Department has expanded its duties of everyday policing to meet the needs of our community and requires updated and functioning equipment to help it deal with increases in crime, more truck traffic from nearby warehouses and fulfillment centers and the need for technical updates that make them more proficient in their everyday duties. Growth in our area has expanded our Department's duties to include a major uptick in daily responses, domestic and drug cases, high speed chases, more traffic control, an increase in domestic crime and in 2022, overseeing and contributing to safety and disinfecting efforts due to the Pandemic. In short, Nazareth Borough policing has taken on an even more critical role than ever before and with that comes the need for a better equipped Police Department. The assistance of the Northampton County GROWNORCO Grant program is solicited to help fund this varied and most important equipment acquisition. The Borough seeks thirty six thousand, one hundred fifty three (\$36, 153.00) dollars in grant assistance and is prepared to provide an equal amount in grant match funding to make these acquisitions become a reality and to see Nazareth policing become more effective in its duties. The Borough Secretary/Treasurer is therefore discharged to write a grant proposal and request consideration for this funding and to place the grant match amount in the Borough's 2022 Municipal Operating Budget.

The motion passed unanimously.

Carl A. Fischl moved and Carl R. Strye Jr. seconded a motion to approve the provisions of Act 17 involving police compensation during the ongoing Pandemic

The motion passed unanimously.

Fire: Lauren Pellegrino moved and Kayla Green seconded a motion to approve the Fire Chief's Report for July 2021.

The motion passed unanimously.

Lauren Pellegrino moved and Carl R. Strye Jr. seconded a motion to approve the donation of \$1,000 to the Vigilance Hose Fire Company to help with costs associated with the 2021 Halloween Parade.

The motion passed unanimously.

Lauren Pellegrino moved and Kayla Green seconded a motion to approve the donation of \$1,000 to the Vigilance Hose Fire Company to help with costs associated with the 2021 Fire Prevention Week.

The motion passed unanimously.

Lauren Pellegrino moved and Kayla Green seconded a motion to approve the Ambulance Report for August 2021

The motion passed unanimously.

Lauren Pellegrino moved and Kayla Green seconded a motion to approve the Ambulance Report for August 2021

The motion passed unanimously.

Law: Michael Kopach moved and Lauren Pellegrino seconded a motion to advertise for an amendment to the Borough's parking ordinance prohibiting the parking of unattached trailers on any Borough street. Discussion followed. Christopher D. Crook asked if a copy of the amendment would be made available to Council so we could all read the amendment. Crook also asked if there would be a stated time limit for the parking of trailers and if PODS are covered in the amendment.

The motion passed unanimously.

Michael Kopach moved and Kayla Green seconded a motion to establish a Borough policy requiring all persons entering a Borough building to be masked. Discussion followed. Carl R. Strye Jr. asked if the matter would be a meeting to meeting issue with new guidance "for masking" being given at each month's meeting. The motion was amended to include "meeting to meeting" decisions on the masking policy with time guidelines being set each month.

The motion passed unanimously.

Michael Kopach moved and Kayla Green seconded a motion to establish a Borough policy requiring all Borough employees to be masked outdoors when in contact with the public or when

unable to socially distance from other Borough employees. Green asked that the motion be amended to include the same stipulations required for "masking indoors" of Borough buildings and the amendment was added to the motion as follows... "meeting to meeting" decisions on the masking policy outdoors with time guidelines to be set each month.

The motion passed unanimously.

Michael Kopach moved and Kayla Green seconded a motion to establish a Borough policy that the Borough and its employees shall follow the current Centers for Disease Control (CDC) guidelines in determining when or if an employee, who has been exposed to or contracted COVID-19, shall quarantine and return to work.

The motion passed unanimously.

Michael Kopach moved and Lauren Pellegrino seconded a motion to approve the report of the Zoning & Code Enforcement Officer for August 2021.

The motion passed unanimously.

Michael Kopach moved and Kayla Green seconded a motion to vote on an Ordinance making Bacon Street a two-way street. The motion passed unanimously. A Roll Call vote followed. Voting "Yes" for passage were Councilpersons Strye, Teel, Fischl, Pellegrino, Kopach, Green, Crook and Chiavaroli. Eight (8) voting "Yes" for passage and Ordinance #865 is adopted into the Borough Code of Ordinances.

Environmental Steering & Lighting: The Environmental Steering Report for the month of August 2021 was approved as presented.

Carl A. Fischl moved and Kayla Green seconded a motion to approve an Electronics Recycling Event in our Park on October 12, 2021 from 3:00 pm till 6:00 pm for Borough residents only

The motion passed unanimously.

Carl A. Fischl moved and Kayla Green seconded a motion to direct the Secretary to place ads for the Electronics Recycling event on October 12, 2021 in the Park.

The motion passed unanimously.

Technology: No report.

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

The motion passed unanimously.

Christopher D. Crook moved and Kayla Green seconded a motion to authorize up to \$40,000 of emergency storm water facility repairs in the area of the Progress Boulevard Right-of-Way north of Mauch Chunk Street. The Borough Engineer is authorized to select a qualified contractor to complete the project. Discussion followed. Carl R. Strye Jr. asked how things would proceed should the cost exceed the designated \$40,000.00.

The motion passed unanimously.

Mayor: Mayor Lance E. Colondo presented the Police Report for August 2021. Mayor Colondo also commented on the ongoing gas line repairs and told Council that several more phases of replacement lines and street openings remain after the current phase is completed. Colondo then encouraged Council and those at the meeting to attend the 9/11 Ceremony set for 9:00 am in the Circle on September 11th.

Solicitor: No report.

Engineer: No report.

Old Business: None.

New Business: Police Chief Randall Miller told Council about issues with the scheduling crossing guards and how recent school time changes have caused two scheduled blocks of crossings with a twenty minute interval in between. Chief Miller stated that crossing guards are requesting to be paid for the time in between shifts as the interval does not allow for a return home. Several on Council commented about possible alternatives and the matter is up for further discussion.

There being no further business at 7:50 pm, on a motion by Carl A. Fischl, seconded by Kayla Green, the Meeting was adjourned.

Paul A. Kokolus, Secretary

Daniel Chiavaroli, President