

Council Meeting Minutes, Jan. 4, 2021 Monthly Meeting

- Pledge Roll Call The meeting was called to order at 6:01p at the N. A. Vol. Fire Dept. by D. Acker, who led the Pledge of Allegiance. Roll Call: Present were: D. Acker, J. Peters, J. Spatafore. Also Present: S. Michael-Senate Eng., Solicitor J. Kelly. Absent: R. Ruz, W. Campbell, Mayor Durandetto.
- Exec. Session Go to executive session at 6:03p. Discuss litigation and personnel matters. Motion: J. Peters, J. Spatafore. Return to regular session at 6:40p. Motion: J. Peters, J. Spatafore. No action taken.
- Minutes Review / Approve minutes from Dec. 7, '20 council meeting & Dec. 21, '20 special mtg. Motion: J. Spatafore, J. Peters.
- Engineer's Report
- Reappoint Senate Engineering as the borough engineer. Motion: J. Spatafore, J. Peters.
 - PennDOT Multimodal Grant application submitted, Spring 2021 decision.
 - No paving planned. Tabled discussion of paving for a future meeting.
 - Add web link for MS4 to our website to aid in compliance.
- Fire Hall Meetings
- Pay N.A. Vol. Fire Dept. \$500 for use of the hall in 2020 for meetings. Motion: J. Peters, J. Spatafore.
 - NOTE: Meetings will now be held in the borough building moving forward. Motion: J. Spatafore, J. Peters.
- Streets Rpt. Down one man. Plowing and vehicle maintenance continue. Patching potholes.
- Citizens
- Jim Barclay – Fire. Dept. food trucks monthly on 2nd Sat. from May to Oct., want to close same streets a last year. Motion: J. Peters, J. Spatafore.
 - Fire Dept will get books together to show monies fundraised in 2020 for borough match.
 - Pat Froncek – Spoke about Armstrong County leadership.
 - Don Riggle – Questions re: backhoe. Maintenance appointments not being kept. Is the tar buggy for sale?
 - How is contract negotiation going? Solicitor informed him it's an ongoing process.
 - Kari Streib – Birch St. didn't get plowed.
 - Tim Stull – Peach St. didn't get plowed.
- Auditor Resign -- Accept resignation letter of auditor Marsha Dufour. Motion: J. Peters, J. Spatafore.
- Public Works Request by Mr. Spatafore to change name of Streets Dept. to Public Works Dept. Motion: J. Spatafore, J. Peters.
- UCC Rep. Designated Pat Froncek as borough UCC representative. No Appeals Board candidate available.
- Bills Vote to pay/approve financials as submitted. Motion: J. Spatafore, J. Peters. Unan.
- Zoning Rpt. None submitted.
- Mayor Rpt. None submitted.
- Adjourn Adjournment at 7:26p. Motion: J. Peters, J. Spatafore.

February Council Meeting Cancelled

Council Meeting Minutes, March 1, 2021 Monthly Meeting

Pledge Roll Call

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 pm at the N. A. Borough Building by D. Acker, who led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll Call: Present were: D. Acker, R. Ruz, J. Peters, J. Spatafore.

Also Present: Mayor J. Durandetto S. Michael-Senate Eng., Solicitor J. Kelly, Borough Secretary E. Stitt, Absent: W. Campbell, Administrator T. Miller

Minutes

Review / Approve minutes from Jan. 4, 2021. There was no Feb. meeting. Motion: J. Spatafore, J. Peters - Unanimous.

Engineer's Report

- Spring 2021 decisions are expected on the Community Development Block Grant and the PennDOT Multimodal Transportation Fund Grant

- A link is established on the Borough website to the County/State stormwater educational websites.

- PennDOT culvert replacement tentatively begins this spring and will continue through summer 2022.

Road closure and closure of Roaring Run Trail can be expected, beginning in April.

- The Floodplain Ordinance has been submitted to the PA Municipal League to verify compliance with PEMA standards.

Public Works

J. Peters reported mainly snow clearing being done.

Auditors

The need for new Auditors was discussed. Candace Hall volunteered. Motion to appoint Candace Hall made by J. Peters, seconded by J. Spatafore - Unanimous

Deborah Gerardi was mentioned for Auditor, as she is running for the position.

D. Beck ZHB

Motion to reappoint Dana Beck to 5 years on the Zoning Hearing Board. Made by R. Ruz, second J. Spatafore - Unan.

Public Comments

- Discussion took place with Gene Burns, Susan Bell, Ted Faber, Karen Greggs, Sheila Tilson, and a Ms. Fulton regarding recent garbage fee increase and the policy against collecting trash in the alleys. Mr. Faber presented a petition protesting the new policy of requiring trash to be placed on the front streets rather than the alleys. D. Acker is to ask a representative from Shank to attend the next meeting, which will then be held at the Fire Hall.

NAVFD Report

-James Barclay presented the Financial report for the North Apollo Fire Department for 2020.

D. Gerardi Auditor

Appoint Deborah Gerardi Auditor for 1 year. Motion by R. Ruz, J. Peters - Unanimous.

Bills

R. Ruz noted that spending is being watched. Vote to pay/approve the financials as submitted. Motion by R. Ruz, second by J. Peters - Unanimous.

Police Report

J. Durandetto gave the report of Kiski Township Police activities for January and February.

Exec. Session

Executive session to discuss personnel and litigation, motion by R. Ruz, second J. Spatafore - Unanimous.

- Return to regular session, motion by R. Ruz, second by J. Spatafore - Unanimous.

- Motion by R. Ruz, J. Peters, to pay the pension fund MMOs in October when State funds come in - Unanimous.

Beck Actions

- R. Ruz reported two Loudermill hearings. Motion by R. Ruz, second by J. Peters, to send Bill Beck a letter of reprimand. Unanimous.

- Motion by R. Ruz, second by J. Spatafore, to accept a one- day suspension without pay on March 10 for Bill Beck – Unanimous.

Adjournment

Adjournment was moved at 8:12 PM by R. Ruz, second by J. Spatafore – Unanimous.

Council Meeting Minutes, April 5, 2021 Monthly Meeting

- Pledge Roll Call The meeting was called to order at 6:00 pm at the NAVFD Fire Hall by D. Acker, who led the Pledge of Allegiance.
Roll Call: Present were: D. Acker, R. Rusz, J. Peters, J. Spatafore.
Also Present: S. Michael-Senate Eng., Solicitor J. Kelly. Absent: W. Campbell & Mayor Durandetto.
- Minutes Review / Approve minutes from March 1, 2021. Motion: J. Peters /R. Rusz - Unanimous.
- Engineer's Report
- CDBG Block grant funding approved for – Hickory Nut Catch Basin \$5,984 & Acheson Ave. eight ADA Ramps \$51,491. We have till 2024 to spend the funding.
 - PennDOT Multimodal Transportation Fund Grant – no news yet.
 - A link is established on the Borough website to the County/State stormwater educational websites.
 - PennDOT culvert replacement begins Spring 2021 and will continue through summer 2022.
Road closure and closure of Roaring Run Trail can be expected, beginning in April.
- Candidate Major Candidate Abby Major introduced herself. Boro does not endorse any particular candidate.
- Shank Waste & Public Comments Mr. Vogel answered questions from residents. Some questions were re: collection in front street, not alleys.
Pres. Acker explained that council tried to save as much as possible for resident's garbage bills.
- Public Works J. Peters reports street cleaning continues, rocks etc. and Spring prep work.
- Old Business R-Bar complaints call the police & PA-LCB 800-932-0602. Add this info to the website.
Put the fireworks guidelines on the back of May (2nd Qtr.) sewer bill.
- Dumpster Day Dumpster day tabled till May meeting.
- NAVFD Report Match NA Vol. Fire Dept. fundraiser income for 2020 of \$15,000 as allowed by the General Fund.
Motion: R. Rusz, J. Spatafore.
- Bills Vote to pay/approve the financials as submitted. Motion by R. Rusz, second by J. Peters - Unanimous.
- Exec. Session Executive session to discuss personnel and litigation, motion by R. Rusz, second J. Spatafore - Unanimous.
- Return to regular session, motion by R. Rusz, second by J. Peters - Unanimous. No Action Taken
Pres. Acker mentions the American Rescue Fund plan the borough should receive \$118,740, details to follow.
- Police Report The police report was reviewed.
- Adjournment Adjournment was moved at 7:27pm by R. Rusz, second by J. Spatafore – Unanimous.

Council Meeting Minutes, May 3, 2021 Monthly Meeting

- Pledge Roll Call The meeting was called to order at 6:00 pm at the NA borough building by D. Acker, who led the Pledge of Allegiance.
Roll Call: Present: D. Acker, R. Ruzs, J. Peters, J. Spatafore.
Also Present: S. Michael-Senate Eng., Solicitor J. Kelly. Absent: W. Campbell & Mayor Durandetto.
- Minutes Review / Approve minutes from April 5, 2021. Motion: R. Ruzs, J. Spatafore - Unanimous.
- Engineer's Report
- PennDOT Multimodal Transportation Fund Grant awarded boro \$84,538 to repave Oakwood Ave.
 - Borough match is \$36,000 Work could begin 2022.
 - CDBG Block grant funding approved for – Hickory Nut Catch Basin \$5,984 & Acheson Ave. & ADA Ramps \$51,491. We have till 2024 to spend the funding.
 - A link is established on the Borough website to the County/State stormwater educational websites.
 - Mobile environmental display was discussed, no date chosen.
 - PennDOT culvert replacement begins Spring 2021 and will continue through summer 2022.
Road closure and closure of Roaring Run Trail can be expected, beginning in April.
- Public Works J. Peters reports playgrounds are open, pothole patching continues & other necessary work.
- Old Business
- Sen. Pittman's office was contacted re: grant monies. We should keep line of communication open w/ his office.
 - Only one complaint about garbage cans being returned to back of property. Please call Ray if you see a problem.
 - Loose dogs were discussed. Contact Ray or boro office.
- Public Comments Gene Burns asked about abandoned houses on 1315-17 Clark Alley.
- Liquid Fuels Liquid fuels monies in the amount of \$44,200 have been received.
- Dumpster Day Dumpster Day tabled till Autumn.
- Pole bldg rewired Pole building needs rewired, not up to code.
- Mutual Aid Mutual Aid agreement with Hyde Park Fire Dept. tabled.
- Beck Resigns Mr. William Beck resigned his position as laborer. Direct any questions to Mr. Beck himself.
- Bills Vote to pay/approve the financials as submitted. Motion by R. Ruzs, second by J. Peters - Unanimous.
- Police Report The police report was reviewed.
- Adjournment Adjournment was moved at 7:11pm. Motion: R. Ruzs, second by J. Peters – Unanimous.

Council Meeting Minutes, June 7, 2021 Monthly Meeting

- Pledge
Roll Call The meeting was called to order at 6:00 pm at the NA borough building by D. Acker, who led the Pledge of Allegiance.
Roll Call: Present: D. Acker, R. Ruzs, J. Peters, J. Spatafore.
Also Present: S. Michael-Senate Eng., Solicitor J. Kelly. Absent: W. Campbell & Mayor Durandetto.
- Minutes Review / Approve minutes from May 3, 2021. Motion: J. Peters, R. Ruzs - Unanimous.
- Engineer's
Report -- PennDOT Multimodal Transportation Fund Grant meeting June 9th, 2021.
- Borough match is \$36,000 Work could begin 2022.
-- CDBG Block grant applications due June 25th, 2021. Permission given.
- A link is established on the Borough website to the County/State stormwater educational websites.
- Mobile environmental display was discussed, no date chosen.
- PennDOT culvert replacement begins Spring 2021 and will continue through summer 2022.
Road closures in various areas can be expected.
- Public Works J. Peters reports speed limit signs are going up; mowing & other summer maintenance continues.
- Old Business Meeting with AAS Debt Recovery was discussed re: procedure.
Letter being sent to code violators, in particular, re: grass, weeds and abandoned properties was also discussed.
Armstrong County Land Bank was discussed.
- Public
Comments Gene Burns asked follow-up question about abandoned houses on 1315-17 Clark Alley.
Melissa Back asked to have Ron Kerr Park on 13th Street mowed.
Pat Froncek again asked for the dangerous structure reports on various Pegtown properties.
Rich Broadwater discussed the condition at 502 19th Street.
- Mutual Aid b/w
Fire Depts. Mutual Aid agreement b/w the fire departments of Hyde Park and North Apollo was approved.
Motion: R. Ruzs, J. Spatafore. Unanimous.
- New Printer Vote - buy new printer, HP Laserjet Pro, for the borough office. Motion: R. Ruzs, J. Peters. Unanimous.
- Bid Threshold 2021 bidding thresholds were reviewed.
 - < \$11,500 = exempt,
 - \$11,500 - \$21,300 = three written or phone quotes,
 - > \$21,300 must advertise for bids.
- Pole Building Rewire the pole building using Current Services. Motion: R. Ruzs, J. Peters. Unanimous.
- Bills Vote to pay/approve the financials as submitted. Motion: J. Peters / J. Spatafore - Unanimous.
- Exec. Session Go to executive session to discuss personnel matters: R. Ruzs, J. Spatafore.
Return to regular session: R. Ruzs, J. Peters.
Pay straight time to anyone for hours worked at a council meeting. R. Ruzs, J. Spatafore. Unanimous.
- Police Report No report was submitted.
- Adjournment Adjournment was moved at 7:42pm. Motion: R. Ruzs, second by J. Spatafore – Unanimous.

Council Meeting Minutes, July 12, 2021 Monthly Meeting

- Pledge The meeting called to order at 6:04 pm at the NA borough building by D. Acker, who led the Pledge of Allegiance.
- Roll Call Roll Call: Present: D. Acker, R. Rusz, J. Peters, J. Spatafore.
Also Present: S. Michael-Senate Eng., Solicitor J. Kelly. Absent: W. Campbell & Mayor Durandetto.
- Minutes Review / Approve minutes from June 7, 2021. Motion: J. Spatafore, 2nd by J. Peters - Unanimous.
- Engineer's Report -- Armstrong County CDBG Grant for 5 new catch basins was submitted.
-- PennDOT Culvert replacement closures continue.
- Public Works J. Peters reports pole building maintenance continues. Mowing, speed limit signs up, cold patch will go in alleys and & other necessary work.
- Old Business -- AAS Debt Recovery collections will change to all accounts over 90 days late. Amend collection routine and put note in August bill for collection starting with the November sewer recovery bill.
No partial payments accepted in borough office. Motion: J. Spatafore, 2nd by J. Peters - Unanimous.
-- The pole building was rewired by Current Services.
-- Ordinance violation letters went out, with follow up citations by Kiski Twp. police.
- Public Comments -- J. Barclay discussed the Fire Dept. fundraising flyers will be going out via mail to the community.
Gbg fee + -- Jeff Hines: discussed the extra garbage fee, blighted properties, Hickory Nut catch basin improvement project.
Police Reports -- Melissa Back questioned: sump pump drainage, Kiski Twp. police monthly report. Tracy to send email reminder.
Grass, sp. bump -- Elsie Kunkle – neighbor's grass is high, speed bump at end of driveway.
- Bills -- Vote to pay/approve the financials as submitted. Motion: J. Peters, J. Spatafore - Unanimous.
- Exec. Session Go to executive session at 7:24p to discuss personnel matters. Motion: R. Rusz, 2nd J. Spatafore.
Reg. Session Return to regular session at 7:53p. Motion: R. Rusz, 2nd J. Spatafore.
Action taken:
- Union Contract Contract Negotiations done. A 3-year deal as of 7/12/21 for 3 part time employees.
New Employee New Public Works employee Joseph Casella starts 7/13/21. Motion: J. Peters, 2nd J. Spatafore, Unanimous.
Work Detail As of 7/13/21 there will be a work detail schedule for Public Works employees with follow-up by J. Peters.
- Res. 2 of 2021 -- Vote on Resolution 2 of 2021 naming Administrator Tracy Miller as Co-Chief Administrative Officer of the borough pension plan. Motion: J. Spatafore, 2nd R. Rusz. Unanimous.
- County Aid App -- Vote on County Aid Application to supplement grant for Oakwood Ave. project.
Motion: J. Peters, 2nd J. Spatafore. U.
- New Chair -- New office chair. Motion: R. Rusz, 2nd J. Peters. Unanimous.
Comcast Agmt. -- Solicitor to review Comcast Agreement. Tabled.
Publish Agenda -- Sunshine law changes: Publishing of meeting agenda 24 hrs. before meeting was discussed.
Bills to owners -- Discuss need for new ordinance requiring all bills the borough sends out go to property owner/landlord.
Vote to advertise: Motion: R. Rusz, 2nd J. Peters. Unanimous.
- Police Report None submitted.
Zoning Report None submitted.
- Adjournment Adjournment was moved at 8:02pm. Motion: J. Spatafore, 2nd R. Rusz – Unanimous.

Council Meeting Minutes, August 2, 2021 Monthly Meeting

- Pledge Roll Call The meeting was called to order at 6:00 pm at the NA borough building by D. Acker, who led the Pledge of Allegiance.
Roll Call: Present: D. Acker, R. Ruzs, J. Peters, J. Spatafore.
Also Present: Solicitor J. Kelly. Absent: S. Michael-Senate Eng., W. Campbell & Mayor Durandetto.
- Minutes Review / Approve minutes from July 12, 2021. Motion: J. Peters , J. Spatafore - Unanimous.
- Engineer's Report - PennDOT culvert replacement begins Spring 2021 and will continue through summer 2022.
- Road closures are expected.
- Public Works --J. Peters reports pothole patching, mowing, spraying weeds & other necessary maintenance work.
1. New employee is working out well. 2. Post office hump is being monitored. 3. Rocks in alley near skating rink.
→ Need to hire a surveyor to find the right of way on Clark Ave. Was Oak Alley it switched to Clark Ave.
-- Look for a paint machine for painting lines for crosswalks.
- Old Business Attorney fees were discussed. Solicitor meeting attendance was limited by last council, not current council.
Attorney fees of \$40K incl. \$15K on contract negotiations + 7K on grievances, fact finder & hearings. Motion to addend these minutes by R. Ruzs, & J. Peters, Unan. Attorney fees cited are not an exact amount but an approximation.
Grass citations have been sent out.
- Public Comments -- J. Barclay from Fire Dept. spoke about their annual fundraiser.
-- Gene Burns asked about Armstrong County abandoned houses, haven't heard from the county.
How long can work trailer sit on a public street, cops will check on it. Cops can't go on property to check vehicles.
-- Don Claypool re: tree on Jason Burns property and tree on his property.
-- Ben Seevers – running for council as Libertarian. Discussed tree, can't have folks other than Public Works employees
doing borough work and they are union members + a liability issue. He wants to privatize a lot of things.
-- Deb Stewart & Joe Kerr– Discussed the neighbor's dog runs loose and bites people. Cops are limited by the law.
- Ord. 343 of 2021 1. Adopt Ordinance 343 of 2021 – All bills to owners/landlords. Motion: R. Ruzs, J. Spatafore, Unan.
Ord. 344 of 2021 2. Adopt Ordinance 344 of 2021 – No dumping on Borough property. Motion: R. Ruzs, J. Spatafore, Unan.
Ord. 345 of 2021 3. Vote to advertise Ordinance 345 of 2021 – Property Maintenance Ordinance. Motion: R. Ruzs, J. Peters, Unan.
Rescue Fund 4. American Rescue Fund account is created with \$62,853.86.
Comcast Agreee. 5. Vote to approve Comcast agreement, not an exclusive agreement. Motion: R. Ruzs, J. Spatafore, Unan.
Dumpster Day 6. Dumpster Day will be on Saturday, Sept. 18th. One at the pole building and one in Pegtown.
Motion: R. Ruzs, J. Peters, Unan.
- Bills Vote to pay/approve the financials as submitted. Motion by R. Ruzs, J. Peters - Unanimous.
- Police Report The police report was reviewed and questions answered.
- Exec. Session Go to Executive Session: 7:26p. Motion: R. Ruzs, J. Peters, Unan.
Reg. meeting Return to regular session: 7:38p. Motion: R. Ruzs, J.
School property owner has paid all unpaid balance and lien. Draft property mgmt. ordinance will be reviewed.
Change Administrator Tracy Miller's hours to 7:30 – 4:00pm. Office hours are 9-4pm. Motion: R. Ruzs, J. Peters, Unan.
- Purple Dump Getting a clutch for the purple dump truck discussed.
- Adjournment Adjournment was moved at 7:44pm. Motion: R. Ruzs, second by J. Peters – Unanimous.