

Economy Borough Council
Council Minutes
December 13, 2022

Borough Council President Mr. Frank Morrone called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM in Borough Council Chambers of the Economy Municipal Building.

MOMENT OF SILENCE

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ROLL CALL –

Borough Council President Mr. Frank Morrone, Mr. Gary Bucuren, Mr. Roger Kowal, Mr. Bill Metz, Mr. Jeffrey Ruckert, Mr. Don Sivy, Mr. Glenn Sylvester and Mayor Jo Ann Borato.

STAFF PRESENT –

Borough Manager Randy Kunkle, Assistant Borough Manager/Secretary Travis Cavanaugh, representing the Borough Solicitor Mr. Joseph Askar, Esq. and Borough Engineer Mr. Scott Shoup.

RECOGNITION OF VISITORS –

Borough Council President Mr. Morrone welcomed everyone to the meeting and requested the discussion(s) regarding Borough business be kept to 3 – 5 minutes in length.

Martha Fegan of 82 Bock Lane, Baden
Michelle Munizza of 5 Merriman Road, Ambridge
Rosemary Homich of 3124 Conway Wallrose Road, Baden
Laurel Beitsinger of 554 Pioneer Lane, Freedom
Katrina Stanley of 2875 Ridge Road Extension, Baden
Audrey Mutschler of 2820 Ridge Road Extension, Baden
Planning Commission Members
Sandy Kingas of 2704 Conway Wallrose Road, Baden
George Foltz of 61 Bock Lane, Baden

There were also 4 participants via teleconference.

HEAR THE PUBLIC –

Ms. Fegan expressed concerns pertaining to renaming her private lane.

Ms. Munizza expressed concerns pertaining to renaming her private lane.

Ms. Homich asked questions pertaining to the PennEnergy Resources, LLC Act 13 notice.

Ms. Beitsinger expressed her concern about continuing the teleconference setup.

Ms. Stanley expressed her concern about continuing the teleconference setup and pertaining to the PennEnergy Resources, LLC Act 13 notice.

Mrs. Mutschler asked questions pertaining to the garbage contract.

Planning Commission members expressed their concern for the mobile food service ordinance and about a shed located at 2704 Conway Wallrose Road, Baden.

Ms. Kingas expressed her concerns with the Planning Commission members discussing her shed without her knowledge.

Mr. Foltz expressed his concerns pertaining to a business located in a residential zoning district.

MINUTES –

Minutes of the Regular Meeting held on November 22, 2022, were presented to Borough Council. After some review and discussion, **on a motion by Mr. Sivy; seconded by Mr. Metz** to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes of November 22, 2022, as presented. Motion was unanimously approved.

FINANCE COMMITTEE –

Mr. Kowal, Chairperson of the Finance Committee, presented Borough Council with an update regarding the following items:

- A. **Bills Payable** for the period of November 5, 2022, through December 9, 2022, in the amount of \$ 544,689.92, from the General Fund with Check No. 31530 to 31652, and in the amount of \$ 13,297.29, from the Highway Aid (Liquid Fuels) Fund with Check No. 292 to 294, were presented to Council for review. After some review and discussion, **on a motion by Mr. Kowal; seconded by Mr. Ruckert** to approve the list of Bills Payable that have been reviewed and signed off by the department heads was unanimously carried, with the exception of Mr. Bucuren regarding the Public Works bills, due to his brother works in the department.
- B. **Budget Report** for the month of November 2022, was presented to Borough Council. After some review and discussion this report was ordered received and filed.
- C. **Treasurer's Report** for the month of November 2022, was presented to Borough Council. After some review, this report was ordered received and filed.

ORDINANCE COMMITTEE – No agenda item at this time.

PARKS and RECREATION COMMITTEE –

Mr. Sivy, Chairperson of the Parks and Recreation Committee, mentioned that the Breakfast with Santa will be on December 17th from 9:00 a.m.-11:00 a.m. at the Economy Fire Department banquet hall.

PROPERTY and BUILDING COMMITTEE – No agenda item at this time.

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE – No agenda item at this time.

PUBLIC WORKS (PW) COMMITTEE – No agenda item at this time.

MAYOR’S REPORT – No agenda item at this time.

SOLICITOR’S REPORT – No agenda item at this time.

ENGINEER’S REPORT –

A. Liquid Fuels for Paving –

A discussion occurred on using liquid fuels for paving purposes.

B. Economy Landings Performance Bond Release No. 8 –

On a motion by Mr. Sivy; seconded by Mr. Ruckert to approve the request from the Economy Landings Performance Bond Release No. 8, in the amount of \$ 353,087.00. Motion was unanimously approved.

OLD BUSINESS –

A. Garbage Contract –

Discussion occurred on the garbage contract for the exempt residents.

B. Borough Manager, Early Retirement Agreement –

After some review and discussion, **on a motion by Mr. Ruckert; seconded by Mr. Sylvester** to approve the Borough Manger, early retirement agreement, and takes effect on December 31, 2022. Motion was unanimously carried.

A roll call vote was taken.

Mr. Bucuren	No
Mr. Kowal	No
Mr. Metz	No
Mr. Ruckert	Yes
Mr. Sivy	Yes

Mr. Sylvester **Yes**
Mr. Morrone **Yes**

Motion carried – 4-3.

C. 2023 Final Budget –

Mayor Borato read a letter pertaining to the budget.

The Borough Manager presented to Borough Council an overview of the 2023 Final Budget. After some review and discussion, **on a motion by Mr. Metz; seconded by Mr. Ruckert** to approve the 2023 Final Borough Budget.

A roll call vote was taken.

Mr. Bucuren **Yes**
Mr. Kowal **Yes**
Mr. Metz **Yes**
Mr. Ruckert **Yes**
Mr. Sivy **No**
Mr. Sylvester **No**
Mr. Morrone **No**

Motion carried – 4-3.

D. 2023 Tax Ordinance No. 478 –

An Ordinance fixing the tax rate of 16 Mills for the fiscal year 2023, was presented to Borough Council for review. After some review and discussion, **on a motion by Mr. Metz; seconded by Mr. Ruckert** to adopt Ordinance No. 478, fixing the tax rate of 16 Mills for the fiscal year 2023.

A roll call vote was taken.

Mr. Bucuren **Yes**
Mr. Kowal **Yes**
Mr. Metz **Yes**
Mr. Ruckert **Yes**
Mr. Sivy **No**
Mr. Sylvester **No**
Mr. Morrone **No**

Motion carried – 4-3.

NEW BUSINESS –

A. Economy Borough Municipal Authority Board Reappointment –

On a motion by Mr. Sivy; seconded by Mr. Metz to accept the reappointment of Mr. Rich Mattern to the EBMA Board for a five (5) year term ending on December 31, 2027. Motion carried – 6-1, with Mr. Sylvester abstaining.

B. Planning Commission Reappointment –

On a motion by Mr. Sivy; seconded by Mr. Metz to accept the appointment of Mr. Don Lang to the Planning Commission for a four (4) year term ending on December 31, 2026. Motion carried – 6-1, with Mr. Kowal abstaining.

C. Economy Borough Recreation Board Reappointment –

On a motion by Mr. Sivy; seconded by Mr. Metz to accept the appointment of Mr. Frank Spinelli to the Economy Borough Recreation Board for a five (5) year term ending on December 31, 2027. Motion was unanimously carried.

D. Zoning Hearing Board Reappointment –

On a motion by Mr. Sivy; seconded by Mr. Metz to accept the appointment of Ms. Elizabeth Hawkins to the Zoning Hearing Board for a three (3) year term ending on December 31, 2025. Motion was unanimously carried.

E. Resolution No. 491, Schedule of Fees –

After some review and discussion, **on a motion by Mr. Ruckert; seconded by Mr. Kowal** to approve Resolution No. 491, schedule of fees. Motion was unanimously approved.

F. Ordinance No. 473, Mobile Food Service –

After some review and discussion, **on a motion by Mr. Kowal; seconded by Mr. Bucuren** to keep Ordinance No. 473, mobile food service. Motion carried – 6-1

G. Sunset Drive, Traffic Calming Study –

Discussion occurred on the Sunset Drive traffic calming study.

H. Regionalization of Police Services –

Discussion occurred on the regionalization of Police services.

I. December 27, 2022, Meeting Cancellation –

On a motion by Mr. Kowal; seconded by Mr. Metz to cancel the December 27, 2022, regular Borough Council meeting. Motion was unanimously approved. The next regularly scheduled meeting of Borough Council will be on January 10, 2023.

OTHER BUSINESS – No agenda item at this time.

EXECUTIVE SESSION – No agenda item at this time.

MOTION TO ADJOURN –

On a motion by Mr. Bucuren; seconded by Mr. Sylvester to adjourn the Regular Meeting.
Motion was unanimously approved.

The Regular Meeting adjourned at 8:54 p.m.



Travis Cavanaugh
Asst. Borough Manager/Secretary