

**North Braddock Borough
Borough Council Meeting
Minutes**



**Tuesday
December 19, 2023
06:30 PM**

Call to Order:

The President of Council called the meeting to order at 6:31 PM

Roll Call:

Breaston
Giles
Nigro
Parker
Ruiz
Sepesy
Vahosky
Vargo
Franklin-Robinson

Also Present:

Mayor: Cletus Lee
Manager: Nathan 'Jay' Bish
Foreman: Jerome Sepsey
Solicitor: John Bacharach
Code Officer: Anthony Rydzak
Police Chief: Ryan Wooten

Absent With Cause:

Agenda:

A motion was made by Parker and seconded by Vargo to approve the agenda as presented.

Approved unanimously

Minutes:

A motion was made by Vargo and seconded by Parker to approve the meeting minutes from the Borough Council Meetings held November 21, 2023 as presented.

Approved unanimously

Reports:

A motion was made by Vahosky and seconded by Vargo to accept the Officer's Reports as presented.

Approved unanimously

Citizens:

Representative Abigail Salisbury: Gave update on storm sewer funding for the area. Spoke about keeping local municipalities updated on current and upcoming grant opportunities, and offered the support of her office in grant applications. Asked about local contact information. Offered communication support with various state departments on the borough's behalf. Commented on concerns of upcoming election dates coinciding with Passover.

Presentation by Best Pittsburgh: Spoke about recent additional funding and backing for property revitalization projects in the area. Spoke on the borough as being a "hub of transformation." Commented on property blight across the borough and specifically on Lobinger. Spoke on the BEN Comprehensive Plan, and how Best Pittsburgh can help with development strategies, employment programs, and home ownership. Spoke about total properties already purchased and an ongoing workforce development plan. Commented that they looked forward to working with the Borough and gave copies of the "North Braddock Rise" plan to Council.

Joe Funnyak: Spoke about issues of blight and litter throughout the Borough. Commented on concerns about parking on Borough sidewalks, illegally parked trucks, parking in front of fire hydrants, commercial vehicle parking on Brinton, and asked about no-parking signs.



Mary Williams: Spoke about the Borough Christmas event. Commented on upcoming events at the library and interest in expanding programs

Edith Abeyta: Asked if anything could be done about speeding on Wolfe Avenue.

New Business:

1. A motion was made by Vahosky and seconded by Parker that the **2024 Proposed Budget** be read and adopted as presented.

Approved unanimously

2. A motion was made by Giles and seconded by Parker to approve and adopt **Resolution 23-17**

A RESOLUTION OF NORTH BRADDOCK BOROUGH, ALLEGHENY COUNTY, COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA AUTHORIZING THE DISSOLUTION OF ITS BOROUGH RUN POLICE DEPARTMENT AND ESTABLISHING THE SCOPE OF AUTHORITY OF THE NEWLY CREATED ERMVPD.

Approved unanimously

3. A motion was made by Parker and seconded by Nigro to approve and adopt **Resolution 23-18**

A RESOLUTION OF NORTH BRADDOCK BOROUGH, ALLEGHENY COUNTY, COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA SETTING THE SCHEDULE OF BOROUGH FEES FOR 2024.

Approved unanimously

4. A motion was made by Vargo and seconded by Vahosky to approve and adopt **Ordinance 23-02**

AN ORDINANCE REQUIRING THE USE OF A 'KNOX BOX' WITHIN THE JURISDICTION OF THE BOROUGH OF NORTH BRADDOCK

Approved unanimously

5. A motion was made by Giles and seconded by Vahosky to approve and enact the Allegheny County Sanitary Authority (ALCOSAN) seven percent (7%) sewage rate increase for the fiscal year of 2024 and notify Wilkinsburg-Penn Joint Water Authority of this decision.

Approved unanimously

6. A motion was made by Vahosky and seconded by Giles to hire Charles Townsend for the position of Public Works Laborer with a tentative start date of January 1, 2024 pending the results of a background and physical.



Approved unanimously

7. A motion was made by Vahosky and seconded by Nigro to approve and renew the 2 year Borough Manager contract for Nathan “Jay” Bish pending the review and approval of the borough solicitor.

Approved unanimously

8. A motion was made by Giles and seconded by Ruiz to approve and renew the 2 year Administrative Assistant contract for Cory Ruff pending the review and approval of the borough solicitor.

Approved unanimously

9. A motion was made by Ruiz and seconded by Giles to approve the 2 year Code Enforcement Officer contract for Anthony Rydzak pending the review and approval of the borough solicitor.

Approved unanimously

10. A motion was made by Parker and seconded by Giles to terminate the employment of Toi Davis as a North Braddock Borough Crossing Guard effective December 19, 2023

Approved unanimously

11. A motion was made by Franklin-Robinson and seconded by Giles to terminate the Animal Control Contract between the Borough of North Braddock and Sabel’s Kennel effective December 31, 2023

Approved unanimously

12. A motion was made by Nigro and seconded by Giles to approve the contract between the Borough of North Braddock and Who Rescued Who Humane Society.

Approved unanimously

13. A motion was made by Franklin-Robinson and seconded by Giles to join the CONNECT Community Foundation for the Alleghenies beginning January 1, 2024 and direct the Borough Manager to pay the membership fee and submit all relevant documentation.

Approved unanimously

14. A motion was made by Giles and seconded by Vahosky to appoint Nathan “Jay” Bish as the ‘Appointed Official’ to the CONNECT Community Foundation for the Alleghenies beginning January 1, 2024 and ending December 31, 2024.

Approved unanimously

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15. A motion was made by Parker and seconded by Giles to appoint Lisa Franklin-Robinson as the ‘Elected Official One’ to the CONNECT Community Foundation for the Alleghenies beginning January 1, 2024 and ending December 31, 2024.

Approved unanimously

16. A motion was made by Giles and seconded by Vahosky to appoint Michael Breaston as the ‘Elected Official Two’ to the CONNECT Community Foundation for the Alleghenies beginning January 1, 2024 and ending December 31, 2024.

Approved unanimously

17. A motion was made by Giles and seconded by Vargo to approve the borough payrolls and monthly bills as presented.

Approved unanimously

Adjournment:

A motion was made by Parker and seconded by Nigro to adjourn the meeting at 8:11 PM

Approved unanimously