

FLEETWOOD BOROUGH COUNCIL MINUTES

BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING

BOROUGH COUNCIL WORKSHOP

**Date: December 11, 2023 – In-person meeting, held in Café
Council meeting is recorded and posted on website after meeting**

Roll Call:

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Suzanne Pittella Touch	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Tammy Gore, Mayor
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pete Merkel	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Chris Young, Borough Manager
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jim Meals	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Doreen O'Neil, Recording Secretary
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mark Watkins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Andy George, Esq. - virtual
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ralph Touch	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Dale Ulshafer, Police Chief
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Colin Boyer	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Craig Conrad, Public Works Director
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> John Rothenberger - virtual	

Also Present:

John Manmiller, Fleetwood Fire Company Chief
 Barry Isett & Associates

The borough council meeting was held at 110 West Arch Street, in the cafeteria. President Suzanne Touch called the meeting to order at 6:30pm.

Recording of Borough Meeting

A public notice sign was posted at the cafeteria entrance to notify attendees that the Fleetwood Borough Council meeting was being recorded.

Police Department

Chief Ulshafer reviewed the police report for November 2023 that was distributed to Council prior to meeting and discussed the following:

- Two ballistic shields were purchased and in police cars
- Personnel – Working with newest part-timer
- 2019 Silver Tahoe
 - Was hit by a non-borough fire truck while at an emergency call
 - Vehicle is drivable
 - Estimate is \$9,800 – waiting for adjuster to come out to look at vehicle

Barry Isett & Associates (BIA)

BIA Report

BIA report was emailed to Council prior to meeting.

Entech

Entech Report

Entech report was emailed to Council prior to meeting.

Guests: See attached list.

Legal – Andy George, Esq.

Police Contract Renewal - Richmond Township

Andy George, Esq. reviewed the new contract that is effective January 1, 2024 thru December 31, 2024. The annual cost to Richmond Township is \$727,897.00 (monthly amount of \$60,324.75 which includes a monthly discount of \$333.33 that relates to Richmond Township's contribution to the Fleetwood Community Library).

Motion to adopt resolution and police contract agreement between Fleetwood Borough and Richmond Township for 2024.

Resolution 2023-12-11-01

Made by: Ralph Touch

Seconded by: Mark Watkins

Motion Carried

Motion Failed

Legal – Andy George, Esq. – (Continued)

Police Contract Renewals – Ruscombmanor Township and Tipton

Andy George, Esq. reviewed the new contracts that are effective January 1, 2024 thru December 31, 2024.

The annual cost for each of the municipalities is \$176,688 (monthly amount of \$14,724) in addition to an annual payment of \$15,000 to reimburse purchase of vehicle.

Motion to adopt resolution and police contract agreement between Fleetwood Borough and Ruscombmanor Township, and Fleetwood Borough and Tipton for 2024.

Resolution 2023-12-11-02 – Ruscombmanor Township

Resolution 2023-12-11-03 - Tipton

Made by: **Ralph Touch**

Seconded by: **Mark Watkins**

Motion Carried

Motion Failed

2024 Tax Rate Ordinance

Andy George, Esq. reviewed tax ordinance needs to be advertised for the 2024 tax increase to 6.45mil plus 1mil fire tax.

Ordinance would be advertised for the January 2, 2024 re-organization meeting.

Made by: **Ralph Touch**

Seconded by: **Pete Merkel**

Colin Boyer - Opposed

Motion Carried

Motion Failed

Water and Sewer – Pete Merkel

Water/Sewer 2024 Budget

The 2024 Water budget is \$1,519,160.44. The 2024 Sewer budget is \$1,067,770.00. Both of these budgets were advertised and approved..

Motion to adopt and accept the 2024 Water and Sewer budgets.

Made by: **Pete Merkel**

Seconded by: **Ralph Touch**

Motion Carried

Motion Failed

Public Safety - Ralph Touch

DCED Fire Survey – Letter of Intent

Ralph Touch mentioned the letter of intent allows the DCED to perform a fire company survey to review the fire department operation in conjunction with Richmond Twp fire departments. DCED will provide recommendations, based on equipment, manpower, etc. There is no charge for the survey. Richmond Township is voting tonight on the letter of intent for a survey of their stations. Colin Boyer inquired who requested this survey. It was stated that Fire Chief John Manmiller requested it. It was mentioned that Fleetwood Borough covers for other stations but are not funded by those locations.

Motion to sign letter of intent for DCED to conduct fire survey.

Made by: **Ralph Touch**

Seconded by: **John Rothenberger**

Motion Carried

Motion Failed

Borough Managers Report – Chris Young

2024 Council Meeting Dates

Chris Young reviewed the 2024 dates for borough council dates.

Motion to accept the 2024 council meeting dates and workshop dates, and have Andy George, Esq. advertise the meeting dates.

Made by: **Ralph Touch**

Seconded by: **Mark Watkins**

Motion Carried

Motion Failed

Public Works Report – Craig Conrad

Craig Conrad provided Council with the Public Works report prior to meeting.

Craig stated that leaf collection ends Friday, December 15th. The Public Works equipment is ready for the winter season. Bobby Weidner is retiring December 29, 2023 after 45 years with the Public Works crew. Congratulations Bobby!

Sunsweet Pre-Treatment Program

Craig stated the Industrial Pre-Treatment program (Industrial Discharge Permit) for Sunsweet is up for renewal. The new permit is good for 3-years and expires July 31, 2026

Motion to approve Craig to sign paperwork.

Made by: **Pete Merkel**

Seconded by: **Ralph Touch**

Motion Carried

Motion Failed

General – Council Comments

Re-organization Meeting

As required by the state the re-organization meeting will be held on **Tuesday, January 2, 2024 at 6:30pm.** Judge Greth is scheduled to attend this meeting. Mayor Gore will run the meeting prior to the Council president being appointed. After the appointment of president, the Council president will run the remaining meeting. Mayor Gore will attend meeting via Zoom. Question to Andy George, Esq. what rule is if there are technical issues with Zoom meeting. Andy mentioned that if the Mayor is unable to run the meeting, a council person is chosen by the council members to run the meeting to appoint the Council president.

Solar Panel Case

Colin Boyer inquired on the status of this case. Andy George, Esq. stated his law office has filed an appeal. The appeal is scheduled for Monday, December 18th. The Richmond Township Zoning Board is to file their brief today (12/11). At the appeal, the Judge will hear arguments based on the written briefs and ask question. There will be no new testimony. Richmond Township is not participating in this.

Fleetwood Borough Enhancements

Chris Young requested that Council compile a list of borough enhancements over the last 10 years and provide to him February 2024. This list will be included in the Fleetwood Forum that is tentatively planned to be distributed April 2024. The forum will be dedicated to the 150th celebration. It was decided that Mayor Gore, Pete, and Suzanne will meet in January to compile list of changes/enhancements to the borough (ex. Tannery Lot, New pipes under streets, Paving, Creek, Bridge, Reservoir, Park/Pool, etc).

Bills

Current Month – December 11th

Motion to pay the current month – December 11, 2023 bills.

Made by: John Rothenberger **Seconded by: Ralph Touch**
__X__ Motion Carried **___ Motion Failed**

Ratify Bills Paid November 29th

Motion to ratify the bills paid on November 29, 2023.

Colin Boyer asked if these bills are available for review. Chris stated to let him know which ones and they can be pulled for his review.

Made by: John Rothenberger **Seconded by: Ralph Touch**
Colin Boyer - Abstain
__X__ Motion Carried **___ Motion Failed**

Minutes

Motion to approve the November 13, 2023 borough Council meeting minutes.

Made by: Ralph Touch **Seconded by: Mark Watkins**
__X__ Motion Carried **___ Motion Failed**

Adjourn

Motion to adjourn meeting at 7:16pm.

Made by: Ralph Touch **Seconded by: Mark Watkins**
__X__ Motion Carried **___ Motion Failed**

Submitted by:

Doreen O'Neil, Borough Recording Secretary