

NOVEMBER 14, 2022

The Council Meeting of the City of Lower Burrell was held on Monday, November 14, 2022 at 7:00 PM. Roll call indicated the following present: Councilwoman Albanese, Councilwoman Grieff, Councilman Stoltz, Councilman Fabry, Controller Farina, Treasurer Eshbaugh, Interim Director of Parks and Public Works Michelle Hatbob, Solicitor Yakopec, Mayor Andrejcik, Chief of Police Marhefka, and City Manager Amy Rockwell.

CORRESPONDENCE:

- 1) Treasurer's Report for October 2022.
- 2) Local Service Tax Report for October 2022.
- 3) Collection Service Center – October 2022.
- 4) Thank you from Tri-County Trout Club.

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT REPORTS:

Mayor Andrejcik: The fire department and EMS are to be commended for the work on a recent fire on Guyer Road. Along with Councilman Fabry, Mayor Andrejcik attended the Veterans Day memorial service at the VFW and a meet and greet for the Marine Corp 247th birthday celebration. He thanked Lower Burrell Police Department for a safe Trick or Treat Night. He will attend the next New Ken Rotary Club meeting to discuss the Santa breakfast. The AK Valley Intergovernmental Council meeting will meet on 11-17-22.

Councilman Fabry: Councilman Fabry reported there will not be a tax increase and explained how that was accomplished. State Representative Abby Major will be a great asset to the City for grant money. On the business development side, the Blockbuster building is for sale, Hubz Kitchen opened, and construction at Schaedler Yesco is underway. Dunkin' Donuts will tentatively open in January 2023. He has had restaurants reach out to him about locating in Lower Burrell. The Farmers Market had a season review meeting and the dates for the 2023 season will be May 20th through October 7th. He worked with the school regarding a community newsletter. There will be a series of Christmas events. American Legion will have a First Responder Appreciation Day. Terry McClain has reached out to Councilman Fabry regarding the St. Patrick's Day parade.

Councilwoman Grieff: Monthly reports have been received and will be reviewed. She distributed the fire relief funds to the departments. She gave the fire department year-to-date numbers: LB # 3 is 443; Kinloch is 105. LB # 3 is doing Santa this year on December 6th and 7th. Kinloch will also be doing Santa. The City is doing a Lower Burrell Christmas Extravaganza. The tree will be lit on December 9th. There will be a parade on December 10th. The parade will end at LB # 3 for Cookies with Santa. Information will be posted on the City's website. A resignation letter was received from Mr. John Rockwell for his City EMC position. She thanked him for his dedication to the City. Mr. Grant Imbarlina has been named as his replacement, and the City is fortunate to have him. She shined a spotlight on Emma Bettinelli, a junior firefighter at LB # 3 who was chosen by the PA State Firefighter Association to receive the Hereda Torrini Firefighter Award as well as the Albert E. Wicks Service Award. She thanked Michelle Hatbob for "nothing in particular."

Councilwoman Albanese: She shared a story of what happened at a Tri-City Kinder Soccer event. A one-year-old was choking and Ms. White, a nurse and nurse educator, was able to intervene and dislodge the food from the baby's throat.

Councilman Stoltz: The military banners will be taken down and the Christmas decorations will be put in their place. Public Works will be getting ready for winter. Michelle Hatbob is doing a fantastic job keeping everything running smoothly. He stressed the importance of the Blockbuster building being put up for sale. There was a break on Edgecliff Road that the men worked on until it was fixed.

Interim Director of Parks and Public Works Michelle Hatbob: An update was given on work performed by Public Works. The parks bathrooms will be winterized.

Treasurer Eshbaugh: No report.

Controller Farina: No report.

Solicitor Yakopec: Solicitor Yakopec spoke about a Right to Know Request of Mr. Bayne's. Council will weigh the pros and cons of taking additional action. Council will consider in the next week or so the ultimate decision.

Chief of Police Marhefka: He reported on the number of incidents, accidents, criminal complaints, traffic citations issued, non-traffic citation issued, warnings, and mileage log. Buc t-shirts will soon be available for sale that will supplement the K-9 program.

City Manager Rockwell: She started by thanking Michelle Hatbob for her work. City Manager Rockwell is working to finalize the budget and preparing the ordinance for adoption. CDBG has informed the City of a grant award for smoke and dye testing in Braeburn. The extra funding will be awarded if we agree to advertise it and finish the project by the end of February. The City received a bid for a repository property similar to other property requests. The Safety Committee conducted their annual training on November 10 through Penn Prime Trust. Having a certified safety committee affords the city a five percent discount on workers compensation insurance.

OLD BUSINESS:

None

NEW BUSINESS:

- 1) Discussed Newsletter options for 2023. The newsletter will be a shared newsletter with Burrell School District.
- 2) Motion by Mayor Andrejck, second by Councilman Stoltz to approve the Agenda meeting minutes from November 7, 2022 and the Council meeting minutes from October 10, 2022. Roll call indicated: Mayor Andrejck: AYE; Councilman Stoltz: AYE; Councilman Fabry: AYE; Councilwoman Albanese: AYE; Councilwoman Grieff: AYE. 5 "AYES." All in favor.
- 3) Motion by Councilman Fabry, second by Councilwoman Grieff to accept the Treasurer's Report and pay all bills. Roll call vote indicated: Councilman Fabry: AYE; Councilwoman Grieff: AYE; Councilman Stoltz: AYE; Councilwoman Albanese: AYE; Mayor Andrejck: AYE. 5 "AYES." All in favor.
- 4) Motion by Councilman Fabry, second by Mayor Andrejck to advertise Ordinance #4-2022 Tax Levy Ordinance and Ordinance #5-2022 Appropriating Sums. Roll call vote indicated: Councilman Fabry: AYE; Mayor Andrejck: AYE; Councilwoman Grieff: AYE; Councilwoman Albanese: AYE; Councilman Stoltz: AYE. 5 "AYES." All in favor.
- 5) Motion by Councilman Fabry, second by Mayor Andrejck to approve the first reading of Ordinance #4-2022 – Tax Levy Ordinance. Roll call vote indicated: Councilman Fabry: AYE; Mayor Andrejck: AYE; Councilman Stoltz: AYE; Councilwoman Albanese: AYE; Councilwoman Grieff: AYE. 5 "AYES." All in favor.
- 6) Motion by Councilman Fabry, second by Mayor Andrejck to approve the second reading of Ordinance #4-2022 – Tax Levy Ordinance. Roll call vote indicated: Councilman Fabry: AYE; Mayor Andrejck: AYE; Councilman Stoltz: AYE; Councilwoman Albanese: AYE; Councilwoman Grieff: AYE. 5 "AYES." All in favor.
- 7) Motion by Councilman Fabry, second by Mayor Andrejck to approve the first reading of Ordinance #5-2022 – Appropriating Specific Sums. Roll call vote indicated: Councilman Fabry: AYE; Mayor Andrejck: AYE; Councilman Stoltz: AYE; Councilwoman Albanese: AYE; Councilwoman Grieff: AYE. 5 "AYES." All in favor.
- 8) Motion by Councilman Fabry, second by Mayor Andrejck to approve the second reading of Ordinance #5-2022 – Appropriating Specific Sums. Roll call vote indicated: Councilman Fabry: AYE; Mayor Andrejck: AYE; Councilman Stoltz: AYE; Councilwoman Albanese: AYE; Councilwoman Grieff: AYE. 5 "AYES." All in favor.
- 9) Motion by Councilwoman Albanese, second by Councilman Stoltz to execute the Conservation Partnership Agreement with the Westmoreland Conservation District. Roll call vote indicated: Councilwoman Albanese: AYE; Councilman Stoltz: AYE; Councilwoman Grieff: AYE; Councilman Fabry: AYE; Mayor Andrejck: AYE. 5 "AYES." All in favor.
- 10) Motion by Councilman Fabry, second by Councilman Stoltz to adopt Resolution #12-2022, A Resolution Waiving Late Real Estate Penalties, Interest, Fees, and Delinquent collection costs for taxpayers who have not received their real estate tax bill within the first twelve months of purchasing their property. Roll call vote indicated: Councilman Fabry: AYE; Councilman Stoltz: AYE; Mayor Andrejck: AYE; Councilwoman Albanese: AYE; Councilwoman Grieff: AYE. 5 "AYES." All in favor.
- 11) Motion by Councilman Fabry, second by Councilwoman Grieff to approve the Westmoreland County Transit Authority Local Share Assessment for Fiscal Year 2022-2023. Roll call vote indicated:

Councilman Fabry: AYE; Councilwoman Grieff: AYE; Mayor Andrejcik: AYE; Councilwoman Albanese: AYE; Councilman Stoltz: AYE. 5 “AYES.” All in favor.

- 12) Motion by Mayor Andrejcik, second by Councilman Stoltz to advertise Ordinance #6-2022, Accepting Rabbit’s Foot and Melina Drives as public streets of the City of Lower Burrell Pursuant to the Third-Class City Code. Roll call vote indicated: Mayor Andrejcik: AYE; Councilman Stoltz: AYE; Councilman Fabry: AYE; Councilwoman Albanese: AYE; Councilwoman Grieff: AYE. 5 “AYES.” All in favor.
- 13) Motion by Councilman Stoltz, second by Mayor Andrejcik to approve the first reading of Ordinance #6-2022 – Accepting Rabbit’s Foot and Melina Drives as public streets of the City of Lower Burrell Pursuant to the Third-Class City Code. Roll call vote indicated: Councilman Stoltz: AYE; Mayor Andrejcik: AYE; Councilman Fabry: AYE; Councilwoman Albanese: AYE; Councilwoman Grieff: AYE. 5 “AYES.” All in favor.
- 14) Motion by Councilman Stoltz, second by Mayor Andrejcik to approve the second reading of Ordinance #6-2022 – Accepting Rabbit’s Foot and Melina Drives as public streets of the City of Lower Burrell Pursuant to the Third-Class City Code. Roll call vote indicated: Councilman Stoltz: AYE; Mayor Andrejcik: AYE; Councilman Fabry: AYE; Councilwoman Albanese: AYE; Councilwoman Grieff: AYE. 5 “AYES.” All in favor.
- 15) Motion to regretfully accept the resignation of John Rockwell as the Emergency Management Coordinator. Roll call vote indicated: Councilwoman Grieff: AYE; Councilman Fabry: AYE; Mayor Andrejcik: AYE; Councilwoman Albanese: AYE; Councilman Stoltz: AYE. 5 “AYES.” All in favor.
- 16) Motion by Councilwoman Grieff, second by Councilman Fabry to appoint Grant Imbarlina as the Emergency Management Coordinator. Roll call vote indicated: Councilwoman Grieff: AYE; Councilman Fabry: AYE; Mayor Andrejcik: AYE; Councilwoman Albanese: AYE; Councilman Stoltz: AYE. 5 “AYES.” All in favor.
- 17) Motion by Councilman Fabry, second by Mayor Andrejcik to approve bid of \$1,500.00 for property identified as Tax Map # 17-01-16-0-055. The bid was received by the Westmoreland County Tax Claim Bureau for a property that is presently in the Unsold Property Repository. Roll call vote indicated: Councilman Fabry: AYE; Mayor Andrejcik: AYE; Councilman Stoltz: AYE; Councilwoman Albanese: AYE; Councilwoman Grieff: AYE. 5 “AYES.” All in favor.
- 18) Motion by Councilman Stoltz, second by Mayor Andrejcik to advertise the CDBG Braeburn Smoke and Dye Test Project. Roll call vote indicated: Councilman Stoltz: AYE; Mayor Andrejcik: AYE; Councilwoman Grieff: AYE; Councilwoman Albanese: AYE; Councilman Fabry: AYE. 5 “AYES.” All in favor.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Cheryl Peck Yakopoc delivered a public service announcement to those who walk at Kotecki Park. People are walking with their dogs unleashed and she knows of someone who has been bitten. Be careful and call 911 to report this.

Kathy Yohe, 2764 Lori Drive questioned the maintenance of roads because of runoff issues. She also stated that potholes are terrible, the road has not been maintained and is not wide enough for two cars. There is also an issue of pulling out from Lori Drive onto Seventh Street Road. Councilman Stoltz and Ms. Hatbob will review the problems addressed.

Robin Rosewicz, 552 Cleveland Drive revisited an unresolved issue with the Municipal Water Authority of the City of New Kensington’s water billing policy and what he feels are hidden charges. He also feels that residents should be given a choice about recycling and wondered if there was a cost savings to Lower Burrell residents.

Grant Imbarlina, 7186 Guyer Road, the City’s newly appointed Emergency Management Coordinator introduced himself. He is a Marine veteran and works in Emergency Management for PNC Bank.

ADJOURNMENT:

With no further business coming before council, a motion was made to adjourn the meeting.

Amy S. Rockwell, City Manager

John Andrejcik, Mayor